

SIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE MEETING ROOM AT THE VILLAGE HALL
AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY 10TH JANUARY 2017**

PRESENT

Cllrs. J Hall (Chairman), N Deller, J Hayward, Mrs E Jones, A Painter, Mrs M Painter, Mrs A Prosser, A Pugh, Mrs M Turner, Mrs A Wagstaff.

Cllr S Parsons (GCC/CDC) (from 8.40pm)

Clerk of the Council R Cowley

1 - APOLOGIES Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Selby.

2 - MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 13TH DECEMBER 2016

The minutes of the previous Parish Council were unanimously approved as being a true record.

3 – MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

There were no matters arising.

4 - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman had no report to make as all matters were included elsewhere on the agenda.

5 – REPORT ON INSTALLATION OF GIGACLEAR FIBRE-OPTIC BROADBAND IN THE VILLAGE

Cllr Deller reported that Gigaclear had made better progress than expected before Christmas and now seemed to be several days ahead of schedule. Work had now commenced on Bowly Crescent.

6 - CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported that a bolt cap for the climber had been ordered (along with some spares), and new locks for the notice board had also been ordered. The Clerk also reported that South Cerney Parish Council had resolved to look into having the old railway line between South Cerney and Siddington added to the definitive map of public rights of way, and he would keep the Parish Council updated on any progress. The Clerk had received a quote for R O W Berry of £74.80 for replacement of the cover on the chain on the zip wire at the playing field. The Parish Council unanimously approved this and the Clerk would ask Bob to proceed.

7 - OUTSTANDING ISSUES LIST

- Removal of grass island on Church Avenue - ongoing
- Nature Area on playing field. Cllr Mrs Jones reported that she was still trying to liaise with the school regarding the planting of the remaining 100 trees, but that

she may have to arrange a planting session herself before the end of February. The two black poplars would also need to be planted in due course.

Cllr Mrs Wagstaff reported that the stepping stones would need to be properly installed and that she would obtain a quote for this. Cllr Mrs Turner and Cllr Mrs Wagstaff would liaise regarding items still to be done.

- Pursue new village signs – ongoing.

8 - HIGHWAYS, FOOTPATHS & HEDGES (GCC ref nos)

- 11072155 – Replacement of missing Siddington school sign – ongoing
- 11081789 – Repositioning of Park Way reflective posts – ongoing
- Restoration of fallen road sign on Ashton Road – ongoing
- Resurface parking area by playing field – ongoing
- 11102027 – Clear drain at railway bridge stanchions on Ashton Road – ongoing. Cllr Hall would chase this up with Highways.
- 11115630 – Drain area on Park Way opposite The Twenties regularly blocked during heavy rain
- 11115617 – Faded weight limit sign at Park Way / Ashton Road junction.
- Wall on western side of Ashton Road between Empire Villas and Church Avenue is crumbling in places. Stones appear to have been replaced in places. The Clerk had written to the Bathurst Estate.
- Street light by the bus shelter appeared damaged – Cllr Pugh reported that the light was working, but that the lens appeared to be damaged.
- 22010624 - Speed limit sign on Park Way appeared to be leaning considerably.
- 22010625 – Potholes at Pound close. Cllr Mrs Painter reported that some potholes had now been marked with white paint.
- Street lamp on Park Way opposite Pound close not working – to be reported.
- Handrail on steps leading from Upper Siddington bridge to canal still missing.

9 - PLANNING

North Hill Road

Cllr Hall reported that the Bathurst Estate had yet to approve the route of the new footpath from the Bloor Homes development to the canal path. All homes were now occupied and Bloor were now tidying their compound area. Cllr Mrs Wagstaff reported that she had delivered the remaining welcome packs to residents.

16/04966/FUL – Erection of one detached dwelling, a single garage, a front porch and pedestrian access at 7 Empire Villas. NO COMMENT

16/02295/FUL – Proposed new dwelling at Siddington Fields, Ashton Road. NO OBJECTION

16/05384/TPO – Fell willow at 1 The Close, Siddington. NO OBJECTION

10 - FINANCE

The monthly schedule of cheques for January had been circulated with the agenda. The cheque totals were:-

1356 – £15.08 – R Cowley – Clerk's expenses (phone bill)

1357 - £15.00 – A B West – Cleaning bus shelters

1358 - £22.50 - PATA (UK) – Payroll services
 1359 - £25.00 – GRCC – membership renewal
 1360 – R Cowley – Clerk’s salary (January)

The Parish Council unanimously approved making the above payments.

The Clerk presented the monthly spreadsheet showing expenditure compared with budgets, and a statement of the Council’s bank accounts.

Budget & Precept for 2017-18

The Clerk had circulated a budget proposal prior to the meeting, and reported that although the parish’s tax base for calculation of the precept had increased, the Local council Tax Support Grant from Cotswold District Council had been reduced by about one third compared with the current year. Bearing this in mind and also taking into account the recent considerable expenditure involved in the replacement of the “Spider” at the playing field, it was felt that the Parish Council’s reserves should be replenished in case of any other unexpected expenditure. Cllr Hayward proposed that the Parish Council approve a precept of £23,050 for the financial year 2017-2018. This was seconded by Cllr Painter and the Parish Council approved the precept by nine votes to one. It was noted that this would mean an increase of 2.07% (or just £0.95) for a Band D dwelling for the year.

11 - PLAYING FIELD/FOOTBALL CLUB/GRASS-CUTTING

It was agreed that Cllr Hall and the Clerk would meet with representatives of the football club and with the grass-cutting contractor, Andrew Woodman, to discuss ways to improve the grass-cutting in the coming season.

Cllr Parsons (CDC/GCC) joined the meeting at this point.

12 - CORRESPONDENCE

F= Finance H= Highways P=Planning PF=Playing Field PC=Parish Council

- P 1 Email from Cllr Parsons regarding Chesterton development.
 Cllr Hayward explained the objection paper he was preparing for the Parish Council’s approval. Concerns included the amount of traffic likely to use Siddington and Spratsgate Lane as a “rat-run” to avoid the already congested roads around Cirencester, and insufficient allowance made for parking at the proposed office/industrial areas. Cllr Hayward would complete the draft objection and circulate to the Parish Council.
- PC 2 Training opportunities with GAPTC
 Cllr Pugh requested that he go on the Be A Better Councillor course at Fairford on 1st March. Cllr Mrs Turner and Cllr Hayward also expressed an interest and would check their availability and advise the Clerk who would make the arrangements.
- PC 3 Request from GAPTC for nominations to attend Buckingham Palace Garden Party on 1st June 2017.

13 - COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Parsons reported that there would soon be a meeting with Lawrence King (CDC) to establish ownership of the storm-water drain. It was also reported that two applications for housing developments between Kingshill Meadow and Preston has been received at CDC. These would be discussed at February's Parish Council meeting.

Cllr Mrs Painter reported that Revd Jennifer McKenzie had been appointed as the new vicar for the Churnside Benefice, which included Siddington, but her start date was not yet known.

14 - PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present and the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

The next meeting would be Tuesday 14th February 2017 in the Meeting Room at the Village Hall.

Chairman