

SIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE MEETING ROOM, SIDDINGTON, AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY 14TH JUNE 2016

PRESENT

Cllrs. J Hall (Chairman), A Painter, Mrs M Painter, Mrs M. Turner, Mrs A Wagstaff, B Barnes and N Deller.

District/County Cllr S Parsons

Clerk of the Council R Cowley

Two members of the public were also present.

1 - APOLOGIES were received from Cllrs Mrs A Prosser, Ms E Jones, C Rumble, and N Selby (Vice-Chairman).

2 - MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 10TH MAY 2016

The Parish Council unanimously approved the minutes as being an accurate record of the meeting.

3 - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The chairman thanked all members of the council for electing him to office for the year commencing May 2016. He said, I am looking forward to working with Robert Cowley (Clerk) with his knowledge and experience of Parish matters I have no doubt the council will be conducted in a professional and organised manner. Future agendas will give all Councillors the opportunity to give individual reports on any matters they have dealings with which are applicable to the Council. The Clerk will be giving monthly reports in spreadsheet format to show how spending against budget is going, month by month. I would encourage all Councillors to attend training courses which are provided by GAPTC. These are invaluable if we, as a Council, want to serve the community in the best possible way.

4 - CLERK'S REPORT

The purpose of this part of the agenda is for me to let Councillors know what I have been up to during the month, any meetings or courses I have attended, etc., and provide any other information.

On 6th June I met with Kent Harrison again for a final handover, and on 7th June I met with John Hall to discuss meetings and procedures.

Following each meeting I shall circulate the draft minutes to members for comments and suggestions for amendments, after which I shall publish them on the website. This will allow residents to be kept more up to date with what is going on and allow the Council to be more transparent. When the minutes come up for approval at the next meeting it should just be a formality. I shall also publish agendas and other information on the website.

The layout of the room for meetings has changed to allow for projection of planning applications and other information during meetings, including viewing the prototype of the new Parish Council website.

Every Parish Council is different and operates differently, and I don't believe in change for change's sake, but as time goes by I may find things from South Cerney that may work here, and things from Siddington that may work in South Cerney!

I would like to thank the Council for taking me on, and I look forward to a long and happy working relationship here, although maybe not quite as long as my predecessor!

5 - OUTSTANDING ISSUES LIST

- Removal of grass island on Church Avenue - ongoing
- Nature Area on playing field. Cllr Mrs Wagstaff reported that Cllr Rumble was tracing volunteers and their availability. Cllr Mrs Wagstaff would contact suppliers for lead times.
- Dog signs for playing field – ongoing
- Pursue new village signs – ongoing
- New website. The Parish Council viewed and approved the prototype. Members asked if it would be possible to have dedicated Siddington email addresses for their use. Cllr Hall would investigate.
- Painting of sand store door. Andy West was not able to do this. Cllr Mrs Wagstaff and Cllr Ms Turner would try to source a handyman for this.
- Welcome pack for new residents: more variety in photographs, 12 sheets of A5 with some being double-sided – ongoing

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

- 11072155 – Replacement of missing Siddington school sign – ongoing
- Repairs to Pound Close road/pavement surfaces – some patching done.
- 11081789 – Repositioning of Park Way reflective posts – ongoing
- Restoration of fallen road sign on Ashton Road – ongoing
- Potholes on stretch of Park Way leading to Spratsgate Lane – partially repaired.
- Resurface parking area by playing field – ongoing
- 11102027 – Clear drain at railway bridge stanchions on Ashton Road – ongoing
- 11093177 – Repair of steps leading from Upper Siddington bridge to canal. Cllr Deller would check whether this was a job for the canal volunteers.
- Trees on Church Avenue shedding branches. Cllr Hall and the Clerk would check who owns them, Highways or Bathurst.

7 - PLANNING

North Hill Road

Cllr Hall reported that the new bus shelter will shortly be built to replace the current one which is due to be demolished to make way for a new pavement to link with the new development. There will be a slight delay before work commences as the current gas works must be completed first and the tree on the site needs to be inspected for nesting birds before work can begin. Work on the new development is expected to be completed by the end of November.

Severalls Field

Great Gable had submitted an outline planning application and the Parish Council had already made its objections known. Cllr Barnes reported that Great Gable and Thames Water had discussed sewerage and TW did not want sewers to run across private

farmland as this could cause access problems in the future, and preferred instead that sewers followed roads.

16/01588/REM

2 Detached Dwelling/Garages on land to rear of Nursery View – NO OBJECTION

16/02138/REM

Outline application for erection of one detached dwelling at 7 Empire Villas, Ashton Road. The Parish Council decided to object on the grounds that the proposed dwelling was too large for the size of the plot, was out of keeping with neighbouring properties, was too close to, and would result in reduction of light to, neighbouring properties, and access to the site was at an already dangerous junction. - OBJECTION

8 - FINANCE

The monthly schedule of cheques, circulated with the agenda, was approved.

The cheque totals were:-

- 1303 – £858.88 - R Cowley – Clerk’s salary (May & June) & expenses (new laptop)
- 1304 - £3.84 – J Hall – photographic prints
- 1305 - £147.60 - Shaw & Sons – binding of minutes
- 1306 - £36.00 – Siddington Village Hall – room hire
- 1307 - £15.00 – A B West – bus shelter cleaning
- 1308 - £95.00 – Iain Selkirk – internal audit
- 1309 – not issued.
- 1310 - £1511.15 – HMRC – PAYE and NIC
- 1311 - £276.64 – F Lovatt – grass cutting

The Parish Council also approved the Chairman, John Hall, and the Clerk, Robert Cowley, as bank signatories.

The Parish Council also approved the cost and set-up of the new Parish Council website. This is expected to cost £470 + VAT in the first year (to include set-up and hosting) and £180 + VAT in subsequent years. It was also agreed that the domain name should be www.siddingtonparishcouncil.org.uk.

The Chairman and the Clerk would survey and review the grass-cutting requirements in the village.

9 - PLAYING FIELD/FOOTBALL CLUB

The Spider replacement was proving to be very popular. Cllr Deller felt that it was important to apply for grants well in advance and if equipment were to be replaced next year, then consideration should be given soon. Cllr Ms Turner agreed to check the playground equipment weekly and the Clerk would compile a checklist for that purpose. The Clerk would also endeavour to book Cllr Ms Turner onto the GPFA inspection course.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

- F 1 Quote from Curtis Web Design for set-up and hosting of dedicated Parish Council website. (£470 in Year 1 followed by £180 in Year 2 and following years).
- H 2 Email from GCC/Amey requesting details of snow plough operators and snow wardens, and with form to order salt for the coming winter. The Clerk would speak to Cllr Rumble and confirm quantities of salt required.
- P 3 Copies of letters of objection from Anne Glennie to CDC, Highways and the Developers Agents regarding the Severalls Fields development proposal.
- F/PF 4 Email quote of £225 + VAT from RoSPA Playsafety for a post-installation inspection of the Spider replacement. It was agreed not to proceed with this.
- F 5 Email request from Andrew Woodman for replacement for lost cheque due to change of address. It was agreed to cancel this cheque and issue a replacement.
- PF/F 6 Email from CDC declining grant application for assistance with spider replacement.
- PF 7 Email from GPFA regarding potential failure of cantilever swings.
- PC 8 Email from GAPTC regarding training opportunities for Councillors. Cllr Hall requested that the Clerk book him onto the next available Chairmanship course.
- PC 9 Email from Somerford Keynes PC regarding pre-submission consultation for their Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- PF/F 10 Email offer of a grant of £500 from GPFA towards the spider replacement. The Clerk would complete the agreement form and reply to GPFA.
- F 11 Emailed summer funding grant application newsletter from GRCC.
- P 12 Email from Jeremy Smith objecting to development on Ashton Road.

COUNCILLORS REPORTS

GCC/CDC Cllr Parsons reported that sadly no grant would be forthcoming from CDC towards the cost of the Spider replacement.

Amey had apologised for the problems with the crew fixing potholes in Park Way, which had been due to a lack of supervision, now rectified.

A Tree Preservation order at Plummers Farm had been confirmed.

Thames Water was carrying out a complete sewer survey to compile a detailed database to be used for options for funding requests in 2020.

There was no further update on the rubbish left in Green Lane which had contained a name and address. Rubbish was still being dumped there and was cleared when reported.

Cllr Barnes reported that Jenny Phelps of FWAG/WILD had been awarded the MBE.

Cllr Mrs Wagstaff reported that WILD would like to do a presentation at the next Parish Council meeting. Cllr Mrs Wagstaff would speak to Cllr Rumble.

Cllr Mr Painter reported a pothole in Nursery View. The Clerk would investigate and report it to Highways.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present and the meeting closed at 9.20pm.

The next meeting would be Tuesday 12th July 2016.

Chairman