

**SIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE MEETING ROOM, SIDDINGTON,  
AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2016**

**PRESENT**

Cllrs. J Hall (Chairman), N Selby (Vice-Chairman), N Deller, Ms E Jones, A Painter, Mrs M Painter, Mrs A Prosser, Mrs M Turner, Mrs A Wagstaff.

Cllr S Parsons (GCC/CDC)

Clerk of the Council R Cowley

Prospective co-optees, John Hayward and Tony Pugh, and two members of the public were also present.

**1 - APOLOGIES** There were no apologies for absence.

**2 - MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016**

Cllr Mrs Wagstaff proposed that minutes of the last Parish Council meeting were a true record. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs Prosser and the Parish Council was all in favour.

**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 dealt with elsewhere on the agenda.

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

Cllr Hall reported that the hub for the fibre-optic broadband was being installed on Highways land at the entrance to Pound Close. There had been two options for locating the hub, both signed off by Highways. Option 1 had been behind the telephone kiosk in Ashton Road. However, this had been rejected as unsuitable due to there being an underground culvert on the site and need for a 1 metre access clearance on all sides of the hub box. Option 2 at the entrance to Pound Close was selected instead. The possibility of siting it on Village Hall land had been rejected as the legal arrangements that would be have had to have been put in place would have delayed the project for too long. The Parish Council was disappointed in the lack of communication from Complete Utilities and Gigaclear regarding the siting of the hub. Cllr Deller also reported that it was his understanding that after work at Pound Close had been completed, it would proceed down Park Way to the shop and then return up Park Way on the other side of the road to The Twenties. Cllr Mrs Turner asked if the school would be included, but this was not known.

## **6 - CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk had no report to make this month.

## **7 - OUTSTANDING ISSUES LIST**

- Removal of grass island on Church Avenue - ongoing
- Nature Area on playing field. Cllrs Mrs Turner, Mrs Wagstaff and Ms Jones had met to discuss the plan for the site and location of trees. A planting session had been arranged for the weekend of 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> November. The location of the new notice board was still to be confirmed, but was likely to be adjacent to the entrance to the play area and main field entrance.
- Pursue new village signs – ongoing. Cllr Hall had met Gillian Portlock of Amey Gloucestershire, who confirmed that they had the labour and capacity to carry out the work. Gillian would provide a quote. It was noted that these would likely be provided in the next financial year. Locations would be on Park Way from the direction of Spratsgate Lane and on Ashton Road from the direction of South Cerney.
- Painting of sand store door. This work was now completed and the Chairman and Clerk each had spare keys.

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

- 11072155 – Replacement of missing Siddington school sign – Cllr Hall would raise this with Gillian Portlock
- 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
- 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.
- 22008879 – Overgrown hedges on footpath from The Common to The Close.
- Gardens at Jubilee Flats are in poor condition. Two of the gardens were being cleared and others due be worked on shortly.
- 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 would contact the Bathurst Estate.
- Silt on pavement and road by old railway bridge stanchions near The Greyhound. Cllr Hall would investigate.
- Footpath between Pound Close and the school – now resurfaced with tarmac, although the dog poo bin has not been reinstated, work is ongoing.

Cllr Mrs Wagstaff reported the drain outside the Chairman's house is regularly blocked – to be reported to Highways. Cllr Mrs Wagstaff also reported that the footpath along the railway line appeared to have had large logs placed on it to prevent access to motorcycles and others. It was noted that this was not a public way though.

Cllr Mrs Prosser reported that a resident had complained about a tree opposite 22 The Twenties cutting out light to his property. Cllr Selby had visited the site but had been unable to ascertain which tree had been referred to.

## **9 - PLANNING**

### **North Hill Road**

Cllr Hall reported that the new bus shelter was ready to hand over and the transfer of the land on which it stands was being arranged. CDC solicitors were unable to act for the Parish Council and had recommended Philip Nicholas of Wilmot & Co, who had agreed to carry out the work. The Parish Council's legal costs for this would be covered by Bloor Homes. Mr Nicholas was also negotiating provision of a maintenance fund for future upkeep of the bus shelter.

Cllr Hall also referred to the planning obligation to provide a footpath from the development to connect with the canal towpath, and thereby to the school. The Clerk reported that Bathurst Estate were looking at three options, as the original preferred route was not really suitable, and would inform the Parish Council of them in due course. It was noted that this was unlikely to be completed before Christmas as part of the site was still occupied by the constructors' yard.

Application 16/03511/FUL – Village Hall, single storey porch at front – NO OBJECTION  
Application 16/03578/FUL – Plummers Farm, erection of house & garage – NO OBJECTION

Appeal to the Secretary of State – APP/F1610/W/16/3151754 against the non-determination of Application 15/05165/OUT – Land to the south of Love Lane, erection of up to 88 dwellings to include vehicular access off Park Way; new pedestrian and cycle links to the wider area; improvements to Siddington School, including improved access facilities and the erection of a new purpose built school hall; a solar park; ecological enhancements; strategic landscaping; and associated infrastructure.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should reiterate its objections to the appeal hearing.

## **10 - FINANCE**

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

1333 – £12.00 – J Hall – Key cutting for the grit store  
1334 - £14.99 – R Cowley – Clerk's expenses (phone bill)  
1335 - £240.00 – Grant Thornton LLP – External auditor fees  
1336 - £265.00 – R O W Berry – Replacement of grit store door  
1337 - £154.80 – F Lovatt – Grass cutting (September)  
1338 - £10.00 – A B West – Cleaning bus shelter  
1339 - R Cowley – Clerk's salary (October)

Cllr Mrs Turner proposed that the Parish Council make the above payments. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs Wagstaff and the Parish Council was all in favour.

The Parish Council also noted receipt from CDC of the second instalment of the 2016-17 precept, amounting to £5,299.00.

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

## **11- PLAYING FIELD/FOOTBALL CLUB/GRASS-CUTTING**

Cllr Hall confirmed that Fred Lovatt had signed the grass-cutting contract for the village.

Cllr Hall reported that the football club was still unhappy with the standard of grass cutting at the playing field. Cllr Hall would meet with the football club representatives and Andrew Woodman and the Clerk to discuss ways to improve the situation and find a way forward.

Cllr Mrs Turner presented her playground inspection report and highlighted the imminent need for replacement of the chain cover and possibly the seat on the zip-wire. The Clerk would get a quote for this. The Parish Council also approved R O W Berry's quotes for replacing the slats on the Royal Wedding seat and for replacing rotting fence posts at the play area.

Cllr Mrs Painter and Cllr Painter left the meeting at this point.

## **12 – APPROVAL OF BATHURST ESTATE RENT REVIEW FOR THE PLAYING FIELD**

The Parish Council noted that the Bathurst Estate was proposing a rent increase for the playing field from £1520.00 to £1748.00 per annum (15% - the maximum allowed under the terms of the lease) to take effect from 25<sup>th</sup> March 2017 for three years. John Hayward offered to look through the lease for the Parish Council and report back for the next meeting. The Parish Council agreed to defer a decision on approval until the November meeting.

## **13 - CORRESPONDENCE**

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

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|---|---------|---|
| 1 | PC/F/PF | Bathurst Estate rent review for the playing field   |
| 2 | F/PF    | Quotes from R O W Berry for fence and bench repairs at the playing field  |
| 3 | PC      | Application from John Hayward for co-option to the Parish Council   |
| 4 | PC      | Application from Tony Pugh for co-option to the Parish Council  |
| 5 | PC      | Email correspondence with Siddington School Head Teacher, Bathurst Estate and the Parish Council regarding provision of a footpath link between the Bloor development and the canal towpath |

## **COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

Cllr Mrs Wagstaff reported that Bromford had advised her that the gardens at Jubilee Flats were being dealt with this month.

## **CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLORS**

Details of the two applicants, John Hayward and Tony Pugh, had been circulated beforehand. The Parish Council voted unanimously to co-opt John and Tony to the Parish Council. The Clerk would email all the necessary forms and information to the co-optees.

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no members of the public present and the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

The next meeting would be Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

Chairman