

**SIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD IN THE MEETING ROOM AT THE VILLAGE HALL  
AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2017**

**PRESENT**

Cllr. J Hall (Chairman), Cllr N Selby, Cllr N Deller, Cllr J Hayward, Cllr E Jones, Cllr A Painter, Cllr M Painter, Cllr A Prosser, Cllr A Pugh, Cllr M Turner and Cllr A Wagstaff.

Clerk of the Council R Cowley

**1 - APOLOGIES** Apologies for absence were received from GCC/CDC Cllr S Parsons.

**2 - MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017**

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**

The Parish Council had noted Cllr M Painter’s concern that only about twenty burial spaces remained in the churchyard, and that the new Vicar would be contacting the Diocese on this matter. As most of the land surrounding the churchyard was owned by the Bathurst Estate and an extension to the current churchyard would be the best solution, Cllr Hayward offered to contact Edward Allsop at Bathurst Estate for advice. The Clerk reported that the grant application form for the new defibrillator to be sited at Wildwood Park had been submitted to CDC.

**4 - CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

The Chairman had no separate report to make as all matters were covered elsewhere in the agenda.

**5 – CLERK’S REPORT**

The Clerk had no report to make.

**6 – POLICE REPORT**

**Date 06/10/2017**

**Produced by: PCSO Mike Owen**

**Summary**

This report covers the period of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 to 06<sup>th</sup> October 2017. During this period there were **4** crimes. This compares with **2** in the same period last year. In the year to date overall crime stands at a total of **25** this compares with **19** the same period of last year.

**Crime Breakdown**

Burglary Dwelling - 2

Burglary non dwelling - 0

Theft - 0

Criminal damage - 2

Violence - 0

Drugs - 0

### **Information**

With the winter nights drawing in residents are reminded to start thinking evening precautions if their home will be unattended in afternoons into the early evening.

## **7 - OUTSTANDING ISSUES LIST**

- Removal of grass island on Church Avenue - ongoing
- Pursue new village signs – the Parish Council agreed that a two-post arrangement in white for each of the three locations would be most appropriate, and that the wording on the sign should read “Welcome to Siddington. Please drive carefully”. The posts would be of white plastic and cost £313 per pair. Cllr Hall had sent photos of the current signs and locations to Gillian Portlock at Amey with a request for a quote for cost of installation.

## **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
- 11102027 – Clear drain at the 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 – ongoing.
- 22010624 - Speed limit sign on Park Way still leaning – ongoing.
- Handrail on steps leading from Upper Siddington bridge to canal still missing.
- Cllr Wagstaff had previously reported the increasing number of potholes appearing at the upper end of Park Way –ongoing.
- 11147385 - Footpath from Pound Close to school – trees and bushes overhanging path – partly cut back.
- 11147386 - Clarks Lane – trees and hedge overhanging road causing vehicles to drive on verge on opposite side of road –ongoing.
- The Clerk had reported the overgrown hedge and brambles along Ashton Road to Church Avenue – although these had been cut back the nettles overhanging the length of the path remained. Ongoing

Cllr Hall had passed this list of outstanding issues to Cllr Parsons to who was due to meet Richard Gray of Highways shortly.

It was noted that new weight limit signs had been installed at the The Butts / Nursery View.

The Clerk would write to Bathurst Estate to ask when the new stile on the footpath from Pound Close to Siddington Road would be replaced by the promised kissing gate.

## **9 - PLANNING**

### **North Hill Road Footpath**

It was noted that Cllr Parsons was pursuing the matter of the new footpath linking the Bloor Homes development top the canal path.

The Parish Council noted planning applications decided by Cotswold District Council:

- **17/02291/COMPLY CT.4509/C**  
Compliance with condition 11 (LEMP) - Conversion of existing barn to 4-bed dwelling, including new access from the public highway, double garage with work space above and associated landscaping at Ophrys House, Nursery View, Siddington, GL7 6HN - Application permitted
- **17/03715/COMPLY CT.0692/R**  
Proposed new dwelling - compliance with conditions 3 (samples), 4 (sample panel), 7 (landscape scheme) and 10 (parking/access) at Siddington Fields, Ashton Road, Siddington, GL7 6HR - Application permitted

Members noted that the sill heights of upper floor windows at the new dwelling at 7 Empire villas appeared to very high when compared to neighbouring properties. Cllr Hayward would investigate further.

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

### **Football Club**

The Clerk reported that the current contractor had been asked to cease cutting for now and the Pete Whitehead would carry out two or three cuts (with collection of the clippings) in the next six weeks. Members were concerned at the amount of clumped clippings left on the field when Countrywide cut, whilst the field looked much better with the clippings collected, there was also the problem of disposing of large amounts of clippings. Solutions suggested included:

- Employing Pete Whitehead to cut the pitch only and Countrywide to cut the rest – with the football club paying Pete and also contributing the cost cutting the rest of the field. This would still leave the problems of disposing of clippings from the pitch and also clumps of clippings on the rest of the field and play area.
- Leave the grass to grow naturally with wildflowers and employ Pete Whitehead to cut the play area and the pitch, a band of grass around the pitch and paths through the longer grass. The long grass could then be cut for hay. This would allow some diversity of wildlife, but also leave the problem of dog mess being unseen in the longer grass.

It was agreed that Cllr Hayward to make initial contact with Ben Welbourn of Cotswold Water Park Trust for further suggestions and advice.

## **11 - FINANCE**

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

- 1428 – £84.00 – Playsafety Ltd – RoSPA playground inspection
- 1429 – £15.56 – R Cowley – Clerk’s expenses (phone bill)
- 1430 – £460.80 – Countrywide Grounds Maintenance – grass cutting
- 1431 – £175.00 – PJ Landscapes – grass cutting
- 1432 – £15.00 – A B West – bus shelters
- 1433 – £129.60 – F Lovatt – grass cutting
- 1434 – £10.00 – Cotswold Canals Trust – membership renewal
- 1435 – R Cowley – Clerk’s salary (October)

The Clerk would speak to Andy West about the bus shelters and to Fred Lovatt about grass cutting at the entrance to Pound Close.

The Clerk presented the monthly spreadsheet showing expenditure compared with budgets.

### **12 – APPOINTMENT OF PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE COMMITTEE OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE HALL**

After some discussion Cllr Jones agreed to be the Parish Council's representative.

### **13 - CORRESPONDENCE**

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

- PC    1        Notification of completion of external audit by Grant Thornton, external auditors.
- PC/P   2        Invitation to Preston Neighbourhood Development Plan consultation event.
- P       3        Notification of arrangements for CDC meeting to consider the BDL Chesterton Farm application.
- PF     4        Advice from Martin Conyers regarding grass cutting of playing fields.
- PF     5        GPFA newsletter, The Playing Field.
- PC     6        Notice from Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP of a Flood Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017.
- PC/P   7        CDC Press Release advising that the Special Meeting of CDC voted for deferral of a decision on the BDL Chesterton Farm application for a maximum of three months.
- F       8        Notification from HMRC that the Post Office will no longer be able to take PAYE/NI payments from 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017.
- PC     9        Notification from CDC Leader, Mark Annett, of setting up of new public sector company, Publica, which will employ all staff from CDC, WODC, CBC and FoDDC, and provide services to all four Councils.

### **14 – COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Cllr M Painter reported that the hedge from Cherry Tree Drive to Church Avenue had been cut, but not as much as in previous years and that nettles growing across the pavement had not been cut back.

Cllr Wagstaff reported that the Village hall AGM would take place on 17<sup>th</sup> October at the Village Hall.

### **15 - PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no members of the public present.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked members for attending and the meeting closed at 8.48pm.

The next meeting would be Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2017 in the Meeting Room at the Village Hall.

Chairman