

COOKHILL PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of Cookhill Parish Council meeting Held on Tuesday 14th October 2014 at 7.30pm Cookhill Village Hall.

Present: Councillors R Pinfield (Chairman), A Sumner (Vice-chairman), M Churchill, T Bennett,
J Roberts and T Whitehead

In attendance: County Councillor Clive Holt; District Cllr Audrey Steel
PC Carter
Three members of the public were present.
Clerk Kerry Johnson
Acting Clerk Gill Lungley

The Chairman asked the members of the public if there were any items that they were concerned with on the agenda and if they wished to comment before the meeting officially opened. Brief notes of the comments are appended to these minutes.

14.134 Apologies received and accepted from Cllr V Gupta

14.135 Chairman welcome and announces the appointment of the new Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, Kerry Johnson.

14.136 Declarations of interest

- a. Register of Interests. Councillors were reminded of the need to update their Register of Interests.
- b. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. None disclosed.
- c. Other Disclosable Interests: Cllrs M Churchill and A Sumner declared an interest in agenda item 8 (minute no.14.141) "Consideration of funding request from Cookhill Village Hall" as members of the village hall management committee and duly withdrew from the meeting at that point.

14.137 Minutes: The minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 16th September 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

14.138 Police and Neighbourhood Watch reports:

Three offences relating to property and vehicles in Cookhill have been reported to the Police since the last meeting. PC Carter urges all residents check all property and vehicles are properly secured. Despite increased pressure of resources there are two PCSOs patrolling the Parish and incidents will be responded to by the nearest police response team from Warwickshire or Worcestershire. Reminder that residents can talk to other Partners and Communities Together (PACT) agencies. Moving the 30mph sign on Edgioake Lane would assist more effective speeding enforcement. **Parish Council to contact Safer Roads Camera Partnership to register an interest in increased speeding enforcement.**

Councillor Bennett will forward by e-mail the regular Neighbourhood Watch updates to members.

14.139 Planning Matters:-

Members of the public were invited to speak on the applications notified to the Parish Council; their comments are appended in brief at the end of these minutes.

i) The following applications were considered for comment:

- a) **Application:** GPDE/14/020036/GPDE-General Permitted Development – Extensions at Kingswood, 178 The Ridgway, New End, Astwood Bank, B96 6NP **Description of Proposal:** Proposed single storey extension to the rear of the property. **Comment:**

The Parish Council will respond to remind the Planning Authority that this development is within the range of Bat Survey and should be considered in the decision.

ii) **Reports from Wychavon Planning:**

- a) **Application:** W/14/01655/PN Kendrick Homes **Location:** Suntrap, Edgioake Lane, Astwood Bank, B96 6BG **Proposal:** Erection of 7 detached dwellings and garages within Redditch Borough Council's administrative boundary. New vehicular access to serve development within Wychavon D C's administrative boundary. (cross boundary application). **Application Approved.**
- b) **Application:** W/14/01492/CU **Location:** Oaks Barn Farm, Worcester Road, Knowle Fields, B49 5LS. **Proposal:** Alterations and extension to existing ancillary building to provide holiday-let facility. **Application Approved**
- c) **Proposed Modifications to the South Worcestershire Development Plan 2006-2030.** Wychavon District Council will be sending it out for re-consultation shortly.

14.140 Progress reports

a) **County Cllr Holt:** had apologised for the leaving the previous meeting earlier.

- The number of unemployed claimants has dropped by 163 since last month.
- Update on ongoing changes within Worcestershire County Council continue.
- Discussions are ongoing for the improvements to parking on the verge at Cladswell Lane. Funds from the locally determined funding may be available but costs for the improvement work have not yet come back from Richard Clewer.
- Ongoing issues at Muzzy Hill Richard Clewer from WCC, suggested that a ditch to stop vehicles breaching the hedge was a safer option than concrete bollards. Cllr Holt advised contacting Cllr Philip Gretton. **Clerk to draft a letter to Cllr Gretton.**

b) **District Cllr A Steel:** Cllr Steel provided information relating to:

- Wished to minute her apologies that her attempts to present the objections to Suntrap application did not affect the decision of the planning decision.
- Wychavon Legal Services are dealing with the planning decision for 40 Wood Lane.
- The sharing of Chief Executive with Malvern Hills District Council will commence on 1st December 2014 with Jack Hegarty as the Managing Director for both councils.
- The Countryside Alliance and Worcestershire Armed Forces Community Covenant are holding a service between 10-30am-12.30pm on Sunday 2nd November 2014 at The Three Counties Showground, Malvern to commemorate the horses lost in World War 1. People can attend on horses, ponies or on foot to the service. **Clerk to put leaflets on noticeboards and mention the event in the What's On Magazine.**

c) **District Cllr Lee:** was not present.

d) **Chairman Cllr Pinfield:**

No updates.

e) **Clerk:-**

- **Traffic Issues** – Kieran Hemstock from Worcestershire County Council has responded about traffic issues. A reply asking for further consideration of the need for countdown markers on Edgioake Lane has been sent. **The Clerk will also contact the Safer Roads Partnership.**
- **Water Bill** – Thomas Vale Construction have reimbursed the Parish Council for their use of the Allotment Association's water supply.
- **Easement** – The Parish Council is to allow an easement to Western Power at the affordable housing development. The agreement is being handled by Thomas Horton Solicitors acting for Western Power.
- **Defibrillator Training** – The training for the 24th October is to be cancelled as the existing trainer can only train those who have received previous West Midlands Ambulance Service training. Contact has been made with West Midlands Ambulance

Service to see if someone is free to do the training on 24th or the **Clerk will re-arrange another date.**

- **Salt Bins** – orders for salt grit needs to be submitted to Worcestershire County Council by 7th November 2014. **Councillors to check salt bins and report to Clerk.**
 - **Verge cutting** – during the cutting of the grass verge on the A441 near to junction with A422 debris damaged equipment. Work will continue when parts have been received.
 - **Allotment Association** – a backpack weed killer sprayer has been purchased for the allotment. New tenant has taken over plot 17.
 - **Gardening Club's request for a projector screen** – this item has been deferred.
 - **Planning Application Update** - Since the Agenda was send out, a notice has been received from the Planning Authority about planning application W/14/01844/PP. **Location:** Greenacres, 26 The Ridgway, Astwood Bank, B96 6LT. **Proposal:** a dormer installation to an existing garage annexe with new carport and balcony over existing external stairs to the first floor. Decision: **APPLICATION APPROVED.**
 - **Skip Hire** – a skip has been hired for Cookhill residents to use over the weekend of 24th – 27th October 2014.
 - **Additional Defibrillators** - SE Davies have confirmed they will pay for one of the two new defibrillators. Tim Wade from Rooftop Housing Association Ltd has expressed an interest in providing the second defibrillator, subject to legal clarification.
 - **Website** – one off cost to update the Parish Council website will be £50 and the annual hosting cost will be increased from £36 to £50. The Clerk will be able to update the website.
- f) **Parish Paths Warden – Barry Menheneott:** Cookhill Bridleway 570 on the Ridgway – Fiona Argyle, Countryside Access Maintenance Officer has carried out some clearance and referred the matter for further clearance to improve visibility for riders as they approach the road.
- g) **Cookhill Village Hall – Cllr Sumner:** The Village Hall is currently down on bookings for bookings and there are one or two spaces left for clubs. £190 was raised for the car park fund at the skittles evening fundraising event.
- h) **Lengthsman Scheme:** further information about purchasing a road-tow wood chipper for the Lengthsman to use is needed. Decision deferred until the next meeting.
- i) **Affordable Housing development update** – progress is going well. Expressions of interest in one of the houses are made to Kirstie May-Jones at Wychavon District Council who will then pass the details onto Home Choice Plus.
- j) **Parish Council owned playing fields:** The Chairman has been advised by the installation company that the play equipment will be installed within 3 weeks.

Cllr Sumner and Cllr Churchill withdrew from the meeting.

14.141 To consider grant funding request from Cookhill Village Hall towards drainage and resurfacing of the carpark.

Following a long discussion discussion and consideration of the Village Halls accounts the Parish Council **AGREED** to grant £12,000 (25%) of the overall cost of the car park drainage and resurfacing from existing Income and New Homes Bonus money. The Village Hall will provide 75% of the cost. Due to the large amount the residents of Cookhill will be consulted by way of a leaflet in the November edition of What's On Magazine. **Clerk to arrange the leaflet.**

Cllr Sumner and Cllr Churchill returned to the meeting.

14.142 To consider re-siting of Gilbert-Scott telephone box to village hall car park.

This item was deferred.

14.143 To consider grant funding request from St. Paul's Church for churchyard maintenance.

Following discussion the Parish Council **AGREED** to grant £200 to St. Paul's Church towards maintenance of the churchyard

14.144 To consider suggesting to neighbouring parish councils a shared purchased road-tow wood chipper for use by the Lengthsman and as required by the community.

Contacted neighbouring parish councils is deferred until further information about purchasing the equipment is obtained. Also see 'Item h' above.

14.145 Statement of financial affairs and authorisation of payments.

The monthly statement of financial affairs showing the actual funds received and spent compared to the budget, and the cheques for payment were authorized and approved by the Council.

14.146 Information and items for the next agenda

To consider wood chipper and shredding services for the Lengthsman and community to use

To consider re-siting of Gilbert-Scott telephone box to village hall car park.

To consider Cookhill Gardening Clubs qualification that the projector screen may not be at the Village Hall at all times.

To consider the plan and costs for updating Parish Council website

To consider purchasing dedicated Accounting software

Update on new identity badges

Defibrillator training update

Deferred items carried over from last meeting – updating Standing Orders

14.147 Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 11 November 2014 at 7.30pm at Cookhill Village Hall, committee room.

This meeting closed at 22:20hrs

Signed Chairman

Dated

Appended notes to Cookhill Parish Council minutes 14/10/2014

Contributions from members of the public in attendance

Three members of the public were in attendance and were invited to speak by the Chairman upon the following topics:-

Affordable Housing

Two residents expressed concern that they had not been contacted about their interest in the affordable homes. **The Chairman will pass their details onto Kirstie May Jones at Wychavon District Council.**

Wood chipper purchase

A resident asked that the Parish Council find out if there are District or County Council run shredding services that can be used as an alternative to purchasing a wood chipper.