

COOKHILL PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of Cookhill Parish Council meeting Held on Tuesday 11th November 2014 at 7.30pm Cookhill Village Hall.

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

In attendance: County Councillor Clive Holt; District Cllr Audrey Steel
Eight members of the public were present.
Clerk Kerry Johnson

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. Treasurer from Cookhill Village Hall was present to deal with questions about the Village Hall grant consultation. Brief notes of the comments are appended to these minutes.

14.148 Apologies received and accepted from PC Tony Carter

14.149 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: None disclosed

14.150 Minutes: The minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 14th October 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

14.151 Police and Neighbourhood Watch reports:

Neighbourhood Watch updates are now being circulated to all Councillors as agreed at the last meeting.

14.152 Planning Matters:-

Members of the public were invited to speak on the applications notified to the Parish Council.

i) The following applications were considered for comment:

- a) **AB/14/02300/AB Location:** The Bungalow, Highfield Poultry Farm, Salt Way, Astwood Bank, B96 6NH **Proposal:** Installation of a steel portal framed agricultural building. **Comment: NO COMMENT** was submitted as the application was **Approved** by the Planning Authority before the Parish Meeting.
- b) **W/14/02217/PP Location:** Little Staples, Evesham Road, Cookhill, B49 5LJ **Proposal:** Alterations to windows, addition of an external balcony & roof lights. **Comment: APPROVAL RECOMMENDED.**
- c) **W/14/2343/LB Location:** Cookhill Priory, 66 Evesham Road, Cookhill, B49 5LN **Proposal:** Listed building consent for internal alterations to chapel (gallery, lobby, and spiral staircase) **Comment: APPROVAL RECOMMENDED.**

ii) Reports from Wychavon Planning:

- a) Oak Barn Farm, Worcester Road, Knowle Fields, B49 5LS – Alterations and extensions to holiday let building. **APPLICATION APPROVED** 02/10/14.
- b) The White House, 24 The Ridgeway, Astwood Bank - Single storey extension **APPLICATION APPROVED** 21/10/2014.
- c) **40 Wood Lane, Cookhill** – Certificate of lawful use to complete outbuilding over a swimming pool. **APPLICATION REFUSED** 21/10/14.
- d) **Kingswood**, 178 The Ridgeway single storey extension to rear of property. **PRIOR APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED** 28/10/14.
- e) **30 Oak Tree Lane, Cookhill** – construction of a dwelling and detached garage. **APPEAL DISMISSED** 29/10/14.

14.153 Progress reports

a) County Cllr Holt provided information relating to:

- Unemployment in Worcestershire down by 326 in the last month.
- Information about the Worcestershire Regional Parkway project to bring a national rail interchange to Worcester is available at <https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/parkway>.
- Worcestershire County Council's budget for the next four years requires £98 million in savings, including £27 for the next financial year. £22 million in proposals have been identified but a further £5 million still needs to be found.

b) District Cllr A Steel provided information relating to:

- Jack Hegarty will take over as joint Managing Director of Wychavon and Malvern District Councils from 1st December 2014.

c) District Cllr Lee: was not present.

d) Chairman Cllr Pinfield: provided information relating to:

- Update from Worcestershire Highways regarding the need for countdown markers. Highways will provide a post for additional VAS sign.
- Suggests a VAS sign with counter for Edgioake Lane.
- Ringway have completed repairs on the footpaths between Church Lane and the Neville Arms.
- Repairs to gas cabinet opposite The Neville Arms is underway.

e) Clerk:- provided information relating to:

- Deed of Easement between the Parish Council and Western Power at the new houses was signed 31 October 2014
- VAS sign on A441 has been turned. The other is scheduled to be moved.
- Update on the Village Hall grant consultation. Full details to be given at the next meeting.
- Grit bins have been checked and are full.
- The noticeboard outside SE Davies is loose in the ground and needs securing.

f) Parish Paths Warden – Barry Menheneott: Cookhill Bridleway 570 on the Ridgway – further work has been carried out on the Bridleway. There is an issue on the Bridleway leading from The Ridgeway towards Alcester Park Farm. **To be reported to relevant authority.**

g) Cookhill Village Hall – Cllr Sumner: The Village Hall's successful skittle evening raised £250 for the car park fund. Other events include a Christmas Bingo evening on 29th November 2014, a Wine and Cheese evening with carol singing on 19th December 2014 and New Year's Eve Barn Dance (£20 per person includes meal).

h) Lengthsman Scheme: Lengthsman's work discussed. **Lengthsman to clean the bus shelter and trim hedge on Brand Heath Lane.**

i) Affordable Housing development update – Rooftop Housing Group have advised that the water meter has not been moved and there are no plans to move it. The developer will continue to use the Council's water supply and reimburse costs until the project is finished. The Parish Council is disappointed to hear that residents' complaints advice they have been given about the allocation criteria for the properties. **The Parish Council will address the matter with Wychavon District Council and Home Choice Plus.**

14.154 To consider the cost of installing the safety mats at the playing fields – resolution was **AGREED** to the cost of £609.00 excluding VAT.

14.155 To consider purchasing road-tow wood chipper for use by the Lengthsman.

It was decided that the Parish Council will not purchase a road-tow chipper. A chipper will be hired when required and waste taken to a local chipping/shedding firm for £20 per load.

14.156 To consider Cookhill Gardening Club's request for purchase of a projector screen to be used at Cookhill Village Hall and other locations. It was AGREED to purchase the projector screen at £224.94 (including VAT) to be kept at the Village Hall and used by the Gardening Club.

14.157 To consider purchasing dedicated accounting software for the management of Cookhill Parish Council's accounts. It was AGREED to renew payroll software to include dedicated accounts features for the Parish Council accounts.

14.158 To consider the request from Wychavon District Council to name the new housing development 'Ridgeway Meadows'. The name was AGREED.

14.159 To consider the design of the new identity badges. A layout concept was AGREED. **Clerk to order the badges.**

14.160 Defibrillator Update – new training to be organised and SE Davies and Rooftop Housing Group have agreed to fund the two new defibrillators. Clerk to order the defibrillators and housing units.

14.161 Finance

- a) **To receive the statement of financial affairs and authorise payments.** The monthly statement showing available funds, income and expenditure comparison to the budget, and the cheques for payment were authorized and approved by the Council.
- b) **To consider the adoption of the latest release of Financial Regulations.** To be carried forward to the January 2015 meeting.
- c) **To consider a letter to the bank amending the Clerk's details and Parish Council's contact address.** The letter was approved and signed by the Council.

14.162 Information and items for the next agenda

- Cookhill Flooding Plan
- VAS sign with counter for Edgioake Lane
- Computer training for the village
- Quote for cutting back and rebuilding the hedge on the playing field
- Surplus bookcase available for sale
- Deferred items carried over from last meeting – updating Standing Orders; adopting new Financial Regulations; re-siting of Gilbert-Scott telephone box.

14.163 Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 9 December 2014 at 7.30pm at Cookhill Village Hall, committee room.

This meeting closed at 21:46hrs.

Signed Chairman

Dated