

COOKHILL PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of Cookhill Parish Council meeting Held on Tuesday 8th July 2014 at 7.30pm Cookhill Village Hall.

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

In attendance: District Cllrs David Lee and Audrey Steel.
Eleven members of the public were present.
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.

14.092 Apologies received and accepted. Cllr J Roberts

14.093 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.

14.094 Minutes: The minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 10th June 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

14.095 Police and Neighbourhood Watch reports:

Cllr Bennett reported as follows:

- i) To ask PC Carter if the traffic data wires can be moved from the Salt Way to Edgioake Lane
- ii) The Acting Clerk was asked to obtain the speed data from the Salt Way site
- iii) Speed limits along the Salt Way could be staggered at 60 / 40 / 30 mph
- iv) Orange Neighbourhood Watch discs were available and distributed by Cllr Bennett
- v) Wheelie bin 'speed reminder' 30mph and 50mph stickers were available and distributed by Cllr Bennett

14.096 Planning Matters:-

To consider the following applications:-

- i) W/14/01162/PN – Sandhills Farm Edgioake Lane Astwood Bank B96 6BG – Change of use and extension to existing building to proposed display building and combined demonstration workshop, classroom and associated facilities for a rural vintage machinery museum and visitor centre at Sandhills Farm. **Approval recommended.**

Comment submitted: Whilst in an area of Green Belt, this proposal would not only enhance the visual impact of the site but also enable the owners to store, restore and preserve items of historical importance. The application conforms to Local Plan Policy SR7 in that it would not detract from the open character of the area in question, nor would it conflict with the purpose of the land on which it is sited. This area of land already has permission to store items of machinery in the collection.

The training of persons to restore and/or repair these machines is also important so as not to lose these skills and knowledge. The collection held by the applicants is of immense historical importance, some of the machines may be the only examples of their type in existence. Some of these items are currently stored outside and as a result may perish to the point where they cannot be saved. It is important that these machines may be restored and housed appropriately.

We feel that the application would result in an increase in tourism/visitors to the area, benefiting not only the applicants but also other local businesses (eg shops, bed & breakfast, hotels, pubs, restaurants, tourist attractions etc) aiding the local economy. A facility like this would help school pupils understand the importance and development of

these vehicles throughout history.

The Parish Council has had no adverse comments from residents in the local vicinity with regard to this application but has in fact had comments of support.

We would also strongly recommend a site visit by all officers responsible for the outcome of this application.

- ii) W/14/00979 – The Hollies Wood Lane New End Astwood Bank B96 6NN – Retrospective erection of storage barn (for tractor, trailer and items incidental to the livery and paddock maintenance). **Majority in favour of submitting following comment:**

Comment submitted: members appreciated this is a retrospective application and have no objection to it but would ask that it remains a utility building for storage only and that it is not given permission for conversion to a dwelling.

Reports from Wychavon Planning

- iii) W/14/00494/LB – 166 The Ridgeway New End Astwood Bank B96 6NJ – to demolish a pig pen. **Permission granted.**
- iv) W/13/011868/PP – The Bungalow Highfield Poultry Farm Astwood Bank B96 6NH – Demolition of existing detached garage/workshop. Extension to existing bungalow, creating a replacement of garage/workshop and new drive from existing gate/access from Dogbut Lane – **Permission granted**
- v) W/14/00978/PP – 1 The Ridgeway Astwood Bank B96 6LS – Proposed first floor extension to form new bedroom and ensuite and convert garage to snug. **Permission granted**

14.097 Progress reports

a) County Cllr Holt: Cllr Holt had sent apologies for absence

b) District Cllr Steel: Cllr Steel was thanked for help regarding planning enforcement concerns in Wood Lane and commented as follows:

- i) attendance at a recent meeting about speeding issues which highlighted that official speed reduction intervention measures would only be taken following fatalities and that 90% of speeding motorists are 'local';
- ii) Wychavon DC and Malvern Hills DC are to share their chief executive officer;
- iii) The three LSP's and overarching LSP will be dismantled to save money and are to be taken over by the Localism Panel. Cllr Steel continues to push for more notice to be taken of the villages.

The Chairman asked for the parish council to be included on the Community Speed Watch Scheme.

c) District Cllr Lee: Cllr Lee apologised for missing the last two parish council meetings and declared the news that approval has been granted for the Norton Parkway following the granting of £53m government funding for the county.

d) Chairman Cllr Pinfield: The government is to introduce changes regarding the display of car tax discs from October 2014.

e) Clerk:- for information, from Mary Shephard (upon retiring from the role):

- i) Awaiting reply from contractor regarding the removal of stumps from the playing field.
- ii) Believe arrangements are in hand for the adopted telephone kiosk to be voluntarily maintained.
- iii) A post for the VAS on the Saltway has been ordered.
- iv) Reply is awaited from Severn Trent on details of tanker visits to site in Lower Cladswell Lane
- v) Awaiting progress on Broadband group
- vi) Awaiting progress on 'restricted reserves'.

The requirements for new members to complete Register of Interest forms, bank mandate forms and website resumés were addressed.

A report was expected from County Councillor Holt regarding installation of kerbstones on the corner of Cladswell Lane and Lower Cladswell Lane.

It was agreed to retain copies of the Rural Communities folder at the Church and at the Village Hall; District Cllr Steel would provide her copy.

f) Parish Paths Warden – Barry Menheneott: Nothing to report.

Members asked for the finger post on Oak Tree Lane green to be made more secure.

g) Cookhill Village Hall – Cllr Sumner: General fund-raising events are to take place including a Barn Dance, barbecue and Race Night; details are on the website.

Problems with the drains are being addressed.

h) Lengthsman Scheme: Nothing to report.

Members agreed the proliferation of ragwort needs to be addressed and dealt with properly.

i) Affordable Housing Group: - Building work is ongoing.

j) Parish Council owned playing fields:- this matter was discussed at minute no. 14.100 below.

14.098 To consider seeking funding for a second defibrillator from the New Homes Bonus.

It was suggested that a new defibrillator could be purchased - cost likely to be £1,000 for the defibrillator and £500 for the cabinet – and sited at the new Rooftop Housing development. Rooftop would be asked for permission and to contribute funding. The cabinet is to be funded via the County Councillor divisional fund.

The suggestion was then put that S E Davis would fund and provide a defibrillator on the front wall of their office at their site in Edgioake Lane.

14.099 To consider installation costs for playing field swings.

Members agreed the installation cost of £551.

14.100 To consider purchase of further equipment for playing field.

It was agreed to consider the purchase of a goal-end at the next meeting.

The safety of the well-used table-tennis table was discussed.

14.101 To consider the external auditor's report

The external auditor, Grant Thornton, had provided an unqualified report; copies were circulated to members.

14.102 To consider speeding issues on Edgioake Lane

Cllr Bennett is to meet with PC Carter on Thursday 12/07/2014 and will report back to the next parish council meeting.

14.103 Councillors reports and items for next agenda

Nothing to report

14.104 Statement of financial affairs and authorisation of payments.

The monthly statement of financial affairs and the presented payments were authorized and approved by the Council.

14.105 Date of next meeting.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on 12th August 2014 at 7.30 at Cookhill Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 21.00hrs

Signed Chairman

Dated

Appended notes to Cookhill Parish Council minutes 08/07/2014

Contributions from members of the public in attendance

Eleven members of the public were in attendance and spoke during the open forum prior to the start of the meeting, and at specific points during the meeting when invited to do so by the Chairman, upon the following topics:-

Speeding

Concerns were expressed regarding the speed of traffic generally and along Edgioake Lane in particular. Petitions have been produced in the past asking for action to be taken to reduce speeding traffic and speed measurement data is currently being collected via 'strips across the road'. The Parish Council was called upon to help reduce speeds.

Planning enforcement

Thanks were given to District Councillor Audrey Steel for assistance in arranging for a stop notice on alleged unlawful development.

Planning application at Sandhills Farm

Applicant was present to answer questions on the application relating to W/14/01162/PN – Sandhills Farm Edgioake Lane Astwood Bank B96 6BG – Change of use and extension to existing building to proposed display building and combined demonstration workshop, classroom and associated facilities for a rural vintage machinery museum and visitor centre at Sandhills Farm.

Playing Field and play equipment

Resident present to give thanks for and comment on the activities at the playing field. Commented that a car is often parked across the entrance, blocking free access.