

COOKHILL PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of Cookhill Parish Council Meeting Held on Tuesday 13th September 2016 Cookhill Village Hall.

Present: Councillors R. Pinfield (Chairman), A. Sumner (Vice-chairman), P. Davis, M. Churchill and T. Bennett

In attendance: District Councillors A. Steel & D. Wilkinson & County Councillor Clive Holt
4 members of the public
Clerk – Kate Brazier

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.

16.113. Apologies received and accepted from: Cllr V. Gupta & Cllr P. Stephens

- Cllr Pinfield advised Councillors that Cllr Pat Stephens had resigned as Parish Councillor. The clerk will advise the relevant parties and the post will be advertised.

16.114. Declarations of interest

- a) Register of Interests. Councillors were reminded of the need to update their Register of Interests.
- b) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.
- c) Other Disclosable Interests.

16.115. Minutes: The minutes of the Meeting of the Council on 16/08/16 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

16.116. Police & Neighbourhood Watch Reports:

- Reports of a male flagging down vehicles outside the village hall were discussed with the individual asking for money for fuel in exchange for jewellery. It was stressed that no money should be handed over as this is a nationwide scam.
- Cllr Pinfield reported an incident in the village where stones had been removed from a verge and a car showered in soil. After speaking to the homeowner he believes the incident to have been a matter of road rage after a car was accidentally reversed into the stones.

Home owners were reminded that it is an offence to block, obstruct or damage road verges. This includes rocks, posts, A-boards etc. If someone is injured or damages their vehicle on rocks or posts etc. legal action could be taken. The highway authority has a duty to remove obstruction and will do so if the obstruction is dangerous.

16.117. 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) W/16/01898/CU – Land adjacent to Knowle Fields Cottage, Worcester Rd., Knowle Fields, Cookhill
Proposal: Proposed stables with new stone drive, hardstanding, alterations to existing access.
Comment: Recommend for approval, providing the points raised in the ecological survey be adhered to regarding lighting and that the building only be used for agricultural purposes in perpetuity.
- b) AB/16/02043/AB – Land North of A422, Worcester Rd., Knowle Fields, Cookhill
Proposal: General purpose agricultural building
Comment: Recommend for approval providing the building is in keeping with the surrounding area and that it only ever be used for agricultural purposes in perpetuity.
- c) W/16/02008/PP – Dogbut Farm, Dogbut Lane, Astwood Bank, Redditch, B96 6LD.
Proposal: Proposed two storey rear and side extensions
Comment: Recommend for approval providing bird and bat boxes be provided to enable the wildlife in the area to be preserved as per the wildlife consultancy documents and that no further hedges be removed without prior consultation. It was recommended that a second bat survey be carried out before work begins.

ii) Reports from Wychavon Planning:

- a) W/16/01634/PP – Windgather, 27 Wood Lane, New End, Astwood Bank, Redditch, B96 6NN.
Proposal: Proposed single storey rear extension to home, replacement of porch & demolition of outbuilding.
Decision: Approved 19/08/16
- b) W/16/00650/OU – 25, The Ridgeway, Astwood Bank, B96 6LS
Proposal: Erection of 2 storey detached single dwelling and alteration to access.
Decision: Approved 27/08/16

iii) Planning enforcement matters from Wychavon Planning: None

16.118. Progress Reports

- a) **County Cllr Holt:** Cllr Holt reported that the Worcester Parkway station is making good progress and they are hoping for an early 2017 start date.
He reported that he had been approached regarding an issue with potholes at the top of Oaktree Lane and asked the clerk to report these to Highways.

The Council expressed their thanks to Cllr Holt for instigating the work currently underway to repair certain roads in the village under the 'Drive to Work' scheme. Church Lane to Dogbut Lane is currently underway, with Wood Lane scheduled next.

- b) **District Councillor Steel:** Cllr Steel asked the Council to remember the Parish Council event to be hosted by Wychavon on Thursday 15th September, to be held at the Civic Centre, Pershore at 5:30pm. The event is titled 'Clean, Green & Safer Places'.
- c) **District Councillor David Wilkinson:** Cllr Wilkinson advised that there are to be some proposed parliamentary boundary changes. These are still ongoing and updates will be available soon.
- d) **Chairman Cllr Pinfield** reported the following;
 - **Roadworks** – The workmen carrying out the road repairs in Church Lane had left the site at the end of the first day and had not sufficiently coned off dangerous potholes. Cllr Pinfield used some of their cones to warn pedestrians and motorists of the dangers. The foreman said he would ensure these were carried out in future.
 - **Grit Bins** – The Parish grit bins have not been touched for 2 years and the contents needs to be removed and replaced as soon as possible.
 - **Recycling** – The chairman reported that there may be some residents who are making little use of their recycling bins because they are unsure about what can be recycled. He would like to invite someone from Severn Waste Services to attend a meeting to advise parishioners & answer questions.
- e) **The Clerk provided an update on the following:**
 - **Parish Council Field Tenancies** – The tenancy agreements due for renewal have been researched and will be revised and renewed from April 2017.
 - **Dog Waste on Chamberlain Lane** – Posters and signs to go up on the path.
- f) **Parish Path Warden:** There has been an applicant for the post of Parish Paths Warden. He will meet with the Footpaths Team from the County Council and undergo the relevant training.
- g) **Cookhill Village Hall Report:** Cllr Sumner reported that the successful Skittles Nights will take place on 24th September and 22nd October and there will also be a 'Quiz Night with a bang!' held on Saturday 5th November. Tickets will be £8 and will include fireworks and a light supper. The event will start at 6:30pm. Teams of 4 upwards. Contact Eileen or Anne to book as soon as possible.
- h) **Lengthsman Scheme:** The Lengthsman continues to carry out vital maintenance work and ditch clearing around the parish and keeps the footpaths free from brambles.
- i) **Playing Fields:**
 - **Official Opening of Cookhill Playing Fields** – This will be scheduled as soon as the installation date for the new equipment is confirmed.
 - **Delivery of new children's play equipment** – The equipment for both the Playing Fields and the new swing for the Village Hall has been ordered and the provisional date for delivery and installation is late October.
 - **Replacement of Table Tennis Table** – Cllr Pinfield reported that the table tennis table at the playing fields is damaged and can't be closed. The Council agreed the purchase of a replacement table to be ordered and delivered as soon as possible.
- j) **Affordable Housing – Ridgeway Meadows:** Following some discussion with Rooftop Housing the replacement hedge behind the boundary of the new houses at Ridgeway Meadows will be planted in October and will be maintained by the Parish Council.

16.119. To receive the statement of financial affairs and authorise payments.

- a) The monthly statement and bank reconciliation for August 2016 showing the available funds, the income and expenditure comparison to the budget.
- b) Cheques for payment were reported, authorised and approved by the Council.

16.120 To receive information and items for next agenda

Councillors are requested to use this as an opportunity to report minor matters of information not included elsewhere on the Agenda and to raise items for future agendas. Councillors are respectfully reminded that this is not a time for debate or decision-making.

16.121. To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meetings

- a) **Parish Council Meeting** – 11th October 2016 at 7:30pm

This meeting closed at 21:27

Signed Chairman

Dated