



**The Minutes of Cookhill Parish Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday 14th February 2017 at 7:30pm
Cookhill Village Hall.**

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

In attendance: Clerk – Kate Brazier
District Councillor Audrey Steel
County Councillor Clive Holt
4 members of the public
Kate Stott – Education & Communications Officer for Severn Waste Services

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.

17.018. Apologies received and accepted from: Cllr Vinu Gupta & Tony Mitchell.

17.019. Declarations of interest

- a) Register of Interests. Councillors were reminded of the need to update their Register of Interests.
- b) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – Cllrs A. Sumner & M. Churchill disclosed an interest in item 17.027.d.i)
- c) Other Disclosable Interests

17.020. Minutes: The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council, the Land Meeting on 10/01/17 & the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council on 03/02/17 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.
Proposed by Cllr Sumner and seconded by Cllr Davis.

17.021. Presentation from Kate Stott – Severn Waste Services – Ms Stott spoke to the meeting about the importance of recycling and what happens to the items recycled in Wychavon. You can read more about what can be recycled by visiting the Parish Council website.

17.022. Police and Neighbourhood Watch Reports - None

17.023. 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/17/00006/PN** – Land North of A422, Worcester Road, Knowle Fields, Cookhill
Proposal: Erection of agricultural building with parking and manoeuvring area and access.
Recommend Approval Proposed by Cllr Davis & seconded by Cllr Sumner, agreed unanimously.
- ii) **Reports from Wychavon Planning:** The clerk reported that the prior approval notification for a telecommunications development at The Oaks, Worcester Road had been approved.
- iii) **Planning enforcement matters from Wychavon Planning:** None

17.024. Progress Reports

- a) **County Cllr Holt:** Cllr Holt advised that the annual budget day was due to take place. He said the Lengthsman scheme was set to continue and there would be a 9% increase on Council tax and a 10% increase on the roads budget, focussing on maintenance, congestion and town centre improvements.
- b) **District Councillor Steel:** Cllr Steel reported that the New Homes Bonus scheme was changing. Applications for this funding are open now and the board want to see some projects suggested that will benefit the community. The way planning enforcement is carried out will be monitored to a greater extent.
- c) **District Councillor David Wilkinson:** None
- d) **Chairman Cllr Pinfield:** If the development at Clerkcroft is approved Cllr Pinfield discussed the possibility of meeting up with the developers to ask if they would be willing to listen to the thoughts of the Parish Council.
- e) **The Clerk provided an update on the following:** Updates on RTAs on the Ridgeway, see item 17.025.
- f) **Parish Paths Warden:** Mr Mitchell has carried some waymarking and hopes to get out a bit more when the weather improves.
- g) **Cookhill Village Hall Report:** The fundraising at the Hall continues with a Race Night scheduled for Saturday 8th April and a Summer Fete on Saturday 2nd September.
There will also be the return of the popular Skittles nights on 25th February and 25th March. The Hall is pleased to report that that it being used almost every night by different clubs.
- h) **Lengthsman Scheme:** The Lengthsman continues to keep the drains and ditches clear and recently removed a section of dead tree from near the bus shelter by the Nevill Arms.
- i) **Playing Fields:** The problem with the moles has been dealt with by John Kirk.
- j) **Affordable Housing – Ridgeway Meadows:** No problems, all looking good with new hedge coming along well.

17.025. Traffic Calming on the Ridgeway – Following the last ordinary meeting on the 10th January the clerk wrote to the Police Crime Commissioner and the Highways department advising of the problems on this stretch of road. Members of Highways visited the site at the end of January and the clerk had an onsite meeting with Mr Gerry Brienza, Senior Highways Liaison Engineer from the County Council on 9th February, who suggested that a vehicle activated sign would be a good idea to be sited just before the bend so that it can pick up traffic coming along from the Village Hall direction. He also suggested double yellow lines on the road outside the cottages, if parking there is still causing a problem to traffic approaching from the Nevill. The Councillors felt that this might be something to consider as a last resort.

Councillors proposed the purchase of a VAS in the recommended location, warning of an approaching bend. Highways have also advised that a SLOW will be painted on the road, before the bend.

Saltway – Mr Brienza also suggested that village gateways might be something to consider as you enter the village from the Saltway as they let drivers know that they are entering a village and can adjust their speed.

17.026. Approval of Internal Auditor for the 2016/17 Financial Audit – It was proposed that Diane Malley be reappointed as the internal auditor for the 2016/17 Financial Audit. This was agreed unanimously.

17.027. Finance

- a) The monthly statement and bank reconciliation for January 2017 showing the available funds, the income and expenditure comparison to the budget was approved. Cheques for payment were presented, approved and authorised for payment.
- b) **Employee Pension** –
- c) **Parish Council Bank Account** –
- d) **Grant Requests**
 - i. **Cookhill Village Hall** – Cllr Sumner advised the Council of the ongoing maintenance works required to the kitchen following the discovery of subsidence. She reported that the Village Hall will be looking to replace the units in the kitchen at the same time.
It is noted that Cllrs Sumner and Churchill left the meeting following their presentation to enable the remaining Councillors to discuss their proposal. The remaining Councillors agreed to a grant of £1,500 but it was agreed that this must be allocated to a specific project and they asked that the Village Hall committee attend the next Parish Council meeting with detailed costings for a specific project.
 - ii. **Cookhill Cricket Club** – Treasurer Bill Harris attended the meeting and asked the Parish Council for grant towards their ongoing work to encourage younger members to join the club. Last year saw a rise in attendance and they are planning some work in local schools to raise their profile. The Club has also secured partnership funding and partnership from the Cricket Board. The Parish Council agreed to a grant of £425. Proposed by Cllr Davis and seconded by Cllr Draper.

17.028. 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.

- a) Planning application received for Inkberrow on Cookhill boundary

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

- a) **Parish Council Meeting is Tuesday 14th March 2017 at 7:30pm**

This meeting closed at 22:00

Signed Chairman

Dated