



**The Minutes of Cookhill Parish Council Meeting  
Held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at 7:30pm  
Cookhill Village Hall.**

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

**In attendance:** Clerk – Kate Brazier  
County Councillor Anthony Hopkins  
District Councillor Audrey Steel  
Parish Path's Warden – Tony Mitchell

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.

**17.070. Apologies received and accepted from:** District Cllr D. Wilkinson

**17.071. 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 – Cllrs Sumner & Churchill registered their interest in 17.075. g)

**17.072. Minutes:** The Minutes from the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Davis & seconded by Cllr Sumner.

**17.073. Police and Neighbourhood Watch Reports** – No reports of crime in the Parish.

**Nextdoor.co.uk** – Parishioners in Cookhill had been invited to join this Social Media platform via a letter, received by all households. Whilst the site is legitimate the Parish Council stressed that it is nothing to do with either the Parish Council or the Neighbourhood Watch and that anyone signing up should be aware that full contact details can be seen by anyone using the site in the Cookhill area. Security settings should be checked if anyone wishes to use the site.

A Facebook Group run by the Parish Council was suggested for Parishioners to use. This group will be set up and monitored by the Parish Council in conjunction with the Neighbourhood Watch. The clerk and two Parish Councillors agreed to monitor this group for appropriate content. This group will be advertised in the What's On and on the Parish Council website.

**17.074. 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/17/00859/HP** 34 Lower Cladswell Lane, Cookhill, B49 5JY  
**Proposal:** Proposed extensions and alterations to existing dwelling.  
**Consultation ended 06/06/17** – the Parish Council recommended **Approval**. *Planning approved 8<sup>th</sup> June 2017.*
  - b. **W/17/00421/RM** 23A The Ridgeway, Astwood Bank  
**Proposal:** Application following grant of outline planning permission for 2 storey detached single dwelling & alteration to access.  
**Consultation ended 06/06/17** – the Parish Council recommended **Refusal**.
  - c. **W/17/00745/CU** Astwood Bank Water Tower, The Ridgeway, New End, Astwood Bank, B96 6LS  
**Proposal:** Conversion to a dwelling, change of use from water tower to residential.
- ii) **Reports from Wychavon Planning:**
  - a. **W/17/00400/HP** – Myrtle Cottage, 34 The Ridgeway, Astwood Bank  
**Proposal:** New first floor bedroom extension over existing dining area together with garage conversion to form enlarged dining area space, utility room, office and store.  
**Decision:** Approved 24/05/17
  - b. **W/16/02918/OU** – Clerkcroft, 10 Church Lane, Cookhill, Alcester, B49 5JS  
**Proposal:** Outline application for the erection of two detached dwellings  
**Decision:** Approved following Full Planning 02/06/17
  - c. **W/17/00859/HP** 34 Lower Cladswell Lane, Cookhill, B49 5JY  
**Proposal:** Proposed extensions and alterations to existing dwelling.  
**Decision:** Approved 08/06/17
- iii) **Planning enforcement matters from Wychavon Planning:** None reported

**17.075. Progress Reports**

- a) **County Cllr Anthony Hopkins:** Cllr Hopkins reported that he was arranging for traffic problems in the surrounding area to be addressed. He asked that any issues be reported to him.
- b) **District Councillor Steel:** Cllr Steel reiterated that the comments received from the Parish Council on planning matters were taken into account. All planning decisions are made by taking all evidence and comments into account.
- c) **District Councillor David Wilkinson:** None
- d) **Chairman Cllr Pinfield:**

- **VAS** – The new VAS situated just beyond the Nevill Arms is working a treat. Data from the sign can be downloaded directly to the Parish Council laptop.
- **Dog Waste Bag Dispensers** – A new dispenser has now been installed at the allotments and the bags (and waste) are definitely going down!
- **Noticeboard at SE Davis** – Cllr Pinfield thanked Cllr Davis for clearing up the glass left after high winds left the noticeboard in Edgioake Lane with a broken door. Cllr Davis said he would investigate whether the noticeboard can be repaired effectively or if a new one is required.

**e) The Clerk provided an update on the following:**

- **Community Speed Watch** – No further updates from the Safer Roads Partnership and the Council suggested that this be reported to Mr Campion.
- **Adult Exercise Equipment** – Following the RoSPA Play Safety report earlier this year one item of the adult exercise equipment was classed as 'High Risk'. RoSPA explain that this is because a user of any piece of equipment should always be in control of his/her own actions. The supplier of the equipment advised that it complies with all the necessary safety standards. Ongoing.

**f) Parish Paths Warden:** Mr Mitchell advised the Council that there was not much to report regarding footpaths this month, he reported a sign on Oak Tree Lane in the wrong position which has been rectified. His next job is to look at the gates and stiles in the Parish but any ongoing work must be agreed by the landowners. New signs are currently on order.

**g) Cookhill Village Hall:**

- **28/06/17 – Health & Safety Meeting** - The Village Hall representatives advised of a Health and Safety meeting scheduled at the Hall, the meeting is for all hall users and attendance is important.
- **08/07/17 – Aber Valley Male Voice Choir** – Tickets on sale for this popular event, the concert will take place at St. Paul's Church, following on at the Village Hall.
- **02/09/17 – Cookhill Village Fete** – Volunteers required for this event in September. It will run from 12 til 4pm and the beacon will be lit. It was agreed that the Parish Council will fund the fuel for the beacon. Volunteers were asked to contact Eileen Payne or Anne Sumner if they can help on the day.
- **Carpark** – Limebridge have started work on extending the car park. Ongoing.
- **Lighting** – The suggested lighting for the car park was streetlight height. The Village Hall Committee refused this. Ongoing.
- **SKIP** – it was reported that the skip hired at the beginning of June had not been a success. After the incorrect delivery of a wrongly sized skip Cllr Sumner then advised of waste left on the ground, building waste and also asbestos deposited in the skip meaning that it was full by Saturday lunchtime and a sign had to be put on the gates advising that there was no more room. Unfortunately this was met with anger from people wanting to use it. The Village Hall Committee have suggested that unless members of the Parish Council would be available to man the skip for the duration then they would not feel happy allowing it in future. The Parish Council wished to thank Cllrs Sumner and Churchill and their husbands for their assistance over the weekend.

**h) Lengthsman Scheme:** The Lengthsman continues to carry out essential work around the Parish. Following a report from several parishioners about an overgrown hedge where the homeowner is unable to carry out the necessary maintenance work the Lengthsman trimmed it back to enable walkers to access the footpath.

**i) Playing Fields: Swing Replacement** – Following discussion regarding the damaged swing at the Playing Fields it was agreed that it should be replaced. This replacement should come under the original warranty. All in favour.

**j) Affordable Housing – Ridgeway Meadows:** Nothing to report.

**17.076. Purchase of new noticeboard** – A new noticeboard to be sited at Ridgeway Meadows was discussed. A quote of £1,500 was reported, for a noticeboard to match the current ones. Cllr Davis said he would look into getting some alternative quotes for the next meeting.

**17.077. Purchase & installation of waste bin** – A new waste bin was proposed to be installed at Ridgeway Meadows. Wychavon will carry out a site visit when the location has been confirmed. The bin can be installed and maintained at a cost of approximately £285.20. The Council agreed the purchase unanimously.

**17.078. Standing Orders Review** – This was postponed until the next meeting to give Councillors time to review the current standing orders.

**17.079. Finance**

- a) The monthly statement and bank reconciliation for May 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) **Lloyds Bank** – A letter of complaint was sent to the bank highlighting the Council's concerns with the current sweep facility and service offered to the Council. The bank have offered the Parish Council compensation for the embarrassment caused. It was discussed that the bank can no longer guarantee that the sweep facility set in place will work effectively. The Councillors proposed investigating alternative banks.

**17.080. 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.

- Review current Standing Orders
- New Noticeboard at Ridgeway Meadows

**17.081. To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meetings**

- a. **Parish Council Meeting** – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 7.30pm

This meeting closed at 21:40

**Signed Chairman**

**Dated**