



**The Minutes of Cookhill Parish Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday 11th July 2017 at 7:30pm
Cookhill Village Hall.**

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

In attendance: Clerk – Kate Brazier
County Councillor Anthony Hopkins
District Councillor Audrey Steel
District Councillor David Wilkinson

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.

17.082. Apologies received and accepted from: Cllr P. Draper, Cllr P. Davis & Parish Path's Warden – Tony Mitchell

17.083. 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

17.084. Minutes: The Minutes of the Parish Land and Parish Council Meetings held on Tuesday 13th June 2017 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Sumner and seconded by Cllr Churchill and agreed unanimously.

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

- **Cookhill Neighbourhood Watch** – Cllr Bennett provided a questionnaire for approval. Address to be changed to clerk's address for contact.
- **Cookhill Parish Council & Neighbourhood Watch Facebook Group** – A closed group has been set up and is monitored by the clerk and two Councillors. Permission is required to join and all posts are monitored prior to posting.

17.086. 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/16/02718/PP** 27 Oak Tree Lane, Cookhill, Alcester, B49 5LH

Proposal: Demolition of existing rear ground & first floor structure. Erection of rear 2 storey extension & associated works.

Comment: The Council recommended REFUSAL of the application. This was agreed unanimously.

ii) **Reports from Wychavon Planning:**

- a. **W/17/00291/HP** 34 Wood Lane, New End, Astwood Bank, Redditch, B96 6NW

Proposal: Loft conversion to domestic bungalow to include new dormer roof.

Decision: Approved 15/06/17

- b. **W/17/00444/HP** Lower Park Farm, Salt Way, New End, Astwood Bank, B96 6NF

Proposal: Two storey extension creating bedrooms. Single storey extension creating garage.

Decision: Approved 21/06/17

- 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.

APPLICATION WITHDRAWN BY APPLICANT 29/06/17

- d. **W/17/00603/FUL – Land Adjacent to Dogbut Farm, Dogbut Lane, Astwood Bank**

Proposal: Retrospective application for steel framed agricultural building for mixed use as per previous permitted development/prior notification – ref: AB/16/01364/AB – for the use of storage for forage and agricultural machinery and also for the housing of livestock, mainly cattle.

Decision: Approved 06/07/17

iii) **Planning enforcement matters from Wychavon Planning:** None reported

17.087. Progress Reports

a) **County Cllr Anthony Hopkins:**

- **Maintenance on the A46** – Cllr Hopkins reported that work is due to start on improvements to the entire length of the A46, focussing on problem areas. This is a long-term project that will affect the area when work starts.
- **Speeding in Cookhill** – A number of residents have reported motorbikes travelling at high speeds down Edgioake Lane just before 7am every day. Cllr Hopkins has asked for past information on this stretch of road from Highways Officers.

- **Community Speed Watch** – Although this has been approved it seems to be taking a long time. Cllr Hopkins said that he would see if the process could be accelerated at all.
- b) **District Councillor Steel: Planning Training** – Cllr Steel advised the Council that they could join together with a neighbouring Parish if they wanted to investigate having a Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- c) **District Councillor David Wilkinson: Fire Safety** – Cllr Wilkinson reported to the meeting that all Councils are currently checking their positions regarding the safety of homes with potentially hazardous cladding on them. He advised that there were not thought to be any homes in Wychavon with this, but was keen to hear from anyone who felt there may be some to be investigated. He confirmed that some homes may not be in Council ownership.
- d) **Chairman Cllr Pinfield:**
- **Natural England Wildflower Survey** - Letter received advising that Natural England on behalf of DEFRA will be sending botanical surveyors to the area of grassland owned by the Parish Council (tenant Mrs Watkins). We will be advised of the date of the survey and Mrs Watkins will be informed. David Claydon also updated. The Councillors requested a copy of the survey when it has been completed.
- e) **The Clerk provided an update on the following:**
- **RoSPA Report** – The response to RoSPA's grading of the adult equipment from the supplier has been passed on to RoSPA.
- f) **Parish Paths Warden:**
- The warden has rectified the sign problem on the Evesham Road opposite Oak Tree Lane and also the stile at the bottom of the lane. He reported that it was pretty overgrown and the dog bin was inaccessible. The Councillors agreed that it would be beneficial to move the bin from its current location to the footpath sign further up so that more walkers can utilise it.
- g) **Cookhill Village Hall:**
- **Health & Safety** – The training meeting was well attended and a fire drill was performed.
 - **Aber Valley Male Voice Choir** – The choir performed in the Church and the afterwards in the hall.
 - **Summer Fete 2nd September** – Helpers required
 - **Carpark & Lighting** – The car park alterations are almost complete. No planning is required for the 2 x 4m high lights.
- h) **Lengthsman Scheme:**
- **Weed killers & Pesticides** – Following the new legislation regarding the use of industrial pesticides the Clerk reported that courses are available at Pershore College – 2 day courses will result in a license to use these pesticides and the relevant machinery safely. The Clerk will contact the Lengthsman Scheme to investigate who would cover the cost. Spraying will also be required at the allotments.
- i) **Playing Fields:**
- **Replacement Swing** – The damaged baby swing at the allotments is no longer covered under the guarantee as it was purchased in 2014. The purchase of the replacement, older child swing, was agreed with the relevant fixings to alter the height.
- j) **Affordable Housing – Ridgeway Meadows:**
- **Tidying of surrounding areas** – An email had been received from a parishioner living at Ridgeway Meadows who reported that the grass had not been tended. This information had been passed on to Rooftop Housing for their attention.
- 17.088. **Purchase of a new noticeboard for Ridgeway Meadows** – Quotes received from three different companies. To be discussed and approved at the August meeting. Cllr Davis investigating costs.
- 17.089. **Standing Orders Review** – The Standing Orders of Cookhill Parish Council were reviewed, amended and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Pinfield, seconded by Cllr Gupta and agreed unanimously.
- 17.090. **Finance**
- a) The monthly statement and bank reconciliation for June 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** – Ongoing. Santander & RBS can provide a sweep facility.
- 17.091. **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.
- Noticeboard for Ridgeway Meadows
 - New Flag
- 17.092. **To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meetings**
- a. **Parish Council Meeting** – Tuesday 8th August 2017 at 7.30pm

This meeting closed at 22:00

Signed Chairman

Dated