



**The Minutes of Cookhill Parish Council Meeting  
Held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> August at 7:30pm  
Cookhill Village Hall.**

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

**In attendance:** Clerk – Kate Brazier  
County Councillor Anthony Hopkins

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.

**17.093. Apologies received and accepted from:** District Cllrs David Wilkinson & Audrey Steel and Tony Mitchell – Parish Paths Warden

**17.094. 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 – Cllr Sumner registered an interest in item 17.097 i) a.&b., Cllr Davis registered an interest in item 17.099 and Cllrs Churchill and Sumner registered an interest in item 17.100.

**17.095. Minutes:** The Minutes of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2017 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Churchill & seconded by Cllr Sumner.

**17.096. Police and Neighbourhood Watch Reports –**

- A van was broken into on Church Lane in the early hours of 17<sup>th</sup> July. The alarm on the van was disabled and the contents stolen. The victim was advised by Police that a 'master key' is being used by thieves to gain access to similar vans across Redditch and advised that changing of locks could prevent this.
- Abandoned car left in the lay-by opposite the Village Hall has now been removed.
- Neighbourhood Watch Questionnaire – Cllr Bennett provided leaflets to be delivered with the September What's On.

**17.097. 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/17/01297/HP** Clerk Croft, 10 Church Lane, Cookhill, B49 5JS  
**Proposal:** Demolition of existing garage and conservatory, external alterations to rear of property and erection of single storey side extension and garage.  
**Consultation ended 1<sup>st</sup> August 2017** – Parish Council **RECOMMEND REFUSAL**
  - b. **W/17/01453/RM** Clerk Croft, 10 Church Lane, Cookhill, B49 5JS – Plot 3 (Back) – *Application received 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2017*  
**Proposal:** Reserved matters application for the access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of 1 no dwelling (part implementation of outline approval granted under 15/00512/OUT)  
**Decision** – Parish Council recommended **APPROVAL**
- ii) **Reports from Wychavon Planning:**
  - a. **W/17/00601/FUL** Land Adjacent to Dogbut Farm, Dogbut Lane, Astwood Bank  
**Proposal:** Retrospective application to widen existing gateway/entrance to create splay off road onto access track to access agricultural building and fields.  
**Decision:** Approved 13/07/17
  - b. **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.  
**Decision:** Approved 31/07/17 subject to approval notifications.  
**Comment from CPC:** The Councillors were disappointed that none of the points made in relation to the above plans had been taken into consideration when approving the application. It was recommended that no work should be started until the bat order has been set in place and that neighbours experiencing problems if the road becomes blocked with works traffic should report this to the police. The recommendations of the Parish Council appear to have been disregarded.
- iii) **Planning enforcement matters from Wychavon Planning:** None reported

**17.098. Progress Reports**

**a) County Cllr Anthony Hopkins:**

**Speeding on Edgioake Lane** – Following several reports of speeding on Edgioake Lane, particularly motorcycles, Cllr Hopkins has obtained paperwork from recent traffic surveys carried out on this stretch of road. This is an ongoing issue and Cllr Hopkins acknowledged that the Parish Council and residents have requested the installation of a VAS here and had their request turned down. Cllr Hopkins agreed to speak to Highways to see if they will reconsider their decision. The Parish Council confirmed that they would be happy to fund the purchase of a VAS in this location if Highways were in agreement.

**Speeding on the Salt Way** – There is already a VAS on this stretch of road and a village gateway, designed to slow traffic down. Cllr Hopkins advised that he will speak to the Traffic Officer in the Highways department to see if there is anything else that can be done to alleviate the problem.

**b) District Councillor Steel: None**

**c) District Councillor David Wilkinson: None**

**d) Chairman Cllr Pinfield: None**

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

**Replacement Swing** – A replacement for the damaged swing at the Playing Fields has been ordered.

**Community Speed Watch** – Cookhill is still on the waiting list. The clerk will ask if there is a possibility of Cookhill sharing the equipment currently being used in Inkberrow.

**f) Parish Paths Warden: Nothing to report**

**g) Cookhill Village Hall:**

**Skittles Evening** – The Village Hall will be holding one of their popular Skittles evenings on 19<sup>th</sup> August.

**Summer Fete** – The fete, scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> September, has been cancelled due to lack of volunteers. The committee have decided to hold a Spring Fair instead on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2018. This will enable them more time to organise the event.

**Car Park Extensions** – The work on the car park is now almost complete.

**Lights** – The new lights have now been installed and one is currently working. They will come on at dusk but there is a manual override facility so they will not be on every night.

**h) Lengthsman Scheme:**

**Ragwort** – The Lengthsman has reported an increase in the amount of ragwort around the Parishes and he has sent out a request regarding the safe burning on private land. The Councillors asked if there was a lot of ragwort in Cookhill but expressed concerns about the burning of it and all agreed that they would not like this to take place in Cookhill. The Lengthsman can take it to a green waste disposal site, but there is a charge for this.

**i) Playing Fields:**

**Grass & Hedge** – These need further attention as they are getting overgrown.

**j) Affordable Housing – Ridgeway Meadows: No update.**

**17.099. Noticeboards** – The replacement of the noticeboard outside SE Davis and a new noticeboard outside Ridgeway Meadows was proposed by Cllr Sumner and seconded by Cllr Churchill and agreed unanimously.

Rooftop have been contacted and they are happy with the proposed location outside Ridgeway Meadows. Cllr Davis reported that he had made contact with a local carpenter who has quoted for both boards, including installation and a 50 year guarantee. These will be ordered as soon as possible.

**17.100. Flag Pole** – The Parish Council would like to erect a flag pole at the Village Hall so that the Union Flag can fly there at certain times during the year. The Chairman advised that he has investigated costs. The purchase of this was proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Davis and agreed unanimously. Cllr Davis said he would look into the construction of this and it will be discussed further in September.

**17.101. Additional items received prior to 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2017: None**

**17.102. Finance**

- a) The monthly statement and bank reconciliation for July 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.

**17.103. 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.

- Areas to be identified for weed-killing
- Flag pole

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

- a. **Parish Land Meeting** – September 12<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm  
b. **Parish Council Meeting** – September 12<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm

This meeting closed at 21:00

Signed Chairman

Dated