



**The Minutes of Cookhill Parish Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday 10th November 2020 at 7.30pm
VIRTUAL MEETING**

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

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

1 member of the public

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. He asked if anyone wished to record the meeting and to make it known to the clerk if they were intending to do so. He commented that the Parish Council will be recording the meeting. This will be kept for a period of up to 3 months.

20.107. Apologies received and accepted from: Cllr V. Gupta, Cllr P. Davis, Cllr C. Hamilton & Mr T. Mitchell

20.108. 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
- d) Written requests for the Council to grant dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011)

20.109. Minutes: The Minutes of the virtual meeting of the Parish Council, held on **Tuesday 13th October 2020** were approved as a correct record by the Council, and signed by the clerk on behalf of the Chairman.
Proposed by Cllr Sumner and seconded by Cllr Churchill.

20.110. Police and Neighbourhood Watch Reports

- **Police Report**
 - *Parking on verges* – a letter has been received from West Mercia Police regarding parking etiquette. PC to monitor parking in the village.
- **Neighbourhood Watch**
 - *Incident reporting* – Report non-emergency incidents on 101, copying Cllr Bennett with details. This will then be forwarded to the team at West Mercia.
- **Community Speed Watch** – Currently on hold during current lockdown restrictions. A new campaign to monitor seat belt wearing to be launched in 2021.

20.111. 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/20/02143/CU Caravan at 47 The Ridgeway, New End, Astwood Bank, B96 6LS

Proposal: Temporary change of use of land for a period of up to 18 months for the stationing of a mobile home and a small portable cabin for use as home office pending the outcome of a current live application ref. 20/00670/TDC5 and a current live appeal ref. APP/H1840/W/20/3260255.

Consultation ended 3rd November: The Parish Council recommended APPROVAL

b) W/20/02276/LB Knowle Barn, Evesham Road, Cookhill, Alcester, B49 5LJ

Proposal: New and replacement fenestration with internal alterations (part-retrospective).

Decision: The Parish Council recommended APPROVAL

ii) Pending application updates: None for discussion

iii) Reports from Wychavon Planning:

a) W/20/01754/FUL The Sling, Dogbut Lane, Astwood Bank, B96 6LD

Proposal: Demolition of existing buildings and erection of agricultural machinery store and workshop area in connection with agricultural contracting business. Variation of condition 9 of planning permission 97/00437/PP

Decision: APPROVED 26/10/2020

b) W/20/01755/FUL The Sling, Dogbut Lane, Astwood Bank, B96 6LD

Proposal: Proposed replacement of existing stable block with workshop / maintenance building. Variation of condition 6 on planning permission 12/02702/PN to enable the building to be used in connection with non-agricultural contracting work.

Decision: APPROVED 26/10/2020

iv) **Planning enforcement matters from Wychavon Planning:** None received by the Parish Council

20.112. Progress Reports

a) County Cllr Anthony Hopkins:

- *Bollards at Arrow Crossroads* – To be replaced with a different sort, for safety. Ongoing.
- *Trees on A441* – Trees have been reported to Highways and will be assessed for maintenance.
- *Speeding on the Salt Way* – Cllr Hopkins has put in a request for a speed survey in this location.
- *Site Visits* – Currently on hold, unless it is an emergency.
- *Highways* – Work is continuing where supplies allow.
- *Covid19* – Cases continue to rise in Worcestershire. Worcester is operating its own testing site for emergencies & front line workers.

b) District Councillor Steel: Wychavon remains one of the lowest affected districts in Worcestershire for Coronavirus cases. Officers at Wychavon are working hard to keep the show on the road.

c) District Councillor David Wilkinson:

- *Refuse / Recycling* – Sites remain open and collections continue
- *Free Parking* – Free parking in Wychavon until 3rd January 2021.
- *Support for clinically vulnerable*

d) Chairman Cllr Pinfield:

- *Defibrillator Battery* – The battery in the SE Davis defibrillator has been changed and pads in all units checked.
- *Budget & Precept* – The accounts will be prepared in readiness for the December Finance meeting.

e) The Clerk provided an update on the following:

- *Sandholes* – A caseworker has been allocated at the Land Registry and work is ongoing.

f) Parish Paths Warden: Apologies

- *Disabled Access* – A suitable gate has been sourced to enable disabled access to the footpath by Ridgeway Meadows. The gate will be delivered to the Allotment site and installed by the Parish Council. The old gate will be repurposed at the top of Botany Bay.

g) Cookhill Village Hall: Due to the current restrictions the Village Hall is closed. The building is checked weekly.

h) Lengthsman Scheme: Following confirmation from County, the Lengthsman can carry on working during the current Lockdown, provided the Council and individual are happy to continue

i) Playing Fields: The equipment continues to be cleaned twice a month and the hand sanitiser monitored. It is being well used with people observing the restrictions. An NHS QR Track and Trace code will be installed at the site.

j) Affordable Housing – Ridgeway Meadows: No update

k) Cookhill Allotments:

- Two vacant plots, with one becoming available at the end of the month. An existing tenant will be taking it on.
- Hedges have been trimmed ready for winter and the water has now been turned off.
- Tenants on site continue to observe social distancing and recommended guidelines.
- Main gate padlock has now been repaired.

20.113. Finance

a) The monthly statement and bank reconciliation for October 2020 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) **Financial Regulations** – It was agreed the clerk have increased access to the bank account in order for bank transfers to be made. Requests for payments in this way will still need to be signed by 3 signatories and will be paid on the same day, once a month, in line with current payments. All in favour.

20.114. 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.

20.115. To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting

a. **Parish Council Meeting (Finance Meeting)** – Tuesday 8th December 2020

This meeting closed at 20:23

Signed Chairman

Dated