



**The Minutes of Cookhill Parish Council Meeting  
Held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023  
SE Davis Meeting Room, Sandhills Farm, Edgioake Lane**

**Present:** Cllr R. Pinfield (Chairman), Cllr M. Churchill & Cllr Davis

**In attendance:** Kate Brazier – Clerk

Mr T. Mitchell – Parish Paths Warden  
2 members 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.

*The meeting started at 7.30pm after the completion of the nomination papers.*

**23.024. Apologies received and accepted from:** Cllr A Sumner, Cllr T Bennett, Cllr V Gupta, District Cllr D Wilkinson & Cllr A Steel.

**23.025. 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)

**23.026. Minutes:** The Minutes from the last meeting of the Parish Council, held on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023**, were approved as a correct record by the Council, and signed by the Chairman.  
Proposed by Cllr Churchill and seconded by Cllr Pinfield.

**23.027. Police and Neighbourhood Watch Reports**

- **Police Report** – Cllr Bennett continues to forward relevant information from the police.
- **Neighbourhood Watch** – The 'Our News' document is circulated to all councillors and published on the PC website. The Chairman and Clerk have signed up for Bystander Training online.
- **Community Speed Watch** – Still awaiting a new officer at CSW HQ.

**23.028. 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/23/00367/HP 7, The Ridgeway, New End, Astwood Bank, Redditch, B96 6LS**  
**Proposed:** Erection of single storey front extension and rear extension with side balcony, raised terrace and render to whole property.  
**Decision:** The Council recommended that the application be APPROVED. All in favour.
  - b) **W/23/00343/HP 43 Lower Cladswell Lane, Cookhill, Alcester, B49 5JY**  
**Proposed:** Single-storey rear extension  
**Decision:** The Council recommended that the application be APPROVED. All in favour.
  - c) **W/23/00366/FUL Ridgeway Nurseries, Evesham Road, Cookhill, Alcester, B49 5JR**  
**Proposed:** Demolition of existing garden centre buildings and erection of 4 dwellings as approved under planning reference 21/01369/FUL - variation of condition 2 as approved under planning reference W/22/02396/FUL - variation of condition 7.  
**Decision:** The Council recommended that the variation be REFUSED, with comments
- ii) **Wychavon Planning Authority decisions:**
  - a) **W/22/02594/HP The Cowshed, Linsey Farm, Cladswell Lane, Cookhill, B49 5LA**  
**Proposed:** Two storey extension  
**Decision:** REFUSED 21/02/2023
  - b) **W/ 02194/HP Oldene, 1 Oak Tree Lane, Cookhill, Alcester, B49 5LH**  
**Proposed:** Single storey rear extension to bungalow  
**Decision:** APPROVED 6/03/2023

**23.029. Progress Reports**

- a) **County Cllr Laura Gretton:** No report received
- b) **District Councillor Steel:** Apologies
- c) **District Councillor David Wilkinson:** Report received
  - **Russia and Ukraine war – One year on** – On 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022 Russia launched an invasion of Ukraine. One year on Wychavon is set to remember those lost and displaced by the war. Wychavon has welcomed 229 guests. Supported 330 host families, provided a range of events for hosts and guests. Distributed almost £270,000 in financial support to hosts and guests. New hosts are encouraged to come forward.
  - **Energy Bills Support Scheme** – The scheme went live on 27<sup>th</sup> Feb. This will provide £400 of grant funding to all residents who do not have a direct relationship with their energy provider eg. Care Home residents. You can find out more information from Wychavon District Council.
  - **Wychavon Design Code Consultation** – Consultations are live now and the deadline for residents to have their say is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. Information has been circulated to councillors and posted on the Cookhill Facebook page.

- *SWDP Review* – Strategic sites (Worcester Parkway, Throckmorton, Rushwick & Mitton) continue to be scrutinised by officers as Wychavon prepare for the independent examination of the SWDP. The total number of adopted Neighbourhood Plans in Wychavon is now 12.
- d) **Chairman** – *items further on Agenda*
- e) **The Clerk provided an update on the following:**  
*Access & gate at the PROW from the Ridgeway* – It was agreed that the Parish Council would investigate the ownership of the PROW known as 520C as a duty of care for the access to the PC fields. New owners at 94 The Ridgeway will liaise with the Council regarding the installation of a new fence along the boundary of the PROW.
- f) **Parish Paths Warden:** Finger posts are yet to be installed on Chamberlain Lane and the unmarked footpath 520C, leading to the Parish Council fields.
- g) **Cookhill Village Hall:** No update
- h) **Lengthsman Scheme:** The Cookhill Lengthsman has given notice and will not be renewing his contract at the end of March. It was advised that a new Lengthsman would be sought to carry out the necessary work in the parish. Cllr Davis has recommended a replacement Lengthsman and the clerk will make contact.
- i) **Playing Fields:** Well used and is kept in good order.
- j) **Affordable Housing – Ridgeway Meadows:** Nothing to report.
- k) **Cookhill Allotments / Parish Land:** Report from Mr David Claydon, Cookhill Allotment Association Chairman
  - A longstanding tenant has given up their plot but the space was filled by someone on the waiting list.
  - The Allotment Association are currently waiting for documentation from a new tenant to fill the remaining vacant plot.
  - A new, smaller plot will be made and offered to someone on the waiting list once the ground is prepared.
  - The majority of tenants have taken advantage of the dryer autumn and winter to prepare their plots for the new growing season. Tenants have been asked to work towards 70% of their plot being cultivated with vegetables, fruit and flowers.
  - All tenants have been advised that in view of the high usage of the mains water supply last year, the water charge will be reviewed in the autumn.
  - A new stop tap will shortly be installed near the entrance to the allotments to allow the prompt turning off of the water in the event of a leak.
- l) **Platinum Meadows:**
  - John Hughes has organised sponsorship from Biffa for a quantity of wild flower seeds, which he is recommending be sown in the grass triangle just inside the gate leading from the Ridgeway. The Parish Council have agreed to look at the seeds to be recommended for the meadows and the location for the planting.
  - The trees planted last year are starting to grow well with the crocus flowers spelling ELIZABETH II are looking good.
  - Dog walkers are reminded to pick up after their dogs so that the facility is not spoilt for other users.

**23.030. Local Elections 2023** – Nomination papers were distributed for completion to be returned to Wychavon by 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

**23.031 King's Coronation** – Mugs to be ordered for the parish. The purchase of these was authorised by the council.

**23.032. Finance**

- a) The monthly statement and bank reconciliation for February 2023 showing the available funds, the income and expenditure comparison to the budget was approved.  
 Bank Transfers / Direct Debits were presented, approved and authorised for payment.

**23.033. 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.

- King's Coronation
- Local Elections

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

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

This meeting closed at 20:41

**Signed Chairman**

**Dated**