

MINUTES of Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd May 2017

17.312.1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN
Nomination received: Kate Hessian **Approved**

17.312.2 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN
Nomination received: Susan Davies **Approved**

Public Participation session: 15 minutes maximum

- Q1. Did the Parish Council have to pay for the patching of pot-holes – considered to be a bit of a bodge job – Clerk: not a direct cost to Parish Council but paid for via Council Tax.
- Q2. Any news on the felling of the spinney trees? – Clerk: no further news but informed that it would be sometime in May.
- Q3. Star Gate – update on repairs? Clerk – Weston Manor had been informed but no response. Clerk to follow up with Manager.
- Q4. Reinstatement of pillars at entrance? Clerk: not aware that a time-limit to complete the work had been imposed by CDC. Check with CDC as to progress.
- Q5. Lost cat (as per notices circulated around village). Clerk: Notice would not be placed on PC website but it was already on the Facebook page.
- Q6. Mill race leak? Clerk: no further news as to its repair.
- Q7. Kiosk library: There is a Tesco “Bags of Help” scheme of raising funds for local causes by placing plastic tokens issued at checkout in allotted bins at exit and this is being used to support the funding of the Village Hall kiosk library.
- Q8. Planters: had any organisations “adopted” a planter for the village gates: Clerk: most organisations had indicated they were already involved in other schemes – e.g. planting around village hall and mini-roundabout at junction of Mill Lane. Two private individuals had offered to adopt planters – Bletchingdon Rd & B430 north, which left the two pairs of planters at the southern end of the village.

Council Business:

17.312.3 To receive any apologies for non-attendance
Cllrs present: Bohm, Davis, Hessian, Miller, Norris, Roper.
Apologies received from Cllr. Donne

17.312.4 To receive any declarations of interest
No interests were declared.

17.312.5 To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 5th April March 2017
The Minutes were approved as read. **Approved**

17.312.6 Past Subject Matters – for the purpose of report only
Actions arising from previous meeting:

17.311.4 Overhanging trees in the Dower House garden had been cut back by gardener and Clerk.

The visit by John Howell, MP had taken place on the 11th April with a good turnout and interest from villagers.

17.311.5 Date of Annual Parish Meeting had been re-scheduled for Thursday, 18th May at 7.30pm. Cllr. Bohm and the Clerk would give presentations.

17.311.11 Playdale representative had been contacted and would meet Clerk to discuss issues concerning state of play-area and equipment.

17.312.7 To approve the following items of expenditure

1. Clerk's salary: Jan – April 2017 £947.25 **Approved**
Note: Clerk's salary currently being reviewed by Staffing Committee. Current salary based on 2016 figures.

2. Stephen Gray – hedge cutting £480.00
Invoice submitted at meeting. Agreed that item should be paid and not wait until next meeting. **Approved**

17.312.8 To receive information on Planning Applications and note decisions

17/00190/CLUE, 17/00458/F – Keeper's Cover, Bletchingdon.

Original request for a Certificate of Lawfulness of Existing Use of land as residential garden area was rejected by CDC (reported at last meeting).

Subsequently a new application for change of use of "garden" to amenity land has been submitted along with an application for a 1.5 storey extension has recently been submitted. The site is not in the parish and we have not been asked to comment (by CDC). Clerk has received a request for help from the applicant to write supporting a statement that the land in question has not been farmed for over 10 years.

Action: Confirm with applicant that land has not been farmed for over 10 years but cannot support change to amenity use. Parish Council wish to preserve the parish boundaries of the village

17/00631/AGN, Sainthill Copse: Application withdrawn

17/00614/F, Green's Cottage / Springwell House: there had been a significant number of objections from residents. The building had been spot-listed with Historic England and building will be investigated further before planning decision made.

17/00642/F – Dower House, conversion of existing garage to dwelling
.Council objected this application

16/00954/F - Ladygrass – Mr Butt has informed the Parish Council that he intends to resubmit application that was rejected last year with revised plans that take on board Planning Officer's concerns.

17.312.9 To receive report on grass-cutting arrangements for 2017

Clerk had obtained two additional quotes (verbal) for a steel shed to store mower and other equipment, to a design similar to that proposed by Cllr. Miller. Costs varied from around £2,700 to £3,600. Both businesses suggested a slightly reduced height with double doors secured from the inside and accessed from the outside via a single door (which was easier to make secure).

Action: Subject to getting written quotations from all three companies, the quotation received via Cllr. Miller would be accepted.

Grass-cutting – in the absence of being able to use Cllr. Miller’s mower the Clerk had arranged for Continental Landscapes to cut the playing-field grass until further notice. Similarly, Mr E Payne had been asked to cut the grass by the stocks and the Ben Jonson. All grass-cutting arrangements would be formally adopted once the arrangements for storage of equipment on the playing field were in place.

17.312.10 To receive project updates on:

Village gates & planters – village gates at north of village need to be erected and planters fixed in front of gates, along with matting to suppress weeds. It was agreed that gates would be positioned where the 40mph signs are situated (and where the remains of the red tarmac across the road exists). Working party would progress the erection of the gates and the installation of the matting and planters as soon as possible.

Action & responsibility:

Gates – Cllr. Miller (by next meeting)

Planters – Clerk (by next meeting)

Hedge cutting – a certain amount of hedge-trimming has already taken place but an area south of the Chequers still needs to be done. Working party would get this sorted as soon as time and equipment is available.

Action & responsibility:

Cllr. Miller & Cllr. Norris (by next meeting)

17.312.11 To receive update on Neighbourhood Plan

Cllrs. received verbal report from Cllr. Bohm as to status of the consultation of the draft Plan currently being considered by villagers. Cllrs Bohm and Davis, with a member of the NP Steering Group will attend a meeting at CDC on 12th May to discuss the Plan process.

17.312.12 To receive report on Play-area

See 17.311.11 item in Past Subject Matters above. Items identified will be discussed with Playdale representative.

17.312.13 Date of next Parish Council meeting: 7th June 2017

Other meeting dates for 2017:

Annual Parish Meeting: 18th May 2017

5th July 2017, 6th September 2017,

4th October 2017, 1st November 2017, 6th December 2017