

SIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL
AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY 9TH JULY 2019

PRESENT

Cllr J Hayward (Chair), Cllr N Deller, Cllr C Langdon, Cllr A Painter, Cllr M Painter, Cllr D Rajan, Cllr I Smith and Cllr M Turner; and Cllr M Evemy (CDC) and Cllr S Parsons (GCC)(from 8.20pm). Clerk of the Council Mr R Cowley, and one member of the public, Mr N Anderson, were also present.

1 – APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2 - MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 11TH JULY 2019

The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting were unanimously approved as being a true record.

3 – MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT DEALT WITH ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

There were no matters arising.

4 – CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

The Chairman had no report to make as matters were covered elsewhere on the agenda.

5 – CLERK’S REPORT

The Clerk had no report to make as matters were covered elsewhere on the agenda.

6 - POLICE REPORT FOR SIDDINGTON AREA

No Police Report had been received.

7 - OUTSTANDING & HIGHWAYS ISSUES LIST (GCC ref nos)

- Ashton Road flooding – ongoing. It appeared that the current solution had worked for the time being, but the situation would be monitored whilst Gloucestershire Highways pressed Highways England for a permanent solution.
- 11115630 – Drain area on Park Way opposite The Twenties regularly blocked during heavy rain, although not recently – ongoing.
- 11115617 – Faded weight limit sign at Park Way / Ashton Road junction – ongoing.
- Parking on rough ground adjacent to the children’s play area – Highways had sent information on the process on stopping up orders and the associated costs, which were substantial. It was noted that an alternative cost-free route would be via a S247 Notice via the Secretary of State, provided a planning application was involved.
- Overhanging and overgrown foliage at The Butts and on Canal Lane – ongoing.
- Overgrown footpaths between the school and Pound Close, the school and Love Lane – ongoing. The Clerk would write to the owners of the land adjacent to the footpath to the school from Pound Close.
- It was noted that the second section of the canal towpath work would be carried out in August and the path would be closed for the duration of the works. Access for

materials would be via the path from the school, and this would necessitate its occasional closure for safety reasons. The Council was very pleased with the work carried out so far by the contractor and thanked Mike Barton of PROW for his efforts and Cllr Parson for his contribution to funding.

- Cllr Turner referred to the section of the old towpath alongside Corin Medical where that company had had work carried out which had damaged the path surface. The Clerk would write to Corin Medical.
- The Clerk confirmed that he had written to Bromford regarding the state of the gardens at Jubilee Flats and had been told the matter was being dealt with. It was agreed to invite a representative of Bromford to meet the Parish Council in order to facilitate a regular rapport.

8 – HEALTH & SAFETY MATTERS

- Cllr Smith updated the Parish Council on the school's walking bus scheme. Although the school had no powers to instruct, it had requested parents to park with consideration and to avoid parking in Pound Close. Cllr Turner reported that the parking problem now appeared to have moved to Park Way and was creating problems there instead, and that some parents were still driving up The Coach Road to drop children off at the school. Cllr Smith reported that Bromford had no issue with children waiting on the grass area, and advised that any residents with concerns should raise them with Bromford directly.
- Cllr Rajan asked whether mirrors might be provided on blind corners to assist with driver visibility. The Clerk advised that this had been suggested before, but that Highways were opposed to mirrors as they increased the risk of dazzling drivers.

9 – PLANTING AREAS OF WILDFLOWERS ON CERTAIN VERGES AND AT THE PLAYING FIELD

The Parish Council agreed to investigate the possibility of planting wildflowers on parts of certain verges and at the playing field in order to reduce mowing costs, improve habitat for bees and other insects and wildlife, and to improve the appearance of the village.

10 - PLANNING

Planning decisions of Cotswold District Council to 4th July 2019

- **19/01851/FUL CT.1597**
Single storey front and two storey rear extension (Resubmission of application 18/04027/FUL) at The Chippings, Nursery View, Siddington, GL7 6HN – Application Permitted

11 - PLAYING FIELD/FOOTBALL CLUB/GRASS-CUTTING

The Clerk reported that he was arranging a joint meeting with Siddington FC and Chesterton FC for 29th July, and that Siddington FC was expected to bring its grass cutting contribution up to date by the end of the month.

12 - FINANCE

The monthly schedule of cheques for July had been circulated with the agenda.

The cheque totals were:-

- 1560 - £16.40 – R Cowley – expenses
- 1561 - £330.00 – H J Carter - grasscutting
- 1562 - £12.00 – Siddington Village Hall – room hire
- 1563 - £184.73 – F Lovatt – grasscutting

1564 – R Cowley – Clerk’s salary (July)

The Parish Council unanimously voted to pre-approve regular payments for August as there was no meeting that month.

The Clerk presented the monthly spreadsheet showing expenditure compared with budgets, and the accounts statement.

13 - CORRESPONDENCE

F= Finance H= Highways P=Planning PF=Playing Field PC=Parish Council

- 1 H Information from GCC on cost of stopping up orders.
- 2 PF GPFA newsletter.
- 3 PC Request from SCOPE charity for help in finding a location for a clothes bank. The Council felt that there was no suitable site in the village that would not lead to littering, and noted that there was already a clothes bank in the car park at the Greyhound Inn.
- 4 P CDC call for development sites (SHELAA).

Cllr Parsons (GCC) joined the meeting at this point.

- 5 PC Introduction from Sian Burke-Murphy for NDP Project Co-ordinator and Administrator for Cirencester Town Council.
- 6 PC Email update from Mike Barton of Gloucestershire PROW on the remaining upgrading of the canal towpath.
- 7 PC Update on county mobile library service. It was suggested that the shop might be a possible location. The Clerk would forward the email to Peter Gibbons for consideration
- 8 PC Copy of article about dog walking by chair of Stoke Orchard Parish Council sent by Mike Barton of Gloucestershire PROW. This was felt to be an excellent article, and the Clerk would put it forward for inclusion in the Village News.
- 9 PC Invitation to the 96th AGM of GRCC.

14 – COUNCILLORS’ REPORTS

Cllr Turner reported that she had received suggestions that outdoor fitness equipment be provided at the playing field. The Clerk would investigate costs.

Cllr Deller reported that he had received a “phishing” email very similar to that which the Clerk had received from Cotswold District Council calling for development sites (SHELAA). The Clerk would forward it to CDC and to Cllr Evey.

Cllr Evey (CDC) reported

- that CDC had had its first full meeting at which Councillors had unanimously declared a climate emergency and set out various actions to be taken.
- that CDC was formulating a new corporate strategy for the Council.
- that CDC would be looking at “democratic renewal”, changing the way the Council works and taking a more collaborative approach to local government.

Cllr Parsons (GCC) reported

- that Richard Gray of Highways was continuing to press Highways England for a permanent solution to issue of flooding at the old railway abutments on Ashton Road.
- that GCC was starting up its new incinerator at Gloucester which would remove the necessity to send waste to landfill sites.
- that he was chasing the resurfacing of Siddington Road which was due to take place this summer.

15 - PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr Anderson raised two issues:

- The question of whether the short stretch of Siddington/Ashton Road between Church Avenue and Cherry Tree Drive could have its speed limit reduced from 60mph to 30mph, as it was for a distance of only 290 metres and included two blind bends. The Clerk advised that from past experience this would require a Traffic Regulation Order, which would cost approximately £15,000, a sum which Highways would be unwilling to spend without very good evidence of need.
- Incidents of cars using the Tesco car park behind Cherry Tree Drive at night and revving engines loudly. Although the main entrance to this part of the car park was closed in the evening, the other entrances were still open to allow cars to leave. The Clerk would write to the manager at Tesco.

Mr Anderson also expressed an interest in co-option to the Parish Council. The Clerk would forward details via email.

As there was no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and the meeting closed at 8.56pm. There would be no meeting in August and the next meeting would be at 7.30pm on Tuesday 10th September 2019 in the Committee Room at the Village Hall.

Chairman