

## SIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE ELIZABETH WAY COMMUNITY ROOM, SIDDINGTON, ON TUESDAY 8 DECEMBER 2015

#### PRESENT

**Cllrs.** Mrs. A. Wagstaff (Chairman), C. Rumble (Vice Chairman), A. Painter, Mrs. M. Painter, Mrs. A. Prosser, Mrs. M. Turner, B. Barnes, N. Deller and J. Hall.

**District/County Cllr.** S. Parsons from 8.45 pm.

#### APOLOGIES

**Cllr.** N. Selby

#### MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

- The minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2015, were approved and signed.
- Before proceeding to the next business, the Chairman said she wanted to discuss a change in procedure, bearing in mind the lack of support that seemed to be emanating from the larger authorities. The proposal was to introduce an “Action Plan” list which would identify all outstanding matters to be dealt with, together with the name of the person responsible for resolving the issue. Additional notes would show the action taken and the date the matter was signed off. In the event of an item taking a disproportionate time to be resolved, then a decision would be made to take no further action and delete it from the list. Alison added that, at present, there was a danger of matters being overlooked, especially for example, with the length of time Highway matters were taking. The list would be kept at the back of the minutes and after members gave their unanimous approval, Alison said she would prepare a template.
- Richard Gray, Local Highways Manager, had emailed to say that the estimated cost of the work to remove the grass verges in Park Way was £25,000.00. It was unanimously decided to pursue this no further. Information was still awaited on removing the grass island at the entrance to Church Avenue and also whether there are any potential problems underground near the entrance to Laurel Cottages so that the litter bin can be erected. This information had been requested at a site meeting with Richard Gray on 7 September 2015.
- Bromford Living has informed the Clerk that Sally Alder, the local Housing Manager for Siddington, had left the authority. The matter of the abandoned truck in the Park Way car park had been taken over by Cathy Michaels, who would try to update the council as soon as possible on the latest situation. The Clerk was asked to continue liaising with Ms. Michaels for the time being but in the event of no progress, to approach CDC’s Environmental Health Department in an attempt to find some resolution.
- The Clerk said he had referred the wrong positioning of the replacement reflective posts in Park Way back to Highways.
- In response to the Clerk’s plea to push Pound Close up the list for resurfacing, Highways said they would re-assess the area for patching. Gill Portlock had, however, pointed out that other areas were worse than Pound Close.
- The Clerk said there was no further news on the safety inspection at The Butts.
- The Chairman referred to the non – existent list of volunteers to assist with the bulb planting and it agreed that it was now too late to plant anyway. John said he would contact David Parsloe to ascertain the feasibility of planting by road signs.
- Brian Barnes said he had amended the Council’s Standing Orders following his GAPTC Training Course. Alison and Kent said they would look at his amendments when time permitted. The Chairman thanked Brian for the work he had done.

- It was unanimously agreed to keep the new agenda heading of “Highways, Footpaths and Hedges.” “Any Other Business” would be renamed “Points for Future Consideration.”

## **PLANNING**

### **North Hill Road**

The Clerk reported that the Council’s bank details had been supplied to CDC’s Principal Solicitor in order for the Section 106 payment for £30,000.00 to be transferred when the money had been received from Bloor Homes.

Extracts from the Wilts and Glos Standard dated 19 November 2015 under an article headed “No Flooding” were read by the Clerk. The article referred to the North Hill Road development and Bloor Homes maintaining that they had designed a comprehensive solution to the drainage problems and that they were confident that the development would not flood. In addition, it was pointed out that the company had made a sizeable contribution to Thames Water to help improve the water network.

Bloor’s Planning Manager, Chris Shaw, has requested a site meeting with Highways and the Council to resolve the repositioning/rebuilding of the bus shelter. The Chairman said she would negotiate a suitable date and she has also requested a copy of the archaeological information about the site.

Shaun Parsons, who had joined the meeting at this stage, said that if two experts agree on drainage – in this case CDC and Thames Water – the case goes forward and then the committee agrees. Shaun wants to see any agreement in writing and he confirmed that at the moment, drainage was the prime outstanding matter.

### **Severalls Field**

Adam White of Bloor Homes has confirmed that an outline planning application has been submitted to CDC. In the meantime, the key documents in the application have been sent by email to the Council and these have been circulated. The Clerk copied the details for Members not on email and these were circulated also. The three documents were the Design and Access Statement, the Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy and the Statement of Community Involvement. Details may change at a later stage and Shaun said that given that we have major concerns, we should be objecting at present. On planning applications in general, he emphasized the need to object rather than express concerns, as little notice was taken of the latter. Objections had to be taken further and this was a more satisfactory way of obtaining resolution. Members were invited to forward their comments to the Clerk pending the receipt of the application.

### **Local Plan**

The Council will be objecting to Policy DS2 – “Residential Development outside Cirencester and the Principal Settlements” and the Clerk will be submitting comments in time for the CDC deadline of 21 December 2015.

## **FINANCE**

- The monthly schedule of cheques, circulated with the agenda, was approved. The cheque totals were as follows:-

1269 – K. S. Harrison - £291.37  
1270 – F. Lovatt - £107.20  
1271 – A. B. West - £15.00  
1272 – A. W. Services - £990.00  
1273 – Society of Local Council Clerks - £103.00  
1274 – Wicksteed Leisure Ltd - £446.40  
1275 – HM Revenue & Customs - £205.40  
1276 – Pata (UK) - £19.80  
1277 – Siddington Village Hall - £24.00

**- It was also decided to approve the following payment – not included on the schedule 1278 – Siddington Village Hall – 50% Kitchen Costs - £3500.00.**

- Iain Selkirk FCA had written offering his services once again as the Independent Auditor for 2105/2016. His fee would increase from £90.00 to £95.00 but this was the first increase in ten years. **It was decided to appoint Mr. Selkirk as the Independent Auditor for the 2015/2016 financial year.** The audit would take place at the Westwood Centre, Northleach, from 11 – 12 May 2016.

### **PLAYING FIELD/FOOTBALL CLUB**

- Chris Rumble said he had still to erect the dog signs in the playing field.
- The problem of dog fouling was discussed at length with Shaun Parsons confirming that a maximum £2000.00 Fund was now available to help deal with the offence. It was pointed out that more drastic action other than dog signs and patrols, i.e. prosecution, would mean witnesses coming forward to appear in court to give evidence. This would preclude most people from taking the matter further.
- The Clerk was asked to report the broken fence strut opposite Hatters Cottage. It was agreed to replace it rather than leave a gap for people to enter the field. The Grass Contractor, Andrew Woodman would be contacted in the first instance.
- An additional grass cut of the field has been requested in view of the exceptionally mild weather. The Clerk said he had obtained the approval of the Chairman and Vice Chairman before proceeding.

### **HIGHWAYS, FOOTPATHS & HEDGES**

- The Siddington School sign by the village shop was still missing.
- The damaged/missing reflective posts at the top of Park Way have not been replaced as requested. Instead, new posts have been erected by the electricity sub-station at the top of the playing field. Another attempt will be made to address this. It will also be pointed out that the culvert under the road here is Highways and the damage done to the roadside and verge could have an impact on drainage if not rectified.
- Concerns have been raised regarding parking on the pavement from 2 – 26, Ashton Road. Police say the criteria for public access is whether there is room for a push chair to be pushed through.
- It was reported that foliage was still overhanging the wall at 1, Ashton Road.
- The footpath surface at The Coach House would be reported to Rights of Way once again.

### **CORRESPONDENCE/EMAILS**

- The latest crime statistics were read by the Clerk. During November there were two crimes compared to seven last year. One was theft from a shed and the other from a van. In the year to date overall crime stands at 43, compared to 86 last year.
- It was reported that website minutes had only been entered up to June 2015. Alison said she would update this and John offered to investigate the possibility of the Council having its own website.

### **MEETINGS**

- Chris will attend the Cotswold Water Park meeting on 14 December 2015.
- Alison said she will be arranging a meeting with David Jackson of Savills in the new year regarding the Chesterton proposal.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- As already decided, this item will be renamed “Points for Future Consideration” as from the next agenda.
- Shaun reported on the financial problems facing the County Council, in particular the increasing pressure on Social Services. Council Tax increases in 2016/2017 would be limited to 2% without a referendum. He said that Thames Water had started in depth data gathering from households in order to obtain extra resources

to combat drainage/flooding problems. Shaun added that he was concerned about the road network around Cirencester – new development will obviously increase road usage but hopefully Planners will be more visionary when looking at applications.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

Chairman

**SIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS – 12 JANUARY 2016**

CHEQUE NO. 1279 – K. S. HARRISON – CLERK’S NET SALARY JANUARY 2016 - £273.73 + EXPENSES £20.91	<b><u>£294.64</u></b>
CHEQUE NO. 1280 – LISTER WILDER – REPAIR AND MINI SERVICE	<b><u>£67.94</u></b>
CHEQUE NO. 1281 – A.B. WEST – CLEANING BUS SHELTERS	<b><u>£15.00</u></b>
CHEQUE NO. 1282 – GLOS. RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL – SUBSCRIPTION	<b><u>£25.00</u></b>

**END OF SCHEDULE**

## Outstanding Issues

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Councillor(s) responsible</b>	<b>Date Raised</b>	<b>Resolve By</b>
Pursue bin adjacent to Laurel Cottages	AW	01.01.15	
Pursue removal of grass island on Church Avenue	APa	14.07.15	
Nature area on playing field	CR & AW	August 2015	Spring 2016
Pursue removal of abandoned truck, Park Way car park	AW	20.08.15	
Pursue The Butts resurfacing	AW & SP	20.09.15	
Arrange replacement of missing Siddington School sign	AW	22.09.15	
Dog signs for playing field	CR	13.10.15	
Pursue repairs to Pound Close road/pavement surfaces	APr	10.11.15	
Finalise Standing Orders	BB	07.12.15	
Investigate possibility of flowers/tubs by village signs	JH	08.12.15	
Pursue new village sign	AW	08.12.15	
Investigate possibility of parish council website	JH	08.12.15	
Pursue trimming of overhanging hedge on Ashton Road	APr	08.12.15	
North Hill Road - resolution of reserved matters?	BB	08.12.15	
Investigate 'hazards of dog fouling' sign	AW	08.12.15	
Pursue repair of damage caused by hedge cutting on Park Way	CR & SP	08.12.15	
Arrange repair of broken playing field fence opposite Hatters Cottage on Park Way	CR	08.12.15	
Pursue repositioning of Park Way reflective posts	AW	08.12.15	
Pursue repair of footpath at Coach House	APa	08.12.15	