

MINUTES OF WITHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Wednesday 13th January 2016 AT THE JUBILEE HALL, WITHINGTON AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Councillors Glenys Webb (Chairman), Cllr Mavis Lady Dunrossil, Cllr Jeremy Theyer, Cllr Jane Bruce, Cllr Bruno Brenninkmeijer, Cllr Nicky Lowe, Cllr Jane Gibbs, County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson and, District Councillor Robin Hughes. Four members of the public and the Clerk/RFO.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA: There were none.

3. MINUTES OF THE FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on the 4th November 2015. Were unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.

3.1 Matters Arising - progress report and actions from the previous meetings

- **Thorndale planning** - Issue with Mobile Homes still left on site after the Jockey accommodation has been build, this was not part of the planning application. Cllr Hughes will make enquires about this. **01/09/2015** D.Cllr Hughes said the issue is with one of the Jockeys who does not want to move into the accommodation and so they are looking to put an application in to keep one of the caravans on site. **04/1/2015** no update. **13/01/2016** Application is expected for this.
- Parish Magazine - Cllr Theyer asked if highlights from the Parish Council meeting could be put in the Parish Magazine. Cllr Webb has organised this. **Closed**
- The plaque for the late Councillor Kearney's tree has been arranged **Closed**

AGENDA ITEMS

4. Overview of planning procedures and practices (by Miss D Smith Senior Planning Officer from Cotswold District Council)

Miss Smith was welcomed to the meeting and gave a presentation to the Parish Council on the planning process. She said that a report from Officers should be sent to the Parish Council if an application has been granted this sets out why it was passed. (PC currently not receiving this).

Miss Smith said she has an electronic presentation which she can send over. She said the planner looks at the planning act and policy which is the Town and Country planning act and the local plan, they take into consideration materials and the impact on an AONB area and to see if it could de-value surrounding properties by view and loss of light and environmental considerations. Then they issue a decision if there is an objection this goes through the District Councillor to permit or refuse to make a decision and a judgement. If there is still an issue, they called a committee meeting which can be quite a long meeting.

She said when looking at applications the Parish Council need to consider where the harm is to a conservation area, this is the sort of information the planners will take into account when reviewing the application.

Miss Smith asked if there were any questions? There were a few asked:

- If an application states one size and then it is built to another what is the process? This was discussed. It should go to enforcement if this happens.
- If an application is made to the Parish Council for a decision in principal, what should/can the Parish Council do or say? - it was agreed that if there are no plans then the Parish Council cannot make any judgements and so it is correct to say " if there are no plans then there cannot be a decision.

Outcome of talk: Action

Miss Smith said she would go back and have a look at the Keepers Cottage material issue. Miss Smith said that material should be clearly stated on the planning application.

The Chairman thanked Miss Smith for coming and giving her time to the Parish Council it was most useful and informative.

5. Defibrillator

Cllr Hodgkinson asked other parishes about running costs, He sent the Clerk some information on Rendcombe who are looking into getting one installed in their parish. Other parishes that have them are Chedworth and Baunton. Compton Abdale is also looking into them. The Clerk has received some information from the Clerk at Pauntley - he sent a link through for Community Heartbeat who arranged with BT to site them in disused telephone boxes, this was discussed. Cllr Webb said we could ask the Village Committee for a donation. It was agreed that the Parish Council could contribute to the costs and purchase it so that the VAT could be claimed back. It was agreed though that the money to fund a Defibrillator, should be raised by fund raising and donations. In respect to using the Telephone box to site it has been ruled out as it is in use due to the poor mobile phone signal in the village. It was agreed to investigate the possibility of siting it outside the Mill Inn as there would be a power supply there.

Action for the Clerk to contact the Brewery and ask if they would permit/consider the Parish Council putting a Defibrillator at the Mill Inn pub.

6. Transparency Code

The Clerk updated on the following code:

The government have issued a code of recommended practice for Parish Councils and other smaller authorities with a turnover not exceeding £25,000, so annually and not later than 1st July 2015 in the year following the accounting year the council will publish the following: all transaction item of expenditure above £100 which confirms the date and that the expenditure was incurred this includes salaries, village hall repairs the end of year accounts list of councillor or members responsibly and detail of public land and building assets. This information should be published on a website which is publicly accessible free of charge.

7. FINANCE - Budget and Precept for 2016

The Parish council were presented with a forecast budget for 16/17, this was discussed and it was agreed that with the budget presented they are able to keep the Precept the same as in previous years.

Action for the Clerk to complete the form and return it to Cotswold District Council stating that the precept should stay the same for the next financial year.

Future audit for smaller authorities update:-

The Clerk read out an e-mail from GAPTC regarding the new audit proposals. It was agreed that Withington would not opt out of the proposed audit arrangements.

The clerk also suggested that she investigate the possibility of using a small company to take over the payroll as she has been made aware of a small company that does this for Parish Council and it is very reasonable.

Action for the Clerk to investigate this.

The Council were asked to agree expenditure for the following items so that cheques could be raised for the following:

Clerks wages £160.13 and £56.00 for ½ yearly expences– the Clerks hours were presented and also the 6 monthly expenses that have been agreed for the Clerk to claim. The council agreed the amount the cheque was signed by Cllr Webb and Cllr Dunrossil.

HMRC Cheque for £40.03 – The cheque was signed by Cllr Webb and Cllr Dunrossil.

Wickmedia hosting cost for the website a cheque was raised for £36.00 and signed by Cllr Webb and Cllr Dunrossil.

Playing Fields Association for £50.00 – the cheque was signed by Cllr Webb and Cllr Dunrossil.

8. Update from County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson

Issues with Lorries coming into Withington and getting stuck. Cllr Hodgkinson's confirmed that Highways and Amey are looking into this. Cllr Hodgkinson said he is not aware of any update but will take this back to Mr Grey and ask for an update.

Parking at Compton Rise, Cllr Hodgkinson met Andy Milne from Bromford on site in September. Andy Milne said he will be speaking to residence about a possibility of removing the trees to create more parking. The issue of parking notices was also discussed, it was agreed that there are two issues here. One to get rid of the trees and the other issue is to sort out the allocated parking. Cllr Hodgkinson suggested he could arrange for Andy Milne to come out again and to speak directly to Cllr Theyer and Cllr Webb about all the issues.

Action For Cllr Hodgkinson to organise this.

The Clerk has received a letter from Hilary Swan regarding a complaint she has made to Glos Highways about the drains outside her house. The response she had received from Highway was not acceptable; the clerk had suggested she e-mail Cllr Hodgkinson. He said he had not heard anything from her. The Clerk passed Cllr Hodgkinson the e-mail from Hilary Swan and he will see if she needs any more help with this. **Closed**

9. Correspondence

The Clerk has received an e-mail from Mr Shorlock, she passed the relevant pages to Cllr Hodgkinson. Mr Shorlock raised his disappointment over the planning issue at Keepers Cottage. As earlier reported Miss Smith said she will look into this. He also raised an issue of booking in dates of Parish Council meetings in advance. It was agreed that this is usually undertaken at the AGM in May but dates for the next few meetings would be published again.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was an issue raised about the Website being blocked for the September minutes the clerk will have a look at this.

There was an issue raised about the music festival. The organiser had volunteered to come and speak to the Parish Council to discuss the problems at the early stages of planning. It was agreed that this year's festival was a lot quieter. It was agreed that it would be useful for the organiser to come to a Parish Council meeting to update the council on plans for this year's event.

11. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

23rd March 2016 at 7.30 pm

AGM will be held on 4th May 2016 at 7.30 pm

MEETING CLOSED: 09.30pm