

MINUTES OF WITHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON Wednesday 21st March 2018 AT THE JUBILEE HALL,
WITHINGTON AT 7.30 PM

1. **PRESENT:** Cllr Glenys Webb, Cllr Mavis Lady Dunrossil, Cllr Nicky Lowe, Cllr Jane Gibbs, Cllr Bruno Brenninkmeijer, 1 member of the public and the Clerk/RFO.
2. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr Jeremy Theyer, Cllr Jane Bruce, District Councillor Robin Hughes and County Cllr, Paul Hodgkinson.
3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA. None**
4. **MINUTES of the Meetings** held on the 3rd January 2018 were circulated prior to the meeting to Councillor's; they were signed and agreed as a true and accurate record.

4.1 Progress report and comments on the meeting held: 21st March 2018.

BT phone Box /Defibrillator update Defib has arrived and is with Cllr Webb, it was updated that there is around £500 in the budget for refurbishment of old telephone box. Cllr Webb updated that she is waiting for the paint to arrive before the Defib is installed. Cllr Lowe would pass on information about a painter to Cllr Webb. There was a discussion about the state of the glass and it was agreed that we need to contact an electrician ready to install the defib as soon as the box is painted.

Village Hall Committee - At the last meeting there was an action to ask the Village Hall Committee about the idea for the Parish Council to buy large items for them so that the VAT could be claimed back. Cllr Webb said she has spoken to the committee and they think it will be too complicated and would prefer a donation. This will be discussed again next year nearer the time of the donation. Cllr Brenninkmeijer we would like a list of all items they have purchase with the donation this year so that the Parish Council can see what the money has been spent on.

5. Planning applications and updates –

Stable Farm – Cllr Dunrossil updated that she had attended the CDC committee meeting and spoke for the Parish Council on this application. The applicant has been granted an extension of 1 year to leave the temporary accommodation where it is but after that time the applicant must either move the mobile home or find alternative accommodation.

5.1 Keepers Cottage

There has been considerable complaints and disappointment around a breach of planning that was reported on the 2nd March. There has been a lack of information and any response from CDC. The Clerk telephoned CDC three times during the week commencing 20th March to speak to someone to get an update on this matter. All she managed was to obtain a name of the person dealing with it (Ed Leeson). The Councillors updated that they have been contacted by numerous Parishioner ringing the Councillors for updates

whilst they watch the owners of Keepers Cottages continue to work on the field. It was also reported that since their original complaint to CDC of the construction of a pond being dug, all the top soil has now been removed from the field and all earth from the new pond has also disappeared. More worryingly a new drive has also been completed in the field and there is now even less evidence of a meadow. One Cllr reminded the meeting that when the last planning application was put in for an extension to the property the Parish Council specifically requested that the field was put back as a meadow with wild flowers as it was before (it had been used for rubbish from the extension) this was acknowledged by the previous owner, but this area has now been cleared of all the wild flowers. It was agreed that an urgent letter will be sent to CDC about this matter and the Parish Council will request a response, also a copy will be sent to DCllr Robin Hughes to see if he can investigate the matter and Cllr Dunrossil will also see if any of her contacts on the council are able to gain a response from planning in this matter.

Action for the Clerk to write to CDC about the lack of information around this planning breach,

Action for the Clerk to e-mail a copy of the letter to DCllr Robin Hughes and see if he can help.

Action to send copies of everything to Cllr Dunrossil who will look to see if she can use her influence at the council.

6. Upgrade E-mail to MS exchange

The Clerk updated that there have been several recent issues with the e-mail which is using an old system, the Clerks computer is 10 years old and every time Microsoft carries out a major upgrade there is a loss of access to e-mails. It was updated that because it is an old system it is also difficult to move it onto a newer computer, it is therefore requested that now is a good opportunity to upgrade everything. This was discussed. Cllrs discussed and have some reservations about using the cloud for storage going forward but agreed that the Clerk can pursue updating the e-mail system. She will speak to James Mander at Wickmeadia for his advice taking this forward.

7. Winter Update from Gloucestershire Highways

Cllr Brenninkmeijer raised his concerns about the snow warden having to ring Amey to be able to work, he said they do not respond in good time, especially on a Sunday and this is the second time this has happened where it has snowed on a weekend and there has been a problem contacting Highways to call out the snow warden. Cllr Brenninkmeijer updated that we need a quicker response, Philip King (snow warden) knows the areas and he should be able to respond accordingly. Cllr Brenninkmeijer suggested money given to Parish Councils directly to manage in respect of snow clearance, should be pursued and the snow warden should get instruction from the Parish Council about the state of the village not a contractor who is miles away and does not necessarily know the village. It was agreed that there is a management issue with Amey and the present service has not been good enough, this was raised with Cllr Hodkinson in January and nothing changed with the snow clearance this month (March). There is a real problem with response times and call out times.

8. Finance -

Cheques to be agreed by the Council and payments made to the following:

Clerk's salary – £242.16

HMRC – £60.54

Glebe Grass cutting - £754.15

GATPC membership £129.44

Wickmedia £36.00

9. Correspondence

Mr Hicks sent his annual letter asking if the Parish Council require him to carry out an inspection on the play area equipment this year. This was agreed. The Clerk will respond to this.

E-mail received from London Oxford Airport consultation re- Brize Norton and Kidlington extended air space and the request for comments. Cllr Brenninkmeijer responded to the Clerks request for comments and sent this onto them.

GDPR – data protection. There was a discussion around the new rules coming in and it was suggested that the clerk contact GAPTC to find out what advice they are giving on this. The Clerk will look into this.

An E-mail has been received from Philip King about new bins that have all been put on the hill from the Mill Inn, there is no grit in any of them so far, he said , he would try to put some grit into some of them but asked if Jeremy could kindly put them where the old bins were, he said there is a map showing where they should go.

10. Any Other Business

Change of Date for Meeting in May – AGM

Change to 1st May

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Meeting closed at 9.00