

**MINUTES OF WITHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Wednesday
4th May 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 Nicky Lowe, Cllr Bruno Brenninkmeijer, County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson, District Councillor Robin Hughes, 4 members of the public and the Clerk/RFO.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr Jane Gibbs

2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**

3. **MINUTES of the Meetings** held on the 23rd March 2016 were circulated prior to the meeting to Councillor's; they were signed and agreed as a true and accurate record.

3.1 **Progress report and comments on the meeting held:**

Defibrillator – the clerk will write again to the brewery to see if we can use the Mill Inn to site the defib.

3.2 Cllr Dunrossil went to the event at Stowell Park for Rural Gloucestershire and updated the meeting. Cllr Webb thanked her for going and representing the PC.

4. **Planning applications**

4.1 **16/0160/FUL** - 2 Northfield Cottages Withington Road Andoversford. New Detached Garage with Store and Hobby room.

The application was discussed and all councillors were in support of the application, the only concern was over the trees which would be lost, the clerk was asked to report back to CDC and put a not on asking if the trees they take down could be replaced by two hardwood trees.

Action for the clerk to respond to CDC

4.2 **16/01503/LBC** Listed Building consent for insertion of four roof lights to Haddon House Withington.

The application was discussed and all councillors were in support of the application

Action for the clerk to respond to CDC

4.3 **16/01756/TCONR** Works to trees in conservation areas for Western Red Cedar to be fell at Haddon House

There was concern raised about the removal of this tree, the comments made were that they were not convinced it needs to be removed, it is a pity to lose it.

Action for the clerk to respond to CDC

5. **2000 Trees Application**

John Platt updated the meeting on the recent application to increase numbers for this year's event. He said as it has not yet been granted to extend to 9999, it is

unlikely that no more than 4799 will attend this year, if get permission between now and July unlikely they will in reality sell more than 5,000 – 5,500. This is a more realistic achievable number.

Much concern was raised about the 9999 capacity which is being asked for. The councillors felt there would be problem with traffic and the village would be at a standstill. It was agreed that it puts a different picture on the event. Not sure what the thinking is behind such a number from CDC point of view.

Action For the Clerk to response to Michelle Bignell is as follows: They are supportive of the festival with a top capacity figure of 6,000 but would be seriously concerned if the number grew to 9999 because of traffic congestion, the effect this would have on the village over that weekend. The noise for residents, the fact that they are getting later, and that it is a three day event with these times.

6. Insurance renewal

The clerk has received the renewal quote for this year's insurance – It is for £474,44 this was agreed and cheque was raised under Finance.

7. Update from County Councillor

C.Cllr Hodgkinson updated the meeting on his meeting with Bromford housing in Feb, he said they have made promises and were supportive of our requests, they committed to do things for the residents. He has since chased them in March and again in May and had no response. The communications is none existent as to why they have not followed up on their promises. He has copied in everyone he can think of, there are a lot of issues with resident parking and residents of Compton Rise are also contacting C.Cllr Hodgkinson directly about this. It was recently reported that a Fire Engine could not get to a house because of the parking in that close and children are playing amongst the cars which is very dangerous. Cllr Webb also highlighted the footpath behind Harnham Lane as they asked for the trees and undergrowth to be cut back for the children etc which was promised and did not happen and now they are sprouting again. C.Cllr Hodgkinson will allow them 10 days to respond. The Parish Council passed a resolution in support of the C.Cllr Hodgkinson, it stated their dissatisfaction of both Cotswold District and Glos County Council, who have all been contacted about this and have go no further forward.

The vote was unanimously to the resolution.

C.Cllr Hodgkinson also reported on the Lengthman Scheme, he has 3 weeks of work allocated to him to sort out any minor works, such as signs, grass cutting, vegetation over grown. He asked the PC to identify anything that needs doing and let him know as soon as possible. It was agreed that they will be coordinated by the clerk who will pass them onto him urgently.

Cllr Brenninkmeier said that the Withington sign from Andoversford is bent and needs mending. Also the Farthings sign is falling off.

Action The Clerk to let C.Cllr Hodgkinson know by e-mail all of the issues raised that can be added to his list.

There was also a discussion about the state the village was left in after Gigaclear left. The concern was raised that the line was not buried deep enough and it will take only one lorry to break up the verge and the cable will be split and broken. It is not so bad now but come the winter, when there is a bad frost if the line is exposed which will not take much to expose it there will be problems.

C.Cllr Hodgkinson updated on Gloucester County Councils view of the unitary idea, which CDC are looking into. He said he attended a debate and it was clear that the majority are against it. There is a strength of feeling across the County as it would affect police services, NHS, social care, all of these services would need to be broken up and would have implication to the rest of Gloucestershire.

7.1 Update from Cotswold District Councillor Robin Hughes

D.Cllr Hughes updated on the Districts Council's view of the unitary idea. He has passed on the PC letter to the leader, which stated that they were against this. He said that the idea came about because they now work closely with West Oxfordshire and have done for 7 years and this is just a progression. The issue is the County boundaries.

It will come back in August with a view on it. Cllr Dunrossil said she is appalled at the way it has been done, it is fundamental to let people know and there has been very little communication on it. It has been a strange way to go about it. D.Cllr Hughes said he would pass the Parish Councils feelings on.

D.Cllr Hughes updated on frozen charges on parking and council tax. He said the local plan is coming back as they are looking to increase the housing allowed in the area. Cllr Brenninkmeijer said if they do not address the issue of new houses in the villages then it will be the end of them. The problem is that 2 bed cottages are not being build, encouraging young people to stay in the villages. In his opinion they should be looking at derelict buildings and barns to convert. D.Cllr Hughes said The issues are that there is a paragraph in the plan that states that you need two out of the three things to build in the villages. A bus route, a shop and a school. He represents 16 villages and only one of the villages would qualify for this. D.Cllr Hughes is hopefully this can be amended.

There was a discussion on the Air Balloon – this is on hold, Both Cllrs have attended meetings and it has been put back into the melting pot. They are now looking again at different options. It was reported that the local MP does not seem to have done anything to push this forward and so it is not a priority in the county. It was reported that it may 2020 before anything can be done

Action for the clerk to writ to the local MP to see what is being done about this issue

8. Finance

Clerks salary for March April = **£210.16**

HMRC

Insurance = **£474,44**

9. Correspondence

Respond to letter that Shipton PC have sent, not a this time do we feel the need to meet up and collaborate. But for anything strategic significance like the air balloon or ambulance cover, or closing of fire stations then they are happy to help and be included.

10 Dates of the next meetings

6th July 2016

11 Any Other Business

None

Meeting Closed at 21.30