

AYNHO PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 4th November 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Present: Chair – Stephen Brook
Councillors – Leighton, Anderson, Burge, James, Reynolds and Dean

In Attendance: Sadie Patamia (Clerk), Roger Wertheimer (RFO) and 2 members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Mann.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Dean signed the declaration of interest book.

3 Minutes of the Council Meetings held on Monday 6th November 2017

It was proposed by Cllr Dean, seconded by Cllr James and therefore agreed that the minutes of 6th November 2017 would be signed.

4 Matters arising not on the Agenda

The Chair started by stating that this was the last meeting the Clerk would be present as she had just tendered her notice which would take effect from 31 Dec 17. He personally thanked the Clerk for her loyal and dedicated service over the past 9 years and wished her well in her new full time job.

The Clerk has ordered the stickers which state the general bins can be used for dog waste and will put them on as soon as they arrive.

Action – Clerk

The Clerk confirmed she had sent the info on Section 105 to Cllr Dean concerned when the footpath at the boundary of the new Deer Park should be operational. It was confirmed it was not until completion of the 2nd house as part of the Aynhoe Corner development.

The clerk confirmed she had also chased up James Belcher about getting the hedge trimmed and has written to the residents of Skittle Alley. James Belcher has also agreed to supply a Christmas Tree for the village

The Clerk has not yet submitted a claim for Transparency Code funding but will do.

Action – Clerk to submit Transparency Code funding request

The Clerk has started to look into ordering an information board for the village and will continue to do so.

Action – Clerk to continue to research information board

5 Finance, to include discussion on NCC budget 2018/19 and APC Budget and precept 2018/19

It was proposed by Cllr James, seconded by Cllr Dean and therefore agreed that the cheques listed on the attached reports (RW/12/17) should be formally approved.

The Chair stated that he had sent information around about the NCC budget cuts. He stated that he and Cllrs Anderson and Reynolds had gone through the consultation survey. The major aspect that affects the village is that of cutting the bus subsidy to the 499 service. The PC have made it clear in their response that they feel the subsidy should be maintained.

It was proposed by Cllr James, seconded by Cllr Reynolds and therefore agreed that Thames Valley Air Ambulance and Aynho PCC would receive a donation of £300 each. (The Aynho PCC donation is to provide support for the production of the Village Newsletter)

The APC budget for 2018/19 was presented. It was agreed that the precept would be set at £22,920, this represents a 3% increase.

Action – Clerk to inform NCC

The income and expenditure for the Sports Field/Aynho Active will have visibility. It was agreed additional resources should be put towards village maintenance, particularly in light of the proposed reductions in support from NCC highways. Finally it was agreed that over the next 2-3 years the PC would look to replace the current streetlights with fitting which are more in keeping with a conservation area and use modern efficient led lighting – which should see a saving in annual electricity costs.

6 Planning –

S/2017/2673/FUL, Variation of condition 2 (plans) of planning permission S/2016/1973/FUL (Conversion of garage to form living space, front and rear extensions) to change the pitched roof over the garage conversion and front extension to a flat roof, 11 The Butts Aynho OX17 3AN

After hearing Cllr Burge's report it was agreed that the application would be objected to with the following comments. APC object to this application and feel the pitched roof should remain, as per the previous application which will be more in keeping with other properties in the street. All properties that have had improvements in the area have pitched roofs and therefore this application should be refused in order to maintain the streetscape.

S/2017/2645/LBC, To change the existing kitchen window to a painted, timber framed, double glazed patio door with fixed glazed door, amended from existing permission which has granted a patio door and window, 21 Blacksmiths Hill, Aynho, OX17 3AH

After hearing Cllr Burge's report it was agreed that this application would be supported in full.

7 Risk and risk assessment

There was nothing to report on this item.

8 Parking, Highways and Transport

Cllr Leighton reported that he had put a note into the newsletter reminding everyone about the village parking badges. He stated he had chased SNC twice on the post on Charlton Road but has had no response.

The Chair stated that he had obtained a quote for wooden stakes to put along Aynho Court verge. The quote was for £12.90 plus VAT. It was agreed that about 10 were needed. It was agreed that these would be ordered.

Action – Cllr Leighton

9 Maintenance

The Clerk has received an alternative quote for the tree work, although it was, in fact a note declining the opportunity to quote. It was therefore agreed that Acreman would carry out the work as per their quotes to remove the Syacmore Tree on Charlton Road and restore the verge to the East of Butts Close junction.

Action – Clerk to task Acreman with carrying out the tree work.

10 Recreational Matters – to include, Playground, sports field and Aynho Active

The Park Club Draw was made. Number 52 was drawn.

It was agreed that Aynho Active would be permitted to spend up to £2750 on the refurbishment of the Pavilion on the proviso that they claim a minimum of 50% back from the New Homes Bonus Grant.

Action – Chair to contact Aynho Active to discuss

Cllr Anderson stated that he had a tree in his garden that had been donated for the children's play park. It was agreed that this would be planted in due course.

11 Farming and Footpaths, to include discussion re. blocking off of fields

Cllr Anderson reported that all gates down Green Lane have been secured stopping any access. This has also happened down towards Souldern. Many villagers have asked why this has happened as for approximately 30 years all gates have been open. There seems to be some debate as to whether the paths in question are formal footpath. It would seem that it is possible to make formal applications for the footpath to be adopted formally. It was agreed at this point a discussion should be had with the landowners. It was agreed that Cllr Anderson, Cllr James and Paul Bradford should arrange to meet with the landowner.

It was also agreed that the Clerk would give the definitive map to Cllr Anderson.

Action – Cllr Anderson and Cllr James to arrange meeting with landowners to discuss the situation.

Action – Clerk to give copy of definitive map to Cllr Anderson

12 Communications

It was agreed that the following should be put into the newsletter –

- Advertisement for the role of Parish Clerk
- Note to state that the PC has responded to the NCC budget

13 Meetings and Conferences, to include feedback from VHC meeting

The Chair reported that he had attended the VHC meeting in November. The provision of Gigaclear Broadband was discussed and it was agreed as one of the principle users the PC would maintain the provision of the service now the 2 year free service was due to end on 31 Dec.

There was some discussion on whether the VH should at times be provided Free of Charge to residents for certain charity events. It was noted the VH is self-funding and receives no funds from the precept. It was agreed that a small element of £250 would be set aside in the PC Budget which could be used to pay for 'Charitable' events to which all villagers would benefit.

14 Correspondence

The following correspondence has been received this month –

- NCALC eUpdate

15 Village of the Year

An enquiry was made as to what was happening with this and when the programme would air. Nobody was sure what was happening. Cllr Dean will make some enquiries.

16 Date of Next Meeting – Monday 8th January 2018 (if needed), Monday 5th February 2018

These were agreed.

The meeting closed at 21.35