

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 7th July 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Present: Chair – Stephen Brook
Councillors – Hoddinott, Mann, Shukburgh, Leighton, James, and Burge, Belcher

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

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Anderson

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

3. Minutes of the Council Meetings held on Monday 2nd June 2014

It was proposed by Cllr James, seconded by Cllr Burge and therefore agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd June 2014 should be signed

4. Matters arising not on the Agenda

The Clerk stated she had an alternative quote for the work in the village. This was presented. It was agreed that Adam Allen should be asked to clear the ivy on the Black Path and replace the dragon's teeth.

Action – Clerk to ask Adam Allen should be asked to clear the ivy on the Black Path and replace the dragon's teeth.

The Clerk stated she had heard back from eon re. Streetlight 22. It has been agreed that Cllr Burge will meet eon to discuss this.

The Clerk stated she had drafted a letter re. the sewage smell in the Square and that it had been passed to the Chair to check.

The Clerk stated she had looked at the planning conditions imposed on Wensden Buildings. There is no guidance as to the direction from which the vehicles should come but the hours of operation were clearly stated as Monday – Friday 7.30am – 6pm, Saturday 8.00am – 12.00pm, Sundays, Bank Holidays and Public Holidays: no time.

5. Finance

It was proposed by Cllr James, seconded by Cllr Shuckburgh and therefore agreed that the cheques listed on the attached report (RW/06/14) should be signed.

The RFO requested the authorisation of the closure of the 14 day account. It was proposed by Cllr Burge and seconded by Cllr James that this account should be closed.

Cllr Burge stated she had received a cheque for £1800 from County Councillor Sawbridge's empowerment fund to pay for the swings. It was agreed a note of thanks should be drafted.

Action – Clerk

The internal audit report was discussed. It was agreed that some of the points were confusing and an

Standing orders were suspended to allow Kay Anderson and Les Horley to speak.

Mrs Anderson stated many of the trees on the sports field boundary with Portway were overgrown and interfering with the hedgerows which was not good for biodiversity. AGU Tree services have looked at the trees and suggested taking out some of the larger branches that are getting in the way, plus removing one or two of the smaller trees, including a dead elm which has Dutch elm disease.

AGU have quoted £698 to do this work.

It was agreed that some additional quotes should be obtained.

Action – Cllr Belcher to get quote for tree work

The inside of the hedge around the sports field also needs cutting, as is carried out every year. It was agreed that Cllr Belcher will arrange for this to be done.

Action – Cllr Belcher to arrange for the hedge to be cut

Mr Horley showed details of how he envisaged a nature trail round the edge of the sports field. It was agreed that this was a good idea and he should go ahead with the idea

Mrs Anderson stated she was considering reinstating the ASRA committee and that if this happened she felt at least one member of the PC should be on this. Mrs Anderson made it clear she really needed some involvement from the PC. Cllr Belcher agreed to be the PC link.

Action – Cllr Belcher

Mr Horley suggested that CCTV could be put on Black Path in order to help prevent people allowing their dogs to foul there. The Chair stated that if a scheme was proposed with costs then it could be considered. Whilst it was acknowledged by members that dog fouling is an issue it was felt that at this stage CCTV would be

Mrs Anderson suggested a poster campaign down the Black Path might have an impact. It was agreed that a poster should be designed and given to Mrs Anderson to put up.

Action – Clerk to design and laminate poster and give to Mrs Anderson to display

Standing orders were reconvened

6. Risk and risk assessment

Cllr James stated that there was a problem with a damaged man hole near his house. It was agreed that Cllr James will report this to Street Doctor.

7. Parking, Highways and Transport

The Clerk checked that her email re. the yellow lines had been received. She stated that MGSWP had reported back saying they did not have the budget to resurface the road so the yellow lines will go ahead despite the conditions.

Cllr Belcher stated that he felt something really needed to be done about speeding through the village and on the Charlton Road. Cllr Shuckburgh stated he has also received complaints about it as well.

Cllr Shuckburgh stated that he has a meeting with Helen Howard next week to discuss Vehicle Activation Signs.

Cllr Hoddinott stated that he felt a 20mph speed limit would not make a difference to the people driving dangerously and the only way to stop people like this is by the Police having a presence in the village.

Cllr Mann stated he felt speed bumps are the only way to prevent the speeding.

The Chair asked Cllr Shuckburgh to discuss the speed signs and some speed recording in the village.

Action – Cllr Shuckburgh

8. Maintenance, to include discussion re. CCTV on Black Path and streetlight 22

CCTV and Streetlight 22 have been discussed previously.

It was agreed to ask Adam Allen to carry out the replacement of the bollards and the removal of the ivy on the Black Path.

It was agreed that either Cllr Burge or the Chair would meet with the PEG in August.

Action – Clerk to send PEG list to all for refinement.

9. Recreational Matters – to include trees on Sports Field, funding for community orchard and nature trail, Playground, sports field and A.S.R.A

Trees and funding have been discussed previously.

Cllr Burge reminded that the playground opening would be on 19th July.

10. Farming and Footpaths

There was nothing to report on this item.

11. Village Plan 2014 – 2019

There was nothing to report on this item.

12. Communications

Cllr Leighton reported that he had sent out some information on possible websites.

He felt that the best option would be to go with a Word Press option. It would probably cost about £200 to get it up and running. The rough annual cost would likely be approximately £250.

It was agreed that a note about a new website would be put into the newsletter and other communication outlets asking for help.

It was agreed that Cllr Leighton was free to spend up to £300 on beginning to set up a new website.

Action – Cllr Leighton

13. Meetings and Conferences

The Clerk stated that the Ward Meeting would be in 21 July.

Cllr Belcher stated he had attended the Village Hall meeting and had nothing to report.

The Chair is down to attend the next meeting which is on 13th October.

14. Correspondence

The following has been received this month –

Clerks and Council Direct
NCALC E update

15. Any Other Business

Cllr Shuckburgh stated he has spoken to the resident at Skittle Alley who is building a storage space in his garden. The resident states he has spoken to the planning department and that he is within permitted development. Cllr Burge stated that this was not the case as the house is listed and is within the conservation area and therefore he does not have permitted development rights.

Action - Cllr Burge has stated that she would speak to planning about this.

Cllr Shuckburgh confirmed that the shed in Cartwright Gardens had been amicably resolved.

16. Date of Next Meeting – Monday 4th August 2014 (if needed) and then Mon 1st September

This was agreed.
The meeting closed at 21.45