

Cofton Hackett Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 26th June 2017

PRESENT:

Councillors:

Cllr Mr R Deeming (Chair)
Cllr Mrs J Webb
Cllr Mr R Westbury
Cllr Mr K Duncan
Cllr Ms C Fryer
Cllr Mr M Pattison
Cllr Mr J Slack

Apologies:

Cllr Ms W Birch
Cllr Mrs J Fay (Vice Chair)

Clerk to the Parish Council:

Andrew Billau (AB)

Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions	Action
083/17	Apologies Apologies were received from Cllr Birch (holiday) and Cllr Fay (prior commitment), these were accepted.	
084/17	Declaration of Interests Register of Interests: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests.• To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.• To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.• Councillors who have declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, or an Other Disclosable Interest which falls within the terms of paragraph 12(4) (b) of the code of conduct, must leave the room for the relevant items. Failure to register or declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest may result in the commission of a criminal offence.• To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) – written requests to be with the clerk at least 4 clear days prior to a meeting.• Interests were recorded in the Register	
085/17	Dispensations There were no applications for dispensations received.	
086/17	Public Forum There were 2 members of the public in attendance, Mr and Mrs Green. Mrs Green raised the issue of the traffic calming works on Groveley Lane and the difficulties Mr Green (registered blind) has in crossing the road since the crossing point has been moved. Mr Green now has to negotiate a lamp post and bollards and the tactile	

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	<p>paving does not cover his route. Mrs Green added that she now has to accompany Mr Green and the guide dog is confused. Councillors discussed the road markings being painted as part of the traffic calming scheme and the warning sign which they felt was ineffective. Cllr Deeming remarked that once the traffic calming scheme has been completed there will be further speed checks carried out to establish if speeds have slowed. Councillors felt that the issue affects all residents, Mrs Green said she had heard children refer to the crossing as 'dangerous'.</p> <p>Mr and Mrs Green are meeting with Maurice Carless from WCC next week, Cllr Duncan will attend as an observer. Mrs Green added that she is prepared to escalate to the CEO at WCC and then the ombudsman.</p> <p>Councillors agreed that they would assist in producing a video of Mr Green crossing the road to highlight the difficulties. They also agreed to fund an independent traffic expert to assess the situation and prepare a report (which would include a possible acceptable solution). Clerk to progress.</p> <p>Mr and Mrs Green thanked Councillors for listening and understanding. They then left the meeting.</p>	<p>Cllr Duncan</p> <p>Clerk</p>
087/17	<p>Reports from Outside Bodies / County Councillor</p> <p>There were no outside bodies in attendance.</p>	
088/17	<p>Co-option of Parish Councillors</p> <p>Mr Mike Pattison and Mr John Slack had both submitted applications to become Parish Councillors, the Clerk had circulated supporting information from both candidates to all Councillors.</p> <p>Cllr Duncan proposed that Mr Pattison and Mr Slack be co-opted to the Parish Council, this was seconded by Cllr Westbury and all were in favour.</p> <p>Councillors Pattison and Slack signed their Declarations of Acceptance of Office and took their places at the table. Clerk to progress remaining paperwork.</p>	Clerk
089/17	<p>Previous Minutes</p> <p>The minutes of the Meeting of the Council dated 22nd May 2017 were agreed as a correct record, proposed by Cllr Westbury seconded by Cllr Duncan with all in favour.</p>	
090/17	<p>Chairman's Report</p> <p>Cllr Deeming reported that Section 106 monies had been agreed relating to the two housing development applications (Numbers 6/17 and 7/17) on the East Works site.</p> <p>Funding has been agreed to be allocated to Cofton Hackett Parish Council for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhancement of access to the allotment site - Improvements to drainage and refurbishment of the allotments - Improvement and repair of the car park at the Village Hall - Purchase of planters and benches around the area - Refurbishment of the play area at Myhill Field <p>Cllrs Pattison and Slack asked if Cllr Duncan would take them on a tour of the Parish, Cllr Duncan agreed.</p>	Cllr Duncan
091/17	<p>Community Services</p> <p>Cllr Fryer asked if the Christmas party could be a family event rather than just for seniors, Cllr Webb said that there was insufficient room at the Village Hall for this type of event,</p>	

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	this could be reconsidered when the new Village Hall is built.	
092/17 092.1/17 092.2/17	Communications Cllr Westbury reported that all the items for the summer newsletter had been received, this should go to print next week, Clerk to prepare the newsletter and send for approval and printing. Cllr Webb suggested paying for delivery of the newsletter rather than using volunteers. Cllr Westbury replied that all volunteers were happy to assist but if that anyone found it difficult to let him know. Cllr Fryer reported that weekly statistics for usage of the Facebook group shows large swings from week to week. She agreed to circulate instructions to access the group to all. She suggested asking people to submit photos for the page with a prize for the best, Councillors were in agreement.	Clerk Cllr Fryer
093/17 093.1/17 093.2/17 093.3/17 093.4/17 093.5/17	Highways and Bridges In her absence, Cllr Fay had submitted a written report which the Clerk read out. The replacement lamp post at 54 Ashmead Drive has now been installed and is working. Clerk to obtain quotes for painting this and the other new one in Oakfield Drive in standard green colour. The benches on the Stocken need replacement, Councillors discussed and agreed to purchase 4 new benches of the same type elsewhere in the parish, one of these to be funded by the John Dales donation and to have a plaque in his memory fitted. Clerk to progress. The grass bank near the play area is in a poor state and needs clearing, Cllr Webb pointed out that this is not a Parish Council responsibility. Clerk to contact Canal and River Trust. Cllr Fay has contacted someone who may be interested in the lengthsman position, she is meeting him at the end of the week and will report back. Councillors should meet up before the next meeting to establish what needs to be done to tidy up following the Virgin media cable laying work. Cllr Webb reported seeing a lady touring the site, probably from the contractors, making notes, presumably with a view to carrying out remedial works. Clerk also to write to Kelly Communications to ascertain the position.	 Clerk Clerk Clerk Cllr Fay All Clerk
094/17 094.1/17 094.2/17 094.3/17	Environment The Clerk reported that Bromsgrove District Council have agreed to raise a credit for payment for the litter bin which had been moved onto public land from the Stocken, however the position on the other bin is still unclear, response awaited from BDC and payment to be withheld until a response is received. Cllr Westbury reported that he and Cllr Birch had met with 3 suppliers to look at the Myhill Field Play Area equipment. Two quotes have been received and a third is due soon. When this has been received the working group will meet again with a view to selecting the preferred supplier. Councillors discussed the vandalism and damage to the bench on the Stocken and agreed to place an order for 4 new benches to the same design as others recently purchased, one of these should be purchased using the money donated on behalf of John Dales and be fitted with a plaque in memory. Clerk to progress.	 Clerk

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094.4/17	The Clerk reported that Paul Yates, tree surgeon, still needs to speak with Bromsgrove District Council regarding the Chestnut Tree at the Stocken, agreed that if no response is received in the next few days the Clerk will contact an alternative tree surgeon.	Clerk																																	
094.5/17	<p>The damaged planter on Lickey Road has been put back in position, filled with soil and replanted. Councillors and the Clerk are unsure who did this but were very grateful. This will be replanted again when necessary.</p> <p>Cllr Fryer enquired on fixing planters to lamp posts at a higher level, Councillors suggested this was impractical due to difficulties watering them.</p>																																		
095/17	<p>Planning</p> <p>095.1/17 Cllr Duncan reported that the application for new homes at the East Works site had now been approved, Cllr Duncan had attended the meeting and spoke in favour of the application. The new Village Hall should be operational after the sale of the 100th house (of 185), probably around 2019 / 2020.</p> <p>095.2/17 Cllr Duncan reported that application 17/0599 for a large extension at 6 Ashmead Drive had been received and felt that people in Private Way may object, he suggested that the PC should recommend refusal to BDC, Councillors agreed.</p> <p>095.3/17 Application 17/0394, to raise the height of a telecommunications aerial by 5m had been received. Councillors discussed and agreed that they had no objection providing the aerial is camouflaged</p> <p>095.4/17 Application 17/0394 for an extension at 22 Ashmead Drive had been received. This is a modification to a previous plan, Councillors had no objection.</p>																																		
096/17	<p>Finance and General Purposes</p> <p>096.1/17 Cllr Westbury reported that the recent Shindig event had made a profit of £236.50 so these events are now £76.8 in credit.</p> <p>096.2/17 The Clerk reported he had now received the payment for VAT reclaim, for a sum of £2,354.</p> <p>096.3/17 A list of bills for payment was circulated and agreed:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="300 1574 1099 2029"> <thead> <tr> <th>Supplier</th> <th>Services</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Proper Agency</td> <td>Website April 2017</td> <td>£30.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GR Mowing</td> <td>Grass Cutting</td> <td>£132.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shelagh O'Loughlin</td> <td>Plants for Planters</td> <td>£25.35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EON</td> <td>Street Lighting Connection</td> <td>£547.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Live & Local</td> <td>Shindig Performance</td> <td>£568.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Proper Agency</td> <td>Website May 2017</td> <td>£30.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andrew Billau (Clerk)</td> <td>Salary May / June (by SO)</td> <td>£417.41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>Tax Payment May / June</td> <td>£104.36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GR Mowing</td> <td>Grass Cutting</td> <td>£132.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andrew Billau (Clerk)</td> <td>Expenses May / June 2017</td> <td>£105.42</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Supplier	Services	Total	Proper Agency	Website April 2017	£30.00	GR Mowing	Grass Cutting	£132.00	Shelagh O'Loughlin	Plants for Planters	£25.35	EON	Street Lighting Connection	£547.20	Live & Local	Shindig Performance	£568.90	Proper Agency	Website May 2017	£30.00	Andrew Billau (Clerk)	Salary May / June (by SO)	£417.41	HMRC	Tax Payment May / June	£104.36	GR Mowing	Grass Cutting	£132.00	Andrew Billau (Clerk)	Expenses May / June 2017	£105.42	
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096.4/17	Councillors asked that the invoice from Npower for the UMS Parish Lighting Sensor (£203.18) be queried with them as it is unclear to what this relates and whether it is a WCC responsibility. Clerk to investigate.	Clerk
097/17 097.1/17 097.2/17	Correspondence Received The Clerk reported that he had received a request from the Citizens' Advice bureau for financial support from the Parish Council. Councillors agreed that as this did not directly benefit the Parish, they were not prepared to offer funding. The Clerk reported he had received a request from an allotment holder to have the entrance area cut back as it is overgrown with nettles and brambles. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should obtain quotes for the work and instruct the lowest quote supplier to carry out the work, a maximum amount for the work was agreed.	Clerk
098/17	Date of Next Meeting The next Parish Council meeting was agreed as Monday 17th July at 7.30pm. The meeting ended at 9.30pm	

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