

Cofton Hackett Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 17th October 2016

PRESENT:

Councillors:

Cllr Mr R Deeming (Chair)
Cllr Mrs J Fay (Vice Chair)
Cllr Mr R Westbury
Cllr Mr K Duncan
Cllr Ms W Birch

Clerk to the Parish Council:

Andrew Billau (AB)

Apologies:

Cllr Mrs J Webb

Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions	Action
087/16	Apologies Apologies were received from Cllr Webb and were accepted.	
088/16	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	
089/16	Dispensations There were no applications for dispensations received.	
090/16	Public Forum There were no members of the public in attendance.	
091/16	Reports from Outside Bodies / County Councillor There were no outside bodies in attendance.	

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092/16	<p>Co-option of Parish Councillor</p> <p>Ms Wendy Birch had expressed an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor and had completed the relevant application. Cllr Duncan proposed that Ms Birch be co-opted to the Parish Council, Cllr Westbury seconded and all were in favour. Ms Wendy Birch was therefore co-opted as Councillor to Cofton Hackett Parish Council. Ms Birch signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took her seat at the table.</p> <p>Councillors welcomed Cllr Birch to the Parish Council.</p>	
093/16	<p>Previous Minutes</p> <p>The minutes of the Meeting of the Council dated 19th September 2016 were agreed as a correct record, proposed by Cllr Westbury seconded by Cllr Duncan with all in favour.</p>	
094/16 094.1/16	<p>Chairman's Report</p> <p>Cllr Deeming spoke about the proposed traffic calming proposal in Groveley Lane which now consisted of psychological measures only, he reminded Councillors that St Modwen had contributed a sum of £115,000 to Worcestershire County Council towards a pedestrian crossing. Councillors agreed that they were unhappy that these funds are to be used for psychological measures only. Cllr Deeming proposed that the Parish Council send a strongly worded letter to WCC with copies to the District Councillor and MP requesting no work is carried out and that a public meeting be held. A deadline of 10 working days will be given for a response.</p> <p>Cllr Duncan and Cllr Fay to draft wording of the letter for circulation to all for comment.</p> <p>Cllr Fay pointed out that although the Council had been told that £115,000 was insufficient for a crossing, she believed that Alvechurch Parish Council had installed one at a cost of £30,000.</p>	Cllr Fay / Duncan
095/16 095.1/16	<p>Community Services</p> <p>Cllr Fay reported that the date for the Xmas Party has been changed to Sunday 4th December, the entertainer and caterers (Ridgeway) have been booked, Clerk to send confirmation letters. The Village Hall is booked, Clerk to email Cllr Webb for confirmation.</p> <p>A copy of the electoral register for Cofton Hackett has been obtained to help identify residents to be invited. The Curate has offered to assist in delivering invitations, these need to be delivered at least 1 month before the event. Councillors discussed decorations, refreshments and raffle prizes. There will be a cost of £5 per person, to be collected by the Clerk.</p>	Clerk
096/16 096.1/16 096.2/16 096.3/16	<p>Communications</p> <p>Cllr Westbury reminded Councillors that items for the Autumn Newsletter are required as soon as possible, he asked that Councillors send items to him no later than 28th October.</p> <p>In Cllr Webb's absence there was no update on the new noticeboard at Groveley Lane – differed to next meeting</p> <p>The Clerk reported that some Council Policies had been added to the website along with a link to Neighbourhood Plan Information.</p>	All Cllr Webb
097/16 097.1/16	<p>Highways and Bridges</p> <p>Cllr Fay reported that the scaffolding on the Bilberry Centre had been taken down again and she was unsure what work had been carried out. She said she planned to meet with the tenant there to discuss what, if anything, is planned.</p>	Cllr Fay

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097.2/16	The Clerk enquired if there is a speed activated sign on Barnt Green Road, Councillors said that there is one there and Cllr Westbury agreed to check if it was functioning correctly. Councillors discussed the Council's previous suggestion to extend the 30mph limit all the way into Barnt Green, which had not been implemented. Cllr Fay agreed to measure the distance between lamp posts on that stretch of road.	Cllr Westbury Cllr Fay
097.3/16	Councillors discussed Safer Roads Partnerships. Cllr Duncan reported that at the last Neighbourhood Watch meeting, John Campion, Police and Crime Commissioner, gave a talk on speedwatch and outlined plans to purchase 20 speedwatch kits. These need 3 or 4 trained people and can be used in designated places to record the speed of traffic with offenders reported to police. Councillors requested that the Clerk contact Tim Burling and Ian Connolly requesting training for Cofton Hackett residents with a copy to John Campion.	Clerk
097.4/16	The Clerk updated Councillors on work carried out by the lengthsman. Councillors requested that work starts on painting of cast iron road signs, Clerk to contact lengthsman.	Clerk
097.5/16	The Clerk reported that Cofton Spark had inspected the leaning lamp post at Ashmead Drive and found the base to be badly corroded and split. The suggestion is to replace the lamp post with a similar one and maybe make an insurance claim. Cllr Fay to obtain costs for a replacement lamp post, Clerk to investigate its removal or making safe.	Cllr Fay Clerk
097.6/16	Cllr Westbury reported two street lights remaining on all day on Barnt Green Road, Clerk to report these to WCC.	Clerk
097.7/16	Councillors discussed low energy street lighting following an email received by Cllr Fay.	
098/16	Environment	
098.1/16	The Clerk reported that there had been two positive responses from residents wishing to join the Myhill Field working party. It was agreed that an item be included in the next newsletter inviting interested residents to contact the Clerk.	
098.2/16	Cllr Fay reported that the proposed planters are £599 each, funds have been received for these from the New Homes Bonus. It was agreed to order 5 planters to be situated at entrances to the parish. Cllr Fay to send details of supplier etc to the Clerk.	Cllr Fay
098.3/16	Cllr Duncan has written to organisers of the Cross Country Run at Cofton Park in March 2017, seeking assurances that traffic and parking will be handled in the same way as last year. Response awaited.	
098.4/16	Councillors discussed the purchase of bulbs for planting around the Parish, it was agreed that a sum of £250 be set aside for this purpose.	
098.5/16	The Clerk reported that applications for the New Homes Grant were again open, Councillors agreed to make an application for 3 new benches as previously purchased to be situated on the Stocken. Clerk to prepare application.	Clerk
098.6/16	Clerk to progress Tesco Bags of Help Grant application for Myhill field funds.	Clerk
098.7/16	The clerk reported that he had chased the request for a litter bin near Cofton Fields play area but had no further update. Cllr Deeming agreed to progress this. Councillors requested that St Modwen also be consulted.	Cllr Deeming Clerk.
098.8/16	The Clerk reported that there had been one additional request to be placed on the waiting list for an allotment.	

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<p>099/16</p> <p>099.1/16</p> <p>099.2/16</p> <p>099.3/16</p>	<p>Planning</p> <p>Cllr Duncan reported that application 16/0932 had been received for internal alterations at Cofton Hall. It was agreed that Cllr Duncan and Cllr Fay would visit the site to consider the application.</p> <p>Cllr Duncan reported that he had written to St Modwen regarding the new Village Hall and had received a response. St Modwen have indicated that they plan to deliver the new Village Hall 'Subject to securing the necessary planning consents from Bromsgrove District Council for a viable residential development taking into matters surrounding affordable housing and public open space'. He reported that the new member of the working party is proving to be a great asset.</p> <p>Cllr Westbury reported that the Neighbourhood Plan open events had been well attended with probably 100 people attending. The questionnaires which were distributed are now being collated (expected back by 31st October) and there will be more iterations of the plan before the final draft.</p>	<p>Cllr Fay / Duncan</p>																					
<p>100/16</p> <p>100.1/16</p> <p>100.2/16</p> <p>100.3/16</p>	<p>Finance and General Purposes</p> <p>Request for financial assistance for garden machinery deferred to next meeting. Cllr Duncan agreed to meet with the resident involved to discuss.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that the External Audit report had been received and all was in order, invoice of £200 is expected from the auditors shortly.</p> <p>A list of bills for payment was circulated and agreed:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="288 1077 1219 1406"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Community First Village Hall Nwork</td> <td>Membership 3 Years</td> <td>£135.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cofton Hackett Village Hall</td> <td>Premises Hire June - September 2016</td> <td>£94.61</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nigel Williamson</td> <td>Lengthsman Duties</td> <td>£193.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andrew Billau (Clerk)</td> <td>Salary September / October</td> <td>£385.31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>Tax Payment September / October</td> <td>£96.33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andrew Billau (Clerk)</td> <td>Expenses September / October</td> <td>£53.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alvechurch Parish Council</td> <td>Councillor Training</td> <td>£40.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Community First Village Hall Nwork	Membership 3 Years	£135.00	Cofton Hackett Village Hall	Premises Hire June - September 2016	£94.61	Nigel Williamson	Lengthsman Duties	£193.50	Andrew Billau (Clerk)	Salary September / October	£385.31	HMRC	Tax Payment September / October	£96.33	Andrew Billau (Clerk)	Expenses September / October	£53.90	Alvechurch Parish Council	Councillor Training	£40.00	<p>Cllr Duncan</p>
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<p>101/16</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Next Parish Council meeting was agreed as Monday 21st November 2016 at 7.30pm.</p>																						