

Cofton Hackett Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 20th March 2017

PRESENT:

Councillors:

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

Apologies:

None

Clerk to the Parish Council:

Andrew Billau (AB)

Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions	Action
033/17	Apologies There were no apologies, all Councillors were in attendance.	
034/17	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	
035/17	Dispensations There were no applications for dispensations received.	
036/17	Public Forum There were 3 members of the public in attendance, Mr Slack and Mr and Mrs Pattison.	
037/17	Reports from Outside Bodies / County Councillor There were no outside bodies in attendance.	

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038/17	<p>Previous Minutes</p> <p>The minutes of the Meeting of the Council dated 20th February 2017 were agreed as a correct record, proposed by Cllr Westbury seconded by Cllr Duncan with all in favour.</p>	
039/17	<p>Chairman's Report</p> <p>Cllr Deeming reported that the Lickey Hills Society have produced a new booklet which includes references to Cofton and Waseley, this is available from them or from the visitor centre on Warren Lane for a cost of £5.</p> <p>Cllr Deeming reported that a first and second world war gun encampment had been discovered on Lickey Hills. A grant of £10,000 has been obtained from the lottery to allow the Historical Society to research it and produce information sources for the local community.</p>	
040/17	<p>Community Services</p> <p>Cllr Birch reported she had contacted potential alternative caterers for the Xmas party event and was planning to meet a representative from one of them at the Village Hall to look at facilities. This is planned for 12th April. Cllr Birch to liaise with Cllr Webb and the Clerk for access to the Village Hall.</p>	Cllr Birch
041/17 041.1/17 041.2/17 041.3/17 041.4/17	<p>Communications</p> <p>041.1/17 Cllr Westbury reported that the Spring Newsletter had been produced and deliveries were nearly complete. He is planning to produce the next Newsletter in May, after the Parish Assembly.</p> <p>041.2/17 Cllr Fryer reported that the new facebook page had been set up and there had been several visits to it so far. There is still work to do on allowing the Clerk and Councillors to post on the page. Cllr Duncan asked if the website was still being updated, the Clerk confirmed that it was and Cllr Fryer confirmed there will be links to it from the facebook page.</p> <p>041.3/17 Cllr Westbury reported that a 'Shindig' event had taken place the previous Saturday and was attended by 29 people with only 6 from the supporting parishes. He explained that quality performers normally costing in the region of £600 cost £260 under this arrangement. There will be another event on May 27th. The last event made small loss so a review will take place after the next one.</p> <p>041.4/17 The next public drop-in session will go ahead on Tuesday 21st March from 10am – 12 noon. The Clerk will be in attendance, no requests for Councillor appointments had been received so far.</p>	
042/17 042.1/17 024.2/17 042.3/17	<p>Highways and Bridges</p> <p>042.1/17 Cllr Fay reported that a letter from a local resident had appeared in the Standard, although much of it was complimentary it suggested that older lamp posts should be replaced and also complained about fallen leaves. The Clerk was asked to write to BDC regarding the leaves. Cllr Westbury suggested including a response in the next Newsletter.</p> <p>024.2/17 Councillors discussed the new entrance signs on Grovely Lane. Members of the public queried why the flashing speed sign was placed where it is and suggested alternative positions for it.</p> <p>042.3/17 Cllr Fay reported that the side of the Bilberry Centre and the Coach House had not yet been painted due to lack of funds. Councillors agreed that appearance of the Bilberry Centre was much improved.</p>	Clerk

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042.4/17	<u>Street Lighting</u>	
042.4.1/17	The Clerk reported that the replacement post for 54 Ashmead Drive is due to be delivered in the first week of April.	
042.4.2/17	The Clerk reported that posts 6, 7 and 8 on Cofton Church Lane have had power restored to them and post 7 has been straightened. The electrician will complete the work there in the next few days.	
042.4.3/17	The Clerk reported that post 70 on Groveley Lane, rear of Oak Tree pub was awaiting repairs to the wiring by Western Power which was planned for the current week.	
042.5/17	Councillors discussed work carried out by the lengthsman, WCC funds have been used up for this year. Cllr Fay was asked to determine which jobs still needed to be done and which could be delayed until next financial year. Councillors asked if the drains at the junction of Oakfield Drive and Parsonage Drive could be checked, Clerk to ask lengthsman.	Cllr Fay Clerk
042.6/17	Councillors asked if there had been progress on the replacement street signs, the Clerk reported difficulties contacting the person responsible at BDC. Clerk to chase.	Clerk
042.7/17	Councillors discussed the service charge applied to houses on the new development. The Clerk was asked to write to St Modwen to ascertain what is covered by the service charge.	Clerk
043/17	Environment	
043.1/17	The Clerk reported he had not yet received a response from BDC regarding the location of the bins which are being charged for and would follow up again.	Clerk
043.2/17	Councillor Westbury reported that now that Cllr Birch was available, the Myhill Field working party will meet soon. Funds are ring-fenced for the improvement works.	
043.3/17	The Clerk reported there was one outstanding payment for allotment rentals, a reminder has been sent and payment is awaited.	
043.4/17	The Clerk reported that he had still not received a date for the Play Area Inspection and will follow this up.	Clerk
043.5/17	The Clerk reported that he had requested and received 3 quotes for grass cutting on Myhill Field and Rose Hill Island. The quotes were £34 per cut, £55 per cut and £110 per cut. Councillors agreed that Hosking Ground Maintenance be awarded the contract but asked that the grass on the play area be cut right up to the edges including up to the hedge, Councillors will check the work once in progress.	
043.6/17	Councillors discussed the condition of the Chestnut Tree at the entrance to the Stocken. It was agreed to ask Paul Yates tree surgeon to inspect and provide advice on what needs to be done and to provide a quote before the next meeting.	Clerk
043.7/17	Cllr Duncan reported he had responded to an email from Karen Chiles at network rail regarding unsafe Ash Trees on the plantation near the railway. These have now been removed by Network Rail due to health and safety issues.	
043.8/17	Members of the public asked about the condition of some of the trees on Cofton Park, Cllr Deeming agreed to speak with the Senior Ranger about this.	Cllr Deeming
043.9/17	Members of the public asked about the bollards on the new estate at Shadow Close / Aero Way which are preventing access to other roads, Clerk to write to St Modwen's.	Clerk

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<p>044/17</p> <p>044.1/17</p> <p>044.2/17</p> <p>044.3/17</p>	<p>Planning</p> <p>044.1/17 Cllr Duncan reported that 17/0050, a revised application for an extension at 33 Reservoir Road had been received, it was agreed that as it is such a large extension it should be referred to the BDC planning committee.</p> <p>044.2/17 Cllr Duncan reported that application 17/0160 had been received for 9 flagpoles, presumably on the new development. Cllr Duncan will follow up.</p> <p>044.3/17 Cllr Duncan reported that the Council had not yet responded on the application for the New Village Hall. There had been a few complaints to the application, Cllr Duncan will speak with these residents before writing to the District Council.</p>	<p>Cllr Deeming</p> <p>Cllr Duncan</p> <p>Cllr Duncan</p>																											
<p>045/17</p> <p>045.1/17</p> <p>045.2/17</p>	<p>Finance and General Purposes</p> <p>045.1/17 Cllr Duncan reported that he had met with Mr Harrington regarding the maintenance of the access area to the sewage works allotments. Mr Harrington has purchased a new mower and continues to maintain the area on behalf of the Parish Council. It was noted that Mr Harrington is not charged annual rental for his allotment, however Councillors discussed an ex gratia payment to Mr Harrington. Cllr Westbury proposed that an amount of £50 be paid to Mr Harrington toward maintenance of his equipment, this was seconded by Cllr Duncan with all in favour. Clerk to arrange.</p> <p>045.2/17 A list of bills for payment was circulated and agreed:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="300 1081 1286 1451"> <thead> <tr> <th>Supplier</th> <th>Services</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Lickey and Blackwell PC</td> <td>Kirkwells NP Consultancy (Share of)</td> <td>£736.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lickey Parish Hall</td> <td>Hire of Hall for Shindig Event</td> <td>£120.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nigel Williamson</td> <td>Lengthsman Duties</td> <td>£228.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Proper Agency</td> <td>Website February 2017</td> <td>£30.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Heron Press</td> <td>Newsletter Spring 2017</td> <td>£255.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andrew Billau (Clerk)</td> <td>Salary February / March 2017 (By SO)</td> <td>£417.41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>Tax Payment February / March 2017</td> <td>£83.48</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andrew Billau (Clerk)</td> <td>Expenses February / March 2017</td> <td>£41.30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Supplier	Services	Total	Lickey and Blackwell PC	Kirkwells NP Consultancy (Share of)	£736.00	Lickey Parish Hall	Hire of Hall for Shindig Event	£120.00	Nigel Williamson	Lengthsman Duties	£228.00	Proper Agency	Website February 2017	£30.00	Heron Press	Newsletter Spring 2017	£255.00	Andrew Billau (Clerk)	Salary February / March 2017 (By SO)	£417.41	HMRC	Tax Payment February / March 2017	£83.48	Andrew Billau (Clerk)	Expenses February / March 2017	£41.30	<p>Clerk</p>
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<p>046/17</p>	<p>Correspondence Received</p> <p>The Clerk reported he had received a number of proposals for events a Cofton Park, these were discussed and Councillors agreed they had no objections.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>																											
<p>047/17</p>	<p>AOB</p> <p>None</p>																												
<p>048/17</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Next Parish Council meeting was agreed as Monday 10th April at 7.30pm.</p> <p>The meeting ended at 9.15pm</p>																												