

Cofton Hackett Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 18th December 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 Mr M Pattison
 Cllr Mr J Slack
 Cllr Ms W Birch

Apologies:

None

Clerk to the Parish Council:

Andrew Billau (AB)

Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions	Action
159/17	Apologies There were no apologies, all Councillors were in attendance.	
160/17	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 	
161/17	Dispensations There were no applications for dispensations received.	
162/17	Public Forum There were no members of the public in attendance,	

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163/17	<p>Reports from Outside Bodies / County Councillor</p> <p>There were no outside bodies in attendance.</p>	
164/17	<p>Previous Minutes</p> <p>The minutes of the Meeting of the Council dated 20th November were agreed as a correct record, proposed by Cllr Westbury seconded by Cllr Duncan with all in favour.</p>	
<p>165/17</p> <p>165.1/17</p> <p>165.2/17</p>	<p>Chairman's Report</p> <p>Cllr Deeming reported that he was unsure how many new homes had been built towards the target of 100 which would trigger the release of 106 monies. Cllr Pattison suggested that these new builds had not yet started although there has been much activity with ground preparation.</p> <p>Councillors discussed construction traffic still entering via Parsonage Drive, Cllr Deeming suggested retrieving the 'No Construction Traffic' sign from the suite office and placing it at the entrance to Parsonage Drive.</p>	
<p>166/17</p> <p>166.1/17</p> <p>166.2/17</p> <p>166.3/17</p> <p>166.4/17</p> <p>166.6/17</p>	<p>Community Services</p> <p>Cllr Deeming thanked Cllrs Fryer and Fay for their efforts in ensuring the Seniors' Xmas party went ahead as planned despite some challenging last minute issues with the entertainer, receipt of monies and party numbers. Despite this the party was seen to be a success. Councillors agreed that in future more than 1 Councillor, or a small working party, should arrange the party. This will be discussed again around September 2018.</p> <p>Cllr Duncan reported that he had attended a meeting of Neighbourhood Watch where it was reported that there has been high demand for Smartwater Kits and consequently stocks had run out, this will therefore be deferred until into the New Year. He also reported on a reduction in police resources, PC Tim Burling will not be replaced when he retires so the area will be left with one PC and there will be only one PCSO between Hagley and Alvechurch. Cllr Duncan suggested the Parish Council should write to the police authorities expressing the Council's concerns. Cllr Duncan to prepare wording of a letter for the Clerk to send.</p> <p>Cllr Webb reported there had been insufficient time to prepare the specification for refurbishment of the old village hall and would revisit this for the next meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Duncan reported he had received a letter from Chris Newsome at St Modwen regarding preparations for the building of the new village hall, there is to be a meeting with St Modwen on 15th January. Cllr Duncan to report back to the Parish Council at next meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Slack reminded Councillors that the Parish Council must demonstrate transparency to its parishioners and should have a written policy on the plans, proposals and status regarding the old and new village hall. Councillors discussed the proposals and it was agreed that more will be known after then meeting with St Modwen on the 15th January. It was also agreed that there must be a committee for the new village hall which is independent of the Parish Council.</p>	<p>Cllr Duncan</p> <p>Cllr Webb</p> <p>Cllr Duncan</p>

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<p>167/17</p> <p>167.1/17</p> <p>167.2/17</p>	<p>Communications</p> <p>Cllr Westbury reported that he will be producing the Winter Newsletter in the new year and asked Councillors to submit their items to him before the end of January. The Clerk reminded Councillors that there are 200 wheelie bin 30mph stickers to distribute along with the newsletter. Cllr Slack suggested that the newsletter should include a request for seniors within the parish to make themselves known to the Clerk (should they wish).</p> <p>Cllr Westbury reported that the Facebook page continues to receive good feedback, recent items on the Myhill field refurb and grit bins had been well received.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>168/17</p> <p>168.1/17</p> <p>168.2/17</p> <p>168.3/17</p> <p>168.4/17</p> <p>168.5/17</p> <p>168.6/17</p>	<p>Highways and Bridges</p> <p>Cllr Fay reported that she and Cllr Pattison had checked grit bins in the parish and arranged for them to be filled, she said she was disappointed that some parishioners had used much of the grit to clear their own entrances and left very little grit for the roads. Cllr Pattison reported that the Cofton Fields area has no grit bins but that St Modwen have promised to supply some. Cllr Pattison to monitor.</p> <p>Cllr Fryer reported she had contacted a contractor who may be interested in filling the lengthsman position, he has not yet contacted the Clerk, Cllr Fryer to remind him.</p> <p>Cllr Fay to chase Matthew Mead regarding replacement street signs.</p> <p>Cllr Fay reported that the damaged street light at the rear of the Oak Tree pub had at last been replaced and reconnected. However the light unit on the post still needs installation. Cllr Fay to call Steve Hopkins. The Clerk reported that the connection charge from Western Power was significantly lower than their estimate as the connection point proved to be nearer the post than was envisaged.</p> <p>Councillors asked for the following street lighting items to be reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 x unlit on Barnt Green Road (Councillors to advise post numbers) - Concrete at base of light in Barnt Green Rd (Cllr Birch to advise post number) <p>Cllr Fay reported that she had been working on a publication on timetables for buses in the Parish. Councillors were unsure as to the benefit of such a document and stated that this information is readily available on the internet. Councillors suggested timetables could be left in the Post Office, or maybe made available at the monthly Clerk's drop-in session at the village hall.</p>	<p>Cllr Pattison</p> <p>Cllr Fryer</p> <p>Cllr Fay</p> <p>Cllr Fay</p>
<p>169/17</p> <p>169.1/17</p> <p>169.2/17</p> <p>169.3/17</p> <p>169.4/17</p>	<p>Environment</p> <p>Cllr Westbury reported that the installation of the play equipment at the Myhill Field play area was now complete and there have been a number of positive comments received on Facebook, here have been no adverse comments</p> <p>Cllr Deeming reported that 106 monies have been set aside to carry out refurbishment at the allotment site, to include a new, more secure, storage unit. Councillors suggested placement of a new storage unit would be difficult due to access issues. Cllr Slack offered to contact a supplier of storage units for advice and potential costs.</p> <p>Cllr Slack asked if there was a list available of the proposed expenditure from the expected 106 monies. Cllr Deeming to supply a list.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that the allotments lawnmower is covered under the Parish</p>	<p>Cllr Slack</p> <p>Cllr Deeming</p>

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169.5/17	<p>Council's insurance policy, an amount of approx. £400 could be claimed, but there is an excess of £250. Councillors agreed to defer this item and hold off making a claim for now.</p> <p>The Clerk reported he had been unable to meet with potential new allotment holders due to the weather conditions and would rearrange a meeting shortly.</p>	Clerk																																							
170/17 170.1/17 170.2/17 170.3/17	<p>Planning</p> <p>Cllr Duncan reported that the application for a new dwelling at 16 Cofton Church Lane had been refused by the planning department.</p> <p>Cllr Duncan reported on application 17/01273 for a large extension at 36 Reservoir Road. Councillors discussed the application and agreed that they wished to ask for it to be called in by the planning department.</p> <p>Cllr Duncan reported that he planned to visit the site of application 17/01133 at 17 Cofton Lake Rd.</p>	Cllr Duncan																																							
171/17 171.1/17 171.2/17	<p>Finance and General Purposes</p> <p>Cllr Webb reminded Councillors that they need to submit suggestions for expenditure in 2018/19. Cllr Westbury noted that a number of suggestions from Councillors had been received already and asked that a summary of proposals be put together. Cllr Webb asked that some costings be added to the proposals already submitted. Councillors discussed the precept amount and application and Parish Council reserves. Cllrs Slack and Webb to meet to discuss.</p> <p>A list of bills for payment was circulated and agreed:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="300 1234 1273 1771"> <thead> <tr> <th>Supplier</th> <th>Services</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Poppy Sisters - S Goddard</td> <td>Xmas Party Entertainers</td> <td>£150.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cofton Church</td> <td>Grant for Churchyard Maintenance</td> <td>£500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cofton Spark</td> <td>Painting of Swings, Myhill Field</td> <td>£280.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GJH Electrical Services</td> <td>Xmas Tee Lights</td> <td>£300.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cofton Spark</td> <td>Street Lighting</td> <td>£100.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cofton Spark</td> <td>Street Lighting</td> <td>£100.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lucy Toogood</td> <td>Carol Service Expenses</td> <td>£98.72</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andrew Billau (Clerk)</td> <td>Salary Nov / Dec (by SO)</td> <td>£421.58</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>Tax Payment October / November</td> <td>£105.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andrew Billau (Clerk)</td> <td>Expenses September / October</td> <td>£79.72</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Western Power Distribution</td> <td>Post 70 Groveley Lane Connection</td> <td>£1,879.33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Proper Agency</td> <td>Website November</td> <td>£30.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Supplier	Services	Amount	Poppy Sisters - S Goddard	Xmas Party Entertainers	£150.00	Cofton Church	Grant for Churchyard Maintenance	£500.00	Cofton Spark	Painting of Swings, Myhill Field	£280.00	GJH Electrical Services	Xmas Tee Lights	£300.00	Cofton Spark	Street Lighting	£100.70	Cofton Spark	Street Lighting	£100.70	Lucy Toogood	Carol Service Expenses	£98.72	Andrew Billau (Clerk)	Salary Nov / Dec (by SO)	£421.58	HMRC	Tax Payment October / November	£105.40	Andrew Billau (Clerk)	Expenses September / October	£79.72	Western Power Distribution	Post 70 Groveley Lane Connection	£1,879.33	Proper Agency	Website November	£30.00	All Cllrs Webb / Slack
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172/17	<p>Correspondence Received</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>																																								
173/17	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p>																																								

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	<p>The date of the December 2018 meeting was agreed as Monday December 10th 2018</p> <p>The next Parish Council meeting was agreed as Monday 15th January 2018 at 7.30pm.</p> <p>The meeting ended at 9.25pm</p>	