

# Cofton Hackett Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April 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

#### Invited:

Sally Oldacre – The Village Magazine

#### Clerk to the Parish Council:

Andrew Billau (AB)

Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions	Action
049/17	<b>Apologies</b> There were no apologies, all Councillors were in attendance.	
050/17	<b>Declaration of Interests</b> Register of Interests: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests.</li><li>• To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.</li><li>• To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.</li><li>• 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.</li><li>• 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.</li><li>• Interests were recorded in the Register</li></ul>	
051/17	<b>Dispensations</b> There were no applications for dispensations received.	
052/17	<b>Public Forum</b> There were no members of the public in attendance, however Sally Oldacre from The Village Magazine attended.	

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion and Decisions</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>053/17</b>	<p><b>Reports from Outside Bodies / County Councillor</b></p> <p>Cllr Deeming, in his role as Chair of the Planning Committee, reported on the recent planning meeting to consider the hybrid application 16/1085 for Outline Permission for 150 homes and full permission for a New Village Hall on the Longbridge East site.</p> <p>Cllr Fryer had attended as a resident and had raised serious concerns regarding the speed of traffic around the Groveley Lane / Low Hill Lane junction and this would only become worse with the building of 300 extra dwellings. Councillors recalled that traffic surveys indicated there was no requirement for a traffic island at East Works Drive and all reiterated that they felt the traffic calming measures at Groveley Lane will be unsuccessful. Cllr Deeming also said that a suggestion to install measures similar to those in place at Alvechurch was rejected.</p> <p>Cllr Duncan noted that the original outline plan for 750 dwellings included surveys for schools and NHS facilities and that planning permission was given on the understanding that those were taken into consideration.</p> <p>Cllr Deeming reported that the application was deferred and it had been suggested that Section 106 funds of £200k proposed for Birmingham City Council should instead be allocated to Cofton Hackett Parish Council. Councillors discussed possible improvement works to be funded by S106 and suggested</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Refurbishment of the Stocken Bridleway to bring up to the proper standard</li> <li>- Creation of proper access to the old sewage works allotments site and groundwork for the allotments</li> <li>- Improvement of the access to the allotments at Myhill field (Chestnut Drive)</li> <li>- Improvement to drainage at the Myhill field allotments</li> <li>- Complete refurbishment of the under 8s play area at Myhill field</li> <li>- Reinstatement of the footpath across the railway</li> </ul> <p>Clerk to respond to the planning officer.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>054/17</b>	<p><b>Previous Minutes</b></p> <p>The minutes of the Meeting of the Council dated 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017 were agreed as a correct record, proposed by Cllr Westbury seconded by Cllr Duncan with all in favour.</p>	
<b>055/17</b>	<p><b>Chairman's Report</b></p> <p>Cllr Deeming's report was covered by item 053/17.</p>	
<b>056/17</b>	<p><b>Community Services</b></p> <p>Cllr Birch reported she had now spoken with a potential alternative caterer, based in Solihull, for the Xmas party event and was planning to meet a representative at the Village Hall to look at facilities. This is planned for 12<sup>th</sup> April. Cllr Birch reported indicated costs and possible menus which were welcomed by Councillors.</p>	<b>Cllr Birch</b>
<b>057/17</b>	<p><b>Communications</b></p> <p>057.1/17 Cllr Westbury reported that the new facebook page was being used with approximately 40 people now following. Cllr Fryer is working on allowing Councillors and Clerk to post items.</p> <p>057.2/17 Cllr Westbury reported that the Summer Newsletter will be produced following the Parish Assembly on 15<sup>th</sup> May.</p> <p>057.3/17 The flyer advertising the Parish Assembly needs to be produced and printed for distribution. Clerk to prepare similar to last year's but to include Senior Ranger. Clerk to confirm his</p>	

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion and Decisions</b>	<b>Action</b>
057.4/17	attendance first.  The Clerk asked if Councillors wished to continue with the public drop-in sessions, three have been held so far resulting in only one member of the public visiting. It was agreed that a further session will be held in June, after distribution of the next newsletter. The session should also be advertised on Facebook and in the local newspapers if possible.	<b>Clerk</b>  <b>Clerk</b>
057.5/17	Cllr Westbury reported that the Kel Elliot 'Shindig' event had taken place on March 18 <sup>th</sup> and was attended by 29 people with only 6 from the supporting parishes, resulting in a loss of £159 shared between the two parishes. Some drinks which had been purchased have been held back for the next event which should reduce the loss. The next event on May 27 <sup>th</sup> is Martin Harley, tickets are selling well and it is expected to recoup the loss.	
<b>058/17</b>	<b>Highways and Bridges</b>	
058.1/17	Cllr Fay reported that the side of the Bilberry Centre and the Coach House had not yet been painted due to lack of funds.	
058.2/17	Cllr Fay asked if the lengthsman could paint the railings on Groveley Lane, Clerk to instruct lengthsman.	<b>Clerk</b>
058.3/17	<u>Street Lighting</u>	
058.3.1/17	The Clerk reported that Western Power had attended post 70 on Groveley Lane, rear of Oak Tree pub and have reported the post requires replacing before reconnection can be carried out. Councillors agreed to replace it with another similar to the one being supplied at Ashmead Drive, providing the cost was below £1,500. Clerk to action.	<b>Clerk</b>
058.3.2/17	The Clerk expressed frustration at the length of time taken to supply the replacement lamp post at 54 Ashmead Drive and lack of response from the supplier. Cllr Fay agreed to contact the supplier.	<b>Cllr Fay</b>
058.3.3/17	Posts 6,7,8 at Cofton Church Lane have now been reconnected and repaired.	
058.3.4/17	It was agreed to contact Councillor McDonald regarding the lamp posts in Barnt Green Road.	<b>Clerk</b>
058.4/17	Cllr Fay reported that the replacement street signs for Oakfield Drive and Parsonage Drive have now been ordered.	
058.5/17	Cllr Duncan expressed disappointment at the standard of work and timekeeping of Ridgway contractors on the Groveley Lane Traffic calming scheme, with poor quality of installation and the site being left very untidy. This was noted.	
<b>059/17</b>	<b>Environment</b>	
059.1/17	The Clerk reported he had still not received a response from BDC regarding the location of the bins which are being charged for, he reported he has spoken to BDC Finance and informed them he will withhold payment until a satisfactory response has been received.	<b>Clerk</b>
059.2/17	Cllr Westbury reported that a meeting of the Myhill Field Play Area working party had been held which went quite well. Councillors discussed the potential replacement equipment and to ensure it was suitable for the under 8s. Cllr Westbury will now obtain quotes from suppliers.	<b>Cllr Westbury</b>
059.3/17	The Clerk reported that all allotment rental payments had now been received.	

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion and Decisions</b>	<b>Action</b>																										
059.4/17	The Myhill Field Play Area inspection has been completed and a report produced. Cllr Birch received the report for attention.	<b>Clerk</b>  <b>Cllr Duncan</b>																										
059.5/17	The Clerk reported that Paul Yates, tree surgeon, has been asked to inspect the Chestnut Tree at the Stocken and was due to report back today. Clerk to follow up. Cllr Westbury suggested that when the tree is attended to, any damaged fence panels should be replaced by the Parish Council.																											
059.6/17	Cllr Duncan reported that there is a need to measure the area of the Myhill field allotments, for open space reporting purposes, Cllr Duncan to arrange.																											
059.7/17	The Clerk reported that the grass cutting on the play area and Rose Hill Island had commenced and will be every fortnight on Wednesdays, Councillors were pleased with the cutting so far.																											
<b>060/17</b>	<b>Planning</b>																											
060.1/17	Cllr Duncan reported that application 17/0160 for 9 flagpoles, presumably on the new development, was no longer showing on the system.																											
060.2/17	Cllr Duncan reported that the application for a large extension at 33 Reservoir Road had been permitted.																											
<b>061/17</b>	<b>Finance and General Purposes</b>	<b>Clerk</b>																										
061.1/17	The Clerk reported he had received a phone call from Mr Harrington regarding the payment of £50 towards maintenance of his gardening equipment, Mr Harrington had said he was disappointed with the amount offered. The cheque has not yet been cashed.																											
061.2/17	Councillors discussed the volunteer litter picker, it was noted he has not asked for payment, even when offered by the Parish Council.																											
061.3/17	The Clerk reported he had received the documentation from Grant Thornton for the annual audit for 2016/17. Councillors agreed to engage Bill Robinson to perform the internal audit. Cllr Webb asked the Clerk to ensure that the Mission Hall is included in the insurance policy.																											
061.4/17	A list of bills for payment was circulated and agreed: <table border="1" data-bbox="296 1529 1289 1921"> <thead> <tr> <th>Supplier</th> <th>Services</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Live &amp; Local</td> <td>Shindig Performance</td> <td>£270.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cofton Spark</td> <td>Street Lighting</td> <td>£494.08</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GR Mowing</td> <td>Grass Cutting</td> <td>£66.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Playsafety Ltd - ROSPA</td> <td>Play Area Inspection</td> <td>£79.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andrew Billau (Clerk)</td> <td>Salary March / April (by SO)</td> <td>£417.41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>Tax Payment Match / April</td> <td>£104.35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>Tax Underpayment from Previous Month</td> <td>£20.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andrew Billau (Clerk)</td> <td>Expenses March / April</td> <td>£36.39</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Supplier	Services	Total	Live & Local	Shindig Performance	£270.00	Cofton Spark	Street Lighting	£494.08	GR Mowing	Grass Cutting	£66.00	Playsafety Ltd - ROSPA	Play Area Inspection	£79.80	Andrew Billau (Clerk)	Salary March / April (by SO)	£417.41	HMRC	Tax Payment Match / April	£104.35	HMRC	Tax Underpayment from Previous Month	£20.00	Andrew Billau (Clerk)	Expenses March / April
Supplier	Services	Total																										
Live & Local	Shindig Performance	£270.00																										
Cofton Spark	Street Lighting	£494.08																										
GR Mowing	Grass Cutting	£66.00																										
Playsafety Ltd - ROSPA	Play Area Inspection	£79.80																										
Andrew Billau (Clerk)	Salary March / April (by SO)	£417.41																										
HMRC	Tax Payment Match / April	£104.35																										
HMRC	Tax Underpayment from Previous Month	£20.00																										
Andrew Billau (Clerk)	Expenses March / April	£36.39																										

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion and Decisions</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>062/17</b>	<b>Correspondence Received</b> None to report.	
<b>063/17</b>  063.1/17  063.2/17  063.3/17  063.4/17  063.5/17	<b>AOB</b>  Cllr Westbury suggested the installation of a defibrillator in the old phone kiosk on Groveley Lane, it was suggested the cost may be in the region of £2,000 but there may be grants available from the British Heart Foundation, It was agreed to include as an item in the next agenda.  Councillors discussed the occurrence of bonfires being lit by residents during the day time and asked if there were any by-laws concerning this, Clerk to investigate.  Cllr Fay suggested that the planters now need replanting, Cllr Westbury replied that this is in hand.  Cllr Fryer noted that the 47 Bus no longer stops at the entrance to East Works Drive, Clerk to contact Centro to investigate.  The Clerk reported that Cofton Spark had asked if Councillors wished them to quote for painting yellow bands on all lamp posts (to assist visually impaired) and to repaint all lamp posts. Councillors wished to thank him for the suggestion but agreed not to pursue the work. Clerk to inform Cofton Spark.	  <b>Clerk</b>    <b>Clerk</b>    <b>Clerk</b>    <b>Clerk</b>
<b>064/17</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b> Next Parish Council meeting was agreed as <b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm – this will be the Parish Assembly.</b>  <b>The meeting ended at 9.05pm</b>	