

Cllr Westbury advised the Council that the next Shindig event at the Trinity Centre would be held on Saturday 5 March and would be a comedy evening. All Councillors were urged to attend and to help with ticket sales. It was agreed that the finances for the next event would go through the CHPC books as Lickey and Blackwell had performed this function for the last event. This had showed a surplus of £43.

Cllr McQuaid advised that he was making slow but solid progress with the next Guide to Cofton Hackett and is contacting all local businesses with a view to their taking advertising in the guide.

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES

Cllr Webb reported that there had been no communication from the Parish Lengthsman and that there were jobs to be done. She undertook to contact the Lengthsman to see if he wished to continue in the role.

Cllr Webb reported that it had not been possible to instal the replacement lamppost for Oakfield Drive/Parsonage Drive due to a car being permanently parked on the site. This would be pursued by Cllr Duncan.

The Council noted that residents had been pleased with the tidying up work carried out on the Myhill Field.

The Council agreed that the proposed new benches should be either dark red or green, and it was suggested that these should match the new bench recently installed on The Stocken. (Cllr Westbury has since checked and the bench is dark green). Expenditure of £3300 incl VAT for the new benches was approved by the Council.

The Council agreed that the present location of the terminus for the 47 bus on Groveley Lane, very close to the Rednal Island was dangerous. Cllr Deeming advised that this had been communicated to National Express who were considering moving the terminus back to its original location opposite Parsonage Drive. Another meeting with National Express has been scheduled for April.

ENVIRONMENT

Cllr Webb agreed to obtain quotations for work to tidy up Rednal Island.

Cllr McQuaid advised that mole traps had been installed on Myhill Field and to date one mole had been caught. The Field was due to be re-opened by February 19th

Front gardens Competition - deferred to next year.

PLANNING

Cllr Duncan advised that the application by St Modwen Homes for 41 dwellings to be erected on the East Works site had now been passed. He reported that two planning applications relating to 528 Groveley Lane had also been approved.

A revised application for an extension at 5 Private Way had been submitted to the District Council and the Parish Council agreed that it had no objection to this proposal.

The Council noted that County Cllr McDonald had advised that proposed traffic calming measures on Groveley Lane should be implemented in the next Financial Year 2016/17

The Council discussed the proposals received from Network Rail regarding the closure of the railway crossing on footpaths CH520 and BG500. The Council agreed that a footbridge rather than the lengthy diversions was their preferred option and Cllr Duncan agreed to draft a response to Network Rail to this effect. The Council noted that County Cllr McDonald had agreed to pursue the repairs to potholes in Chestnut Drive.

The Council discussed the extension of the 30mph speed limit on Barnt Green Road/Kendal End Road to a point just beyond the Cofton Church Lane junction. While welcoming this proposal, the Council thought that the speed limit should be extended along Kendal End Road right through to Barnt Green. Cllr Duncan agreed to submit a response along these lines.

Cllr Duncan informed the meeting that the national Cross Country Championships would once again be held in Cofton Park, this year on March 12th. He advised that G4S had been contracted to control parking and road closures for this event.

Cllr Duncan stated that a meeting had been held with St Modwen and their architects to discuss the specification for the proposed new Village Hall on the East Works site and that outline plans were now being drawn up.

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES

It was proposed by Cllr Duncan, seconded by Cllr Westbury and agreed by all to pay the following bills:

	£
Cofton Spark	549.92
Cofton Spark	161.96
Jennifer Webb	33.98
Yates Tree Surgeons	500.00
Yates Tree Surgeons	420.00
CH Village Hall	233.26 + VAT 46.65
GJH Elec Services	250 + VAT 50.00
R Deeming - flowers	28.99
Village Hall chairs	2283.89 +VAT 456.78 (£2000 of this to be reclaimed from BDC)

COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:

All outstanding and deferred items to be included on next agenda

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

None received

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was resolved to hold the next Parish Council Meeting on Monday 21st March 2016 at 7.30pm. Cllr Westbury presented his apologies for this meeting.

The meeting closed at 9:25p.m.

..... Chairman