

Cofton Hackett Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 21st February 2022

Held at Cofton Village Hall, Cofton Hackett

PRESENT:

Councillors:

Cllr Mr R Westbury (Chair)

Cllr Mr J Slack

Cllr Mrs J Fay

Cllr Mr M Pattison

Cllr Mr R Deeming

Cllr Mr N Banyard

Cllr Mr L McGarry

Cllr Mrs J Webb

Clerk to the Parish Council:

Andrew Billau

APOLOGIES:

Cllr Mr G Cook

Also in Attendance:

5 Members of the public

Agenda Item	Discussion and Decisions	Action
016/22	Apologies Apologies were received from Cllr Cook (illness), these were accepted.	
017/22	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 noted to be recorded in the Register	

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018/22	Dispensations There were no applications for dispensations received.	
019/22	Public Forum There were 5 members of the public in attendance.	
019.1/22	Residents from Groveley Lane spoke about Transport for West Midlands' proposal to move the terminus for the 27 service to outside the Village Hall, to alleviate issues of buses stopping outside their homes. They suggested that the stop outside their homes should be removed, as passengers often drop litter and cause a nuisance. Councillors remarked that there had always been a stop at that point and that TfWM had responded to resident's complaints and had tried to address the issues raised. It was agreed that the Clerk would send another email to TfWM raising the residents' concerns.	Clerk
019.2/22	Two residents asked if it would be possible to fly their national flag (Norwegian) on their national day (May 17 th). Councillors said they would be happy to support this, Clerk to contact flag flyer.	Clerk
020/22	Reports from Outside Bodies / County Councillor There were no outside bodies in attendance.	
021/22	Previous Minutes The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council dated 17 th January 2022 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.	
022/22	Chairman's Report There was nothing additional to report which was not covered on the agenda.	
023/22	Finance and General Purposes	
023.1/22	Councillors considered the annual report for Cofton Hackett Village Hall which had been circulated during the month. Councillors asked for details of accounts to be circulated for consideration. Cllr Webb to supply accounts.	Cllr Webb
023.2/22	The Clerk reported he had met with a surveying company to look at requirements to secure the bank behind the Mission Hall. He advised that an outline report had been received with indications that the costs of securing the bank could amount to approximately £25,000. Cllr Slack suggested that the Council has a duty of care to ensure the safety of tenants in the building and that the Council had been receiving rental from the building for many years. Cllr McGarry suggested that the Council contact other companies who may be able to carry out this work direct. Clerk to circulate surveyors report to Councillors. Clerk to request evidence of boiler service from tenants, as per their rental agreement.	Clerk Clerk
023.3/22	The Clerk advised that all the allotment rental demands for 2022 had been sent out and all have now been paid. We still need to address the overgrown tree at Plot 11 on the Old Sewage Works Site, Clerk is meeting contractor there on March 3 rd .	Clerk

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023.4/22	The Clerk reported that the Council had been awarded a grant of £500 from the Tesco Bags of Help scheme, towards improvement of the play area.																																		
023.5/22	The Clerk presented an update on the current budget vs expenditure. Spend on street lighting electricity is exceeding budget and spend on street light maintenance is now exceeding budget. He pointed out that there are several underspent budget lines.																																		
023.6/22	<p>A list of bills for payment, circulated before the meeting, was presented and agreed.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="316 555 1254 999"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="316 555 571 600">Supplier</th> <th data-bbox="571 555 1066 600">Services</th> <th data-bbox="1066 555 1254 600">Payment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 600 571 645">Drax (Haven Power)</td> <td data-bbox="571 600 1066 645">Street Lighting Sensor Electricity</td> <td data-bbox="1066 600 1254 645">£10.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 645 571 689">Cofton Spark</td> <td data-bbox="571 645 1066 689">Street Light Maintenance</td> <td data-bbox="1066 645 1254 689">£1,015.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 689 571 734">Proper Agency</td> <td data-bbox="571 689 1066 734">Website Maintenance</td> <td data-bbox="1066 689 1254 734">£30.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 734 571 779">Cofton Spark</td> <td data-bbox="571 734 1066 779">Street Light Maintenance</td> <td data-bbox="1066 734 1254 779">£441.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 779 571 824">Andrew Billau (Clerk)</td> <td data-bbox="571 779 1066 824">Padlock for Allotment Gates</td> <td data-bbox="1066 779 1254 824">£29.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 824 571 869">Gary Haynes</td> <td data-bbox="571 824 1066 869">Rubbish Disposal and Bolts</td> <td data-bbox="1066 824 1254 869">£13.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 869 571 913">Gary Haynes</td> <td data-bbox="571 869 1066 913">Lengthsman Services</td> <td data-bbox="1066 869 1254 913">£300.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 913 571 958">Andrew Billau (Clerk)</td> <td data-bbox="571 913 1066 958">Office Costs January / February 2022</td> <td data-bbox="1066 913 1254 958">£61.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 958 571 1003">Andrew Billau (Clerk)</td> <td data-bbox="571 958 1066 1003">Salary January / February 2022 (by S/O)</td> <td data-bbox="1066 958 1254 1003">£682.88</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="316 1003 571 1048">HMRC</td> <td data-bbox="571 1003 1066 1048">Tax & NI January / February 2022 (by S/O)</td> <td data-bbox="1066 1003 1254 1048">£198.18</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Supplier	Services	Payment	Drax (Haven Power)	Street Lighting Sensor Electricity	£10.25	Cofton Spark	Street Light Maintenance	£1,015.00	Proper Agency	Website Maintenance	£30.00	Cofton Spark	Street Light Maintenance	£441.45	Andrew Billau (Clerk)	Padlock for Allotment Gates	£29.99	Gary Haynes	Rubbish Disposal and Bolts	£13.20	Gary Haynes	Lengthsman Services	£300.00	Andrew Billau (Clerk)	Office Costs January / February 2022	£61.30	Andrew Billau (Clerk)	Salary January / February 2022 (by S/O)	£682.88	HMRC	Tax & NI January / February 2022 (by S/O)	£198.18	
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024/22	<p>Highways, Environment and Open Spaces</p> <p>024.1/22 The Clerk reported that new gates at the allotment entrance had now been installed, Councillors were pleased with the outcome. A new combination padlock has been installed and all allotment holders informed of the combination via their WhatsApp group.</p> <p>024.2/22 The Clerk advised that a quote had been received to prune the trees surrounding the play area site, reducing their height by 40-50%. The quote amounted to £1,450. Resolved: to commit funds of £1,450 for pruning of trees at the play area, the £500 Tesco grant can be used towards this. Clerk to instruct contractor.</p> <p>024.3/22 The Clerk advised that the annual inspection of the play area by ROSPA will take place in March.</p> <p>024.4/22 The Clerk asked Cllr Webb if she could supply contact details for a mini-digger and driver for the Old Sewage Works site drainage works. Cllr Slack suggested that the Council should negotiate an agreement with Cofton Gardens for access to the Old Sewage Works site. Cllr Webb raised concerns around security of the Cofton Gardens site and suggested a fence may be necessary,</p> <p>024.5/22 The Clerk reported that solicitors acting on behalf of the Parish Council in the matter of providing permanent access to the Old Sewage Works allotment site had now exchanged the access plan, which has been agreed by the Clerk. An additional plan, showing dimensions of the access path has been received. Clerk to circulate plan.</p> <p>024.6/22 Cllr Pattison reported that he had not received any update from North Worcs Water regarding the balancing pond. He has requested a technical note from Mainstay which he hopes to receive soon to share with the PC and residents. Cllr Pattison to chase.</p> <p>024.7/22 The Clerk reported that the replacement railings at Rose Hill Island are due to be installed in early March. Clerk to monitor.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Webb</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Pattison</p> <p>Clerk</p>																																	

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024.8/22	Revised bus stop proposals was covered under item 019.1/22.	
024.9/22	The Clerk reported that there are a number of outstanding street light faults which are being attended to as soon as possible. Cllr Banyard reported that a lamp on Rose Hill Island had failed. This is a Worcestershire Highways responsibility Clerk to report to them.	Clerk
024.10/22	The Clerk reported on work undertaken by the lengthsman during the month.	
024.11/22	Cllr McGarry reported that he had carried out the monthly inspection of the play area, with no major issues reported, although a bolt on the roller log still needs replacing.	
025/22	Community Services	
025.1/22	Councillors discussed the request from Birmingham City Council for consultations regarding the future of the Bilberry Centre. Cllr Deeming suggested that a public meeting be held to hear residents' views before the Council submits its response. Councillors agreed this was a good idea, Clerk to arrange meeting venue, date and time. Cllr Banyard agreed to contact Prof. Carl Chinn to see if he would be prepared to attend. Clerk to invite Cllr Kriss and Bournville Trust.	Clerk Cllr Banyard
025.2/22	Councillors discussed possible events to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee in June. It was noted that there are street parties being arranged and that there will be events at the Village Hall. Councillors agreed that they would be willing to provide financial assistance to events if necessary. Clerk to contact Village Hall manager.	Clerk
026/22	Planning	
	The following planning applications were received during the month:	
026.1/22	21/01666/S23 – Variation of plans approved – Longbridge East and Arrow Valley development site. Cllr Pattison advised that these were only minor amendments, Councillors had no objections.	
026.2/22	21/01730/Ful – First floor extension, 15 Cofton Lake Road – Councillors agreed they have no objection to this application. Clerk to post response.	Clerk
026.3/22	22/00081/FUL – Two storey rear extension, 32 Ten Ashes Lane – Councillors agreed they have no objection to this application. Clerk to post response.	Clerk
026.4/22	22/00100/FUL – Detached 3 bed dormer bungalow, 478 Groveley Lane – Councillors agreed they had reservations about this application of the grounds of overdevelopment, lack of parking and design and appearance. Clerk to post objection.	Clerk
027/22	Communications	
027.1/22	Cllr Banyard reported continued progress on the new website, Cllr Webb to submit a short bio, all others are submitted. We will need full access to the old website to export all items, and news items and images need to be supplied. Clerk to circulate link to draft website.	Cllr Webb Clerk
027.2/22	The Clerk asked if Councillors had made any progress with resolving email issues since the change of servers. Cllr Slack advised he is meeting with the technician on Tuesday	

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	and will report back. The Clerk again advised that all Councillors should be using their Parish Council email addresses and not personal addresses.	All
028.22	<p>Correspondence Received</p> <p>No additional correspondence received.</p>	
029/22	<p>Items for Next Meeting</p> <p>No items requested.</p>	
030/22	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for Monday 21st March 2022 at 7.30pm, at Cofton Village Hall.</p> <p>It was agreed that the April meeting should be held on Monday 11th April (18th April is Easter Monday).</p> <p>The meeting ended at 9.00pm.</p>	