

Cocking Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting on Monday 14th October 2013

held in The Village Hall at 6.30pm

Present: Cllr R Marks, Cllr G Miles, Cllr D Imlach, Cllr P O'Neill. CDC Cllr J Cherry, WSCC Cllr M Brown

In attendance: Clerk: M Kirkby, Mr S Edwards of Hyde Martlett and 1 member of the public

1. **Apologies:** Cllr C Budd

2. The Chairman welcomed Peter O'Neill onto the Council following his co-option by members at the September meeting.

3. **Declaration of interests:**

Gwen Miles declared interest as an employee and resident of Hyde relating to the redevelopment of The Croft, and David Imlach re Church.

4. **Minutes of the July Meeting:**

Were agreed and signed.

5. **Hyde Martlett Mr Scott Edwards:**

Gave a brief outline of progress to date at the Croft Development., then took questions from councillors.

Cllr Imlach relayed concerns of some villagers concerning height of the new buildings, this was echoed by Cllr Cherry who understood this was due to foundation height at the eastern end. Mr Edwards gave assurance that on completion roof heights would be as per approved plans.

Cllr O'Neill said he had received very positive feedback from nearby residents relating to management of site and workforce, this was supported by Cllr Miles.

Cllr Miles asked if a play area was being provided at the site. Mr Edwards confirmed no play area planned just grass area previously designed with surrounding fence. Parish Councillors confirmed their agreement no fence was required, preferring the fencing budget to go toward provision of footpath to the Village Hall, Mr Edwards said he would provide the exact figure for the unused fencing budget and that he expected the footpath to be a mown area maintained by footfall. Cllr Marks suggested a separate meeting to discuss path surfacing.

Mr Edwards confirmed there would be no service charge for individual property gardens, only communal areas, and that 'fair rents' would be inclusive of all service charges. Also, the S106 agreement included a local lettings policy, if there were insufficient takers from the village then the catchment area would spread over time.

He informed Councillors that the New Development would necessitate new road names and house numbers, suggestions would be welcomed.

6. **Visitors Questions**

Stella Davies of Malthouse Cottages asked if the Council could do something to reduce the amount of dog faeces on village paths, especially around Church path and Crypt Lane areas. The clerk was asked to enquire cost and availability of signage and dog litter bins.

7. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

Electronic Planning, discussed under 7

All Parishes Meeting, the clerk was asked to inform CDC that Cllrs Imlach and O'Neill would be attending.

Tree and Branch lopping, the clerk was asked to seek support from Cllr Michael Brown.

Commemoration of 1914-18 planned for 2014, Cllr Cherry agreed to help source grant funding for any exhibition/celebration.

8. (a) WSCC Councillors Report:

Cllr Micheal Brown provided insight into management of protests around proposed and possible fracking sites, in particular the situation at Balcombe.

Then outlined required budget targets for the next 4 years and consequent challenges throughout the County.

(b) CDC Councillors Report

Cllr John Cherry said he had voted against the electronic planning proposals. Although some grants were available, logistically for most Parish Councils obtaining large size plans would prove very difficult and expensive.

Cllr Cherry provided information concerning the CDC Web Mapping System.

9. Planning:

SDNP/13/04032/HOUS-2 Lamberts Yard-Cocking. Ground floor extension and alterations to the roofspace. After consideration the Council agreed they had no objection to the application.

10. Finance:

The following cheques were agreed and signed:

Clerks salary Standing order for 6 months, at £223.17 pm.

Littlejohn Audit fee inc vat £156 cheque no 000385

Village Hall Grant Fireworks £650 cheque no 000387

SALC Councillors Guides £18.12 cheque no 000384

Cowdray Estate Rentals (£125 Village Hall site + £62.5 sports field) Total £187.50 cheque no 000383

Clerks expenses: Wasps, Stationery, Post Redirection £111.39 cheque no 000386

The Clerk reported that the second instalment of precept had now been received, and we are still awaiting grass cutting invoices. Also, agreed to send a draft 2014 budget before next meeting.

DI reported that repairing wasp damage would cost approx £200, but no quote yet received to repair outside lighting, expect approx £100. RM agreed to arrange weedkilling at a cost of approx £100, suggested budget £2-300 for 2014.

11. Correspondence and Invitations:

Correspondence was available to view.

12. Parish Matters:

PO reported that Chestnut Stumps at playground had not been ground, DI said they will be soon. All agreed removal

of these trees had enhanced the playground.

The Bench reported as in dis repair near Heyshott Bus stop is in our Parish, DI said he would obtain a quote. Clerk to check if on asset register.

Allotments it was reported are now ready for planting. Clerk was requested to provide a copy of the the allotment holders rental agreement as approved by Cowdray Estate. M Chmn asked GM to arrange a weekend meeting with prospective allotment holders.

Newsletter, DI hoped to finalise by end of week, also reported that Observer newspaper were hoping to revisit their report on Cocking Village of 5 years previous.

Forum, DI proposed a Cocking petition re speeding through the village be arranged and forwarded, hoping this might encourage WSCC to fund a traffic survey.

Salt Bins for winter, clerk to ascertain progress.IT Assets, clerk to continue follow up. PO pointed out assets now of minimal value yet we continue to pay insurance.

Co option, clerk asked to put a further notice of vacancies.

Playground, DI reported on need for equipment replacement and refurbishment. Four contractors had been approached for prices, best still over £9,700, DI will meet SEB to discuss available funding then look for lottery grant.

PO asked the clerk to ascertain cost of next years election, to ensure budgetted. Gwen Miles informed that CDC have confirmed that Parish Council elections will be taking place in 2015 at the same time as the District and General election.

Meeting closed 8.20pm _____

REMINDER: NEXT MEETING - MONDAY 9th NOVEMBER

Signed: