

COCKING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON 14 JULY 2014 AT 6.30PM

AT THE VILLAGE HALL, BELL LANE, COCKING

PRESENT: Cllrs. R Marks (Chairman) D Imlach (Vice Chairman), C Budd, Mrs G Miles and P O'Neill.

IN ATTENDANCE: N James and A Lynton-Crook, SDNP
G. Burt, Clerk
2 Members of the Public

1. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed the new Clerk, Greg Burt.

2. Apologies

There were no apologies.

3. Declarations of Interest

Members and officers were invited to make any declarations of pecuniary and/or non-pecuniary interests that they may have in relation to items on the agenda and were reminded to make any declarations at any stage during the meeting if it then became apparent that this may be required when a particular item or issue was to be considered.

Cllr Mrs Miles declared interest as an employee and tenant of Hyde relating to the redevelopment of The Croft, and Cllr Imlach in Church matters.

4. Minutes

The draft minutes of the meeting of the 9 June 2014 had been previously circulated, but members were concerned that some of their suggested amendments had not been incorporated. It was resolved that the draft minutes of the meeting held on 9th June would be re-circulated to members with the suggested amendments so that the minutes can be reviewed at the next meeting. Cllr Imlach agreed to speak to Mr Birch to ask him not to post the draft June minutes sent to him by the previous Clerk Mr Kirby on the Cocking.org website until they are amended and approved by the Council at its September meeting.

5. Questions from Visitors

Mr Julian Hickman, a tenant of the new allotments, queried the price of the plots. It was explained that this had been set by the Council, having looked at what was charged elsewhere; it was agreed that plots size and rental levels did tend to vary from place to place. Mr Hickman asked what progress was being made on a water supply for the site as he would be willing to do it for free, as long as the council supplied the materials. He asked that consideration be given to allow him to have the second allotment plot rent free that he had been cultivating as he was currently the only allotment holder and there was no water supply for the site. The Chairman explained that three quotes had been obtained and this

would be resolved later in the meeting, as would his suggestion to receive the second plot rent free for this financial year.

6. Centurion Way

The Chairman welcomed Nigel James and Alisdair Lynton-Crook of the SDNPA who gave an overview of plans to create a new LDF called the Centurion Way from Chichester to Midhurst using where practicable the formation of the old railway line, part of which is currently a cycle way. A planning application was imminent for the movement of the cycle route from Binderton to West Dean back onto the railway formation where it should be able to continue on the formation as far as the SD Way at West Dean. Funds were in place for this phase. Beyond this, further feasibility work needed to be undertaken as the route would have to deviate from the old formation due to tunnels and cuttings. Cocking and Midhurst PC *et al* would be fully consulted as the plans evolved. Members thanked the guests for their presentation.

Cllr Imlach asked that the cooption item be brought forward - agreed

7. Co-option of New Councillor

Cllr Imlach introduced Mr Leigh Burgess who had expressed a willingness to join the Council as a Co-opted member. Mr Burgess then said a few words about himself, including the voluntary work he was currently involved with in the village. RESOLVED, that Mr Leigh Burgess be co-opted as a member of Cocking Parish Council. Mr Burgess then signed the statutory declaration of office and joined the table.

8. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Members asked that paper copies of the statutory Annual Return that had been agreed by members, be provided at the next meeting.

9. WSCC & CDC Reports

In the absence of the County & District Councillors, there were no reports.

10. Planning Applications

The following applications were considered:

SDNP/14/03040/HOUS
7 Lamberts Yard Cocking Midhurst GU29 0EU
Install replacement doors and windows to property.
NO OBJECTION

11. Finance

a. The following payments were APPROVED:

Cheque No. 00418

Community Action Suffolk - CPC Insurance £741.12 + Village Hall Insurance £900.98

Cheque No. 00417

M. Kirby – Clerk’s final salary + expenses - £118.90

b. A cashbook balance as at 13/06/2014 of £7,900.69 was noted.

Members looked forward to a Bank Reconciliation at the next meeting.

c. A Cllr asked if the community laptops were still covered by the Council's insurance?
Post-meeting note: Yes, they are.

12. Parish Matters

a. Allotments

Further to the discussion in Minute 5 above, the Chairman reported that three quotations had been received to install a water supply to the allotments. RESOLVED that the quotation from JPG for £585 + VAT be accepted, the Clerk to place an order accordingly. It was RESOLVED to offer Mr Hickman the second allotment plot that he is currently cultivating for no fee. This would be reviewed in due course.

b. Village Hall

Cllr Imlach reported that: the cost of removing a wasp nest and repairing resulting damage was still unknown; the odd-job man had suggested that the outside needs recoating with preservative; the grass on the bank needs to be cut by a contractor.

c. Trees

Cllr Imlach reported that it was hoped that WSCC would confirm its financial support for the planting of a tree plus plaque in the village to commemorate the commencement of WWI. Refreshments would be laid on after the planting.

d. Newsletter

Cllr Imlach reported that a news sheet would be distributed to all villagers with the Church monthly magazine.

e. Speed Indicator Device (SID)

Members were asked to put themselves forward if they were able to help with using the equipment.

f. Playground

The Chairman planned to repair the bench and SSE were due to repair/paint the fence.

g. Event

Cllr Mrs Miles reported that the Hyde Group were hosting a Cocking Community Event on the green at The Croft for residents living in The Croft and Cherry Close to welcome new residents to the village. The event would be held on Wednesday 13th August.

13. Correspondence

a. Canine Partners had written to thank the Council for a grant.

b. A meeting with the Goodwood Estate had still to be arranged.

14. Date of Next Meeting

Normally the next meeting of the Council would be on the Monday 8 September 2014. However the new Clerk would not be able to commit to the normal dates as he already had prior commitments, as discussed at interview. RESOLVED that as from **1 September** 2014, the Council would meet on the first Monday of the month unless it was a Bank Holiday, in which case they would meet on the Tuesday.

The meeting closed at 7.48pm.

Chairman:

Date: