

COCKING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON 1 SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 6.30PM

AT THE VILLAGE HALL, BELL LANE, COCKING

PRESENT: Cllrs. R Marks (Chairman) D Imlach (Vice Chairman), L Burgess and P O'Neill.

IN ATTENDANCE: County Cllr M Brown (Until Minute 7)
District Cllr J Cherry (Until Minute 8)
G. Burt, Clerk

1. Chairman's Announcements

None

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Budd and Mrs Miles.

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. None were declared.

4. Minutes

The draft minutes of the meetings of the 9 June and 14 July, previously circulated were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Copies of the Annual Return had been circulated to members as requested.

6. Questions from Visitors

None

7. WSSC Report

Cllr Brown reported that:

Although an extension of the 30mph limit in Bell Lane was a priority for villagers, it was currently on a B list of WSSC priorities; it needed to be on the A list to progress further. He suggested that the Clerk take up the offer to meet the relevant officer on site.

The WSSC Pension Fund was rated the No 1 performer out of the 46 County Pension Funds.

Cllr Imlach thanked WSCC and Cllr Brown's support for the grant received to support the village's recent WWI events.

8. CDC Report

Cllr Cherry reported on:

A Covenant signed by CDC with the military; this was designed to help foster better understanding etc and recognise the military's important, past and continuing, strong links with the area.

CDC continued to score very well in peer-group comparisons. It was likely to continue to face a tough spending climate in the future.

9. Planning Applications

Three planning applications had been received since the last meeting, and the comments submitted, as set out in Appendix 1, were approved by the Council.

10. Finance

a. Receipts between the 14th July and 1 September, as set out in Appendix 2, were noted.

b. Payments between the 14th July and 1 September, as set out in Appendix 2, were approved.

c. A bank reconciliation, as set out in Appendix 3, showing a Cashbook and Bank balance agreeing of £6,144.96 as at 15th August 2014, was noted.

11. Parish Matters

a. Co-options

A vacancy remained on the Council. A further appeal would appear in a future newsletter.

b. Playgrounds

The Vice Chairman advised that he was frustrated that SSE's offer to paint the fence had not materialised. Cllr O'Neill was completing an application form for a grant to help fund new equipment.

c. Allotments

The Clerk advised that an order for a new water supply had been sent - Chairman to chase contractor.

d. Newsletter

Cllr Imlach was working on the September edition.

e. Events

Cllr Imlach reported on the excellent WWI events held in the village. Details of the Christmas events in the village would be supplied to CDC so as to hopefully be included in their magazine.

f. Village Hall

A problem with a raised manhole lid in the driveway had been resolved thanks to the action of two villagers. This good gesture had been acknowledged by a donation of some wine (as detailed in the payments summary.) Quotes would be sought to provide a proper surface, which would need good surface friction, to assist in icy weather. Ridged concrete was suggested.

As the Village Hall had waived the fee for two users' sessions due the problems with the driveway, it was agreed that the Council would reimburse the Hall accordingly. (Hall will need to invoice Council - Cllr Imlach to action.)

g. Speeding

There were issues of speeding at the Croft. As it was not all highway, the issue of enforcement and deterrents was not straightforward. Cllr Imlach would draft a letter for the Clerk to send to Martlet Homes, who were responsible for much of the area.

h. Hedges

A hedge around an empty property, believed to be 210 Cocking (Chichester Road) was causing an obstruction to pedestrians. Clerk to write to the Cowdray Estate who it was believed might own the property.

i. Footways

Cars were driving into a Public Footpath possibly conflicting with it's intended pedestrian use. Cllr Imlach would supply location details so that the Clerk could write a letter.

j. Noticeboards

Cllr Imlach reported that he was getting a quote to refurbish a tatty board by the Post Office, and was also going to get new locks for the board by the play area.

k. War Memorial

It was reported that George Stickley who had maintained the grass around the War Memorial for many years, was standing down. It was agreed that the Clerk would write a letter of thanks (Cllr Imlach to provide contact details). An appeal for a new volunteer would appear in a future newsletter.

l. Mobile Phone Signals

Cllr O'Neill highlighted the continuing poor signal coverage in the area by many operators. He agreed to draft a letter to *Orange*, to be sent by the Clerk.

m. Stream

The Chairman would approach the Environment Agency (EA) to clear Coster's Brook, near Bumblekyle Lane, of vegetation.

n. Bench

A set at Bex Lane, near to the Heyshott turning was in need of attention. A contractor was looking at whether it could be renovated.

o. Winter Plan

The importance of the WP to help the village cope in snow etc, was stressed.

12. Archive Storage

The Clerk reported that he had unexpectedly taken possession of the Council's archives, amounting to 5-6 large boxes. He had reduced this to 3 and hoped to condense further as hours permitted. He explained that the maximum storage he had for Parish Council files was one filing cabinet draw. Cllr Imlach very kindly offered to store up to two plastic crates with lids.

13. Correspondence

The Clerk had submitted a summary of notable correspondence sine the last meeting - noted.

In response to an e-mail from PCSO Craig Dunlop, members agreed to his suggestion that it would be better for him to attend a quarterly meeting of the NW Forum to which all parishes attended, rather than attend a meeting of every Parish Council in his patch, every quarter.

14. Date of Next Meeting

6 October 2014. 6.30pm

15. Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED that due to the nature of the business about to be transacted (Staffing) the press and public be instructed to withdraw.

16. Clerk's Salary

The Chairman reported that following a discussion with the Clerk, he proposed that in the light of the Clerks' previous experience the Clerk be appointed at an hourly rate of 2/3 between the advertised salary range of £10.30 to £11.29, i.e. £11.10. This could be reviewed in due course at the end of the probationary period. RESOLVED to agree the Chairman's recommendation.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Chairman:

Date:

Cocking Parish Council					
Planning Applications Summary					
Applicati on No	Address	Details	Comments of CPC	Comments confirmed on	Comments submitted on
14/03040 /HOUS	7 Lamberts Yard, Cocking	Install replacement doors and windows to property.	NO OBJECTI ON	14/07/2014	26/07/2014
14/03463 /TCA	Chalkway Cottage	Notification of intention to fell 1 no. Hazel tree (T1). Reduce growth back to previous pruning points (reducing height by 2-3m) on 1 no. Hazel tree (T2)	NO OBJECTI ON	01/09/2014	06/08/2014
14/03272 /TPO	Chalkway Cottage	Crown reduce by 20% (1.5m all around) and crown clean on 1 no. Yew tree (T1) subject to CK/95/00369/TPO.	NO OBJECTI ON	01/09/2014	06/08/2014
14/03110 /HOUS	The Old Coach House, Bell Lane, Cocking	Full refurbishment of existing property with some exterior improvements and repair including new windows, additional bifold and french doors. Existng carport to have roof improved and new shed built adjacent. Interior layout adaption to form 2 bedrooms with ensuite bathrooms. Exterior gate and adjacent walls to be constructed using local stone to match existing elevations.	NO OBJECTI ON	01/09/2014	04/08/2014

COCKING PARISH COUNCIL

FINANCIAL REPORT 1 SEPTEMBER 2014

1. RECEIPTS: 14 JULY - 1 SEPTEMBER 2014

DATE	£	DEP SLIP	FROM	DESCRIPTION
14/07/2014	£25.00	500028	J. Hickman	Allotment Rental
01/09/2014	£210.00	500029	WSSC	Grant for WWI Events
TOTAL	£235.00			

1. PAYMENTS: 14 JULY - 1 SEPTEMBER 2014

DATE	£	CHEQ UE NO	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION
12/08/2014	£7.69	BAC	Lloyds Bank	Bank Charges - Aug
01/09/2014	£1,284.00	419	Sussex Land Works	Grass cutting: 17/03 - 19/07
01/09/2014	£50.00	420	Action in Rural Sussex	Membership
Cheques 421- 441 issued between 14/05/2012 -11/02/2014 (?????)				
01/09/2014	£6.49	442	D. Imlach	Paint to highlight raised manhole
01/09/2014	£130.48	442	D. Imlach	Cocking Remembers leaflet
01/09/2014	£122.95	442	D. Imlach	Tree, stake etc + planting
01/09/2014	£254.00	442	D. Imlach	Plaque etc for tree
01/09/2014	£3.99	442	D. Imlach	Soil for tree
01/09/2014	£10.00	442	D. Imlach	Donation re hire of display cabinet for medals
01/09/2014	£30.00	443	MR Woods Prop Ser	Repair table on Village Green
01/09/2014	£200.00	444	G Burt	Advance on Clerk's net salary
01/09/2014	£46.96	445	The Crafty Pint	Wine (Gratuity for villagers who repaired manhole cover on Village Hall Drive)
TOTAL	£2,146.56			

**COCKING PARISH COUNCIL
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

BANK RECONCILIATION

AS OF 15 AUGUST 2014

**PRESENTED TO COUNCIL ON 1
SEPTEMBER 2014**

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS

Balance brought forward as at 13/06/2014		£7,900.69
Add Total Receipts		25.00
Less Total Payments		(1,780.73)
TOTAL		£6,144.96



BANK		
Lloyds Business Banking Extra		6,144.96
Less unrepresented cheques		£0.00
Plus uncleared deposits		0.00
TOTAL		£6,144.96



TALLY