

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting duly convened and held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at The Hagbourne Hall, East Hagbourne**

**Present:** Cllrs M. Butler (Chair), V. Brownsword, H. Lewis and J. Bannister (newly appointed)

**In attendance:** L. Dalby (Outgoing Clerk), B. Gill (Incoming Clerk), 2 members of the public and Terry Pritchard (Transport Representative)

**1. Introduction of new Clerk**

The existing members of the council agreed unanimously that Barry Gill should be employed as the new clerk, and he was introduced to the council by the Chair. The Chair also thanked the outgoing clerk, Lucy Dalby for her work. Barry Gill began transitioning into the position on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015.

**2. Co-option onto the Council and Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

Jackie Bannister was co-opted onto the Council and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk.

**3. Apologies for Absence: None**

**4. Declarations of personal and prejudicial interest: None**

**5. Public Participation**

**Moor Lane:**

Objections have been raised to the condition of the track at the end of Moor Lane running from under the disused railway line to Upton, as it has been churned up by motorised vehicles and is in poor condition for pedestrians and horse riders. A villager (Steve Templeton) has written to OCC to complain about the matter; another concerned villager was also present at the meeting.

OCC acknowledges that there is a problem and Paul Harris from the Council has written to Mr Templeton about the issue. The Parish Council will support any action that OCC can take and would like to be kept informed. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk will respond to OCC's letter and ask for an update in terms of specific actions and timelines.

Other suggestions:

- The farmer could roll it flat to deter off-road vehicles.
- Could a separate footpath be created to go alongside the other part of the route?
- Encourage as many people as possible to contact OCC to complain. Mr Templeton agreed to draft a brief article for the newsletter with a call to action to residents to contact OCC about the state of the path.

There were some discussions about whether anything else could be done, such as asking for the track to be closed to traffic apart for access. However, the track is designated a BOAT (Byway Open to All Traffic) and it was agreed it would be too difficult and expensive to change this.

The railing on the footbridge across the ditch in Moor Lane is broken and may have been broken by SODC when they were clearing the ditch. Hugh Lewis will check photos taken when the work was being done and compare with photos of current situation. Mr Templeton volunteered to get in touch with his contact at SODC and ask them to come and fix it.

Garden rubbish is being dumped next to the ditch, which is fly-tipping and needs to be reported to SODC. Parish Clerk to report this. Jackie Bannister agreed to draft a brief article for the newsletter stating that this is illegal and fly tippers could be fined, and moreover this also constitutes a potential flooding risk.

#### **Traffic:**

The council is trying to get traffic calming measures implemented in the village as part of the s106 funding in connection with the Bloor Homes development. The Parish Clerk will follow this up with SODC. The outgoing Clerk will locate the previous correspondence and share with Barry Gill.

#### **Transport representative:**

Allen Field stated that the bus budget will be cut by a further £0.5 million to a total cut of £2.7 million by 2018. The Chair agreed to write to Allen Field to raise objection to this.

#### **6. To confirm and sign as a true record the minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council held on November 5th 2014**

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

#### **7. District Councillor's Report – Leo Docherty None**

#### **8. County Councillor's Report – Patrick Greene None**

**9. Clerk's Report (L. Dalby):** SODC fire has had an impact. A key learning is to always communicate by email rather than just send hard copies. Training days with OALC coming up on 4<sup>th</sup> (Roles and Responsibilities) and 10<sup>th</sup> March for the new Clerk to attend (costs tbc).

#### **10. Finance – Accounts for Payment**

The following accounts for payment were agreed and cheques signed by the Chair and Valerie Brownsword.

| <b>Payee and Reason</b>                      | <b>£ Detail</b> | <b>£ VAT</b> | <b>£ Total</b> |
|--|-----------------|--------------|----------------|
| Hagbourne Village Hall – room hire           | 12.00           |              | 12.00          |
| L. Dalby – Clerk's Salary & Expenses         | 396.13          |              | 396.13         |
| Post Office Ltd - PAYE                       | 96.20           |              | 96.20          |
| N. Sweet – Website Hosting*                  | 19.95           |              | 19.95          |
| Square Wave Technology – Newsletter Printing | 75.00           | 15.00        | 90.00          |

\*Note: The cheque to N. Sweet for website hosting replaces the previously cancelled cheque to WWDP as noted in the Finance section of the November minutes.

#### **11. Revised Standing Orders and Financial Regulations**

Cllr Butler presented draft revised Standing Orders and Financial Regulations for comment. Council to read and comment on them by Mid-March latest.

**12. Budget 2015:** Precept for 2014 was set at £5562 and for 2015 £5594

**13. Planning Application – P14/S3336/FUL – General Purpose agricultural building for crop and machinery storage. Coscote Farm, West Hagbourne.**

MJB  
1/4/15

The Parish Council agreed to raise objection to the additional planned building due to impact on the character of the area, scale and bulk of the building, industrialisation and urbanisation of the rural area, and increased vehicle traffic (particularly from large agricultural vehicles). The Parish Clerk needs to e-mail Leo Doherty to flag our objections and to send the objections through the website by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February.

**14. Village Hall Accounts:** the Village Hall representative (Valerie Brownsword) distributed the accounts to the Parish Council for information.

**15. Moor Lane**

See point 5 above.

**16. Defibrillator**

The Parish Council agreed to donate £250 to the capital cost of the defibrillator and to include £70 for its yearly maintenance in the budget.

The Defibrillator Group can request cheques from the Parish Clerk, which will need to be signed by two Councillors.

The Parish Council agreed that there are funds available in the maintenance budget, which could be put towards the renovation of the phone kiosk for the defibrillator.

The Chair will reply to Mrs Totterdell from the Defibrillator Group.

**17. Correspondence:** The Chair will attend the Local Plan Town and Parish Briefing Meeting on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February. The Parish Clerk to reply to the invitation and forward to the Chair.

**18. Newsletter Report:** Chair to draft a report in general from the Parish meeting for the newsletter.

Announcement of the village tidy up needs to go in April's newsletter. Valerie to check when the deadline is for the next newsletter and then we can confirm the date for the next tidy up, suggested for the 18<sup>th</sup> April. Parish Clerk to request equipment/assistance from the SODC.

**19. Items for report and inclusion on April's agenda.**

- Parish Council Elections.
- Citizens Advice Bureau request for money.

**20. Future Meetings**

The date of the next meeting of the Council was confirmed as April 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 to be held at Hagbourne Hall, East Hagbourne, commencing at 7.30pm.

**Other items/actions to report:**

- Roger Sweet has resigned and there is now a vacancy for a Councillor.
- Annual Parish meeting date to be set (needs to be between 1st April and end of May); once the date is set, Parish Clerk to book the medium size hall.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 21:45.

MSB  
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Signed M. Z. R. K. Dated 1/14/15