

BROOKTHORPE WITH WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7th MAY 2019

PRESENT

Messrs Steve Betts [Chairman], J Hendry, Mrs Lynda King, Mrs Colleen Summers, Cllr D Mossman [District Councillor], Cllr Keith Rippington [County Councillor], Mrs A Szabo [Parish Clerk] and 4 members of the public.

19/048 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr David Kaspar.

There were no other apologies given for absence.

19/049 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2nd April were agreed and signed as a true record.

19/050 MATTERS ARISING

Whaddon Garage – The Chairman reported that after meeting with the owner of Whaddon Garage that two of the businesses have been asked to leave and this should alleviate some of the problems with parked cars. However, a new breakdown lorry has appeared that is nothing to do with the garage.

Highway meeting – A meeting between Cllr Steve Betts, Cllr Keith Rippington and Daniel Tiffney has been agreed. Date and time to be decided.

There were no other matters arising that were not on the agenda.

19/051 MEMBERS' DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest to items on the agenda.

19/052 FINANCE

a) Cheques for agreement and signature

£75.00	Mrs A Szabo	Clerk's wages plus £12 home office allowance
	HMRC	PAYE
£40.00	Information Commissioner	Data Protection

Powers used for Council's spending
General Power of Competence – Power of first resort

b) Online banking

All Councillors agreed that the present banking system should remain. It was felt that the use of cheque books gave the Council the best control of its finance payments.

19/053 PLANNING

a) New applications for discussion

S.19/0764/HHOLD	Yew Tree Farm	Conversion and alteration to former cowshed
	Stroud Road	to single storey annex/incidental accommodation

Councillors found that there were discrepancies with the application and the plans submitted. The Clerk was asked to obtain clarification and therefore defer this item until 21st May.

There were no new applications for discussion.

19/054 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Keith Rippington reported that there was not a lot happening due to local elections.

The Chairman thanked Keith for his help in obtaining a meeting with Dan Tiffney.

19/055 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Dave Mossman had reported that he had requested that a complete presentation be given at the next Incinerator meeting to answer all of Cllr Dave Kaspar's questions. He confirmed that it is a self-regulating industry.

It appears almost certain that Whaddon will be included for development of 2-3,000 sustainable homes in the next Local Plan from 2022 onwards. There are still questions regarding the "duty to cooperate" with neighbouring Districts.

19/056 WHADDON FIELDS

Following concerns raised by a parishioner regarding the possible inclusion of fields at Whaddon in the District's Local Plan, a full discussion took place as how best to be prepared when consultation resumes in the Autumn; possible actions against were discussed.

It was agreed that a traffic impact assessment can only take place once the full details of the development is known.

It was felt that a design statement would probably be of little use.

It was felt that the District Council protocol for dealing with developers would be useful. It states that consultations with the developers to discuss how any proposed developments should look etc, would have to be considered by the planning department.

The Clerk was asked to find out about the new Neighbourhood Development plan for small councils. In the meantime, it was agreed to put set questions to Kathy O'Leary (Chief Executive of Stroud District Council) at the Annual Parish Meeting, and to hold a public event to consult and make the parishioners aware.

19/057 UPDATE EVENTS OF POSSIBLE FOR THE MORE ELDERLY PARISHIONERS

Cllr Colleen Summers reported that she and Cllr Steve Betts have been working together to try and come up with ideas to bring together the older generation within the parish. This could be those that have lost loved ones and are now on their own, and those that are couples.

One of the ideas is a film night in the village hall. She is currently investigating the licences that may be required so this can be looked into further. In the meantime, an agreement has been made with Fa-gin's that they can provide fish and chips @ £5.00 per person.

The idea would be to arrange an event for say two hours followed by a fish & chip supper.

It is proposed that other costs would be covered by the Parish Council and that the hire of the hall would be free of charge.

It is hoped to involve Chris Brent-Smith with the arrangements and that the first event would take place in 10 weeks' time.

19/058 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Clerk advised that invitations had gone out and that Chief Executive of Stroud District Council has agreed to attend. At the moment it is doubtful if any police representative will be in attendance. Cllr Steve Betts (Chairman) gave his apologies for this meeting. It was agreed that the meeting will take the same format as in previous years.

19/059 CASUAL VACANCY

The Clerk reported that after the resignation of Cllr Gordon Simpson, earlier today, the Council now has a casual vacancy and the normal procedure for filling the vacancy will be started. Mr Simpson was thanked for his contribution over the last 7 years.

19/060 COMMUNITY REPORT FROM GLOUCESTERSHIRE CONSTABULARY

Cllr John Hendry outlined the latest information.

19/061 COUNCILLORS' INFORMATION

St Swithun's Church – Cllr Steve Betts reported that he had met with Mr Brian Stanley with regard to St Swithun's Church. Following ongoing issues with crime and disorder around the Church car park, he has suggested that the PCC put in for a grant to pay for a new gated access to the car park. It has been suggested that the Parish Council may look favourably on such a grant on the written understanding that the Village Hall may use the church car park as an overflow when events at the hall are taking place. Also, that any villager may ask to use the car park if they are holding a private event. This item is to be put on the agenda for June.

Transit van locally – It is thought that the owner of a white transit van acting suspiciously lives locally.

Chambers Farm – Questions were asked about the new roof line on the building going up at Chambers Farm. The Clerk was asked to investigate this.

Garden waste bin – The Clerk was asked to seek confirmation regarding this service after a parishioner was told that they needed to go on a waiting list. It was also reported that recycle bins were being damaged when thrown into driveways or left in the lanes.

Speeding on Upton Lane – Concerns were raised again about speeding in Upton Lane over the Bank Holiday weekend. It was thought that this may be linked to the motor cross activities at Range Farm. The Chairman stated that he would contact Upton St Leonards Parish Council regarding this issue.

Large construction vehicles using Haresfield Lane – It was reported that large construction vehicles were using the lane. This was thought to be in connection with the Gigaclear works being carried out in Haresfield.

Light pollution at Gloucester Asbestos Company – Cllr Colleen Summers stated that she had contacted the owners regarding this issue and was hopeful that the lights would be repositioned.

19/062 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr Eric Hibbert reported that the appointed architects were now drawing up plans for the Village Hall extension.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

19/063 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Annual Parish Meeting 21st May starting at 7pm and normal monthly Parish Council meeting Tuesday 4th May 2019 starting at 8pm. Both meetings to take place at Brookthorpe Village Hall.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 21.40.

Chairman

Date.....