

**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
CARDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON
Tuesday 6th March 2018 at 8pm**

Present: C’Ilr C Tonks (Chairman); C’Ilr T Barker (Vice Chairman); C’Ilr A Seabury; C’Ilr R Davies; C’Ilr S Pennington; C’Ilr V Rogers; C’Ilr J Norris; Shropshire C’Ilr Dan Morris

Members of the public present: Mr J Pennington; Mrs C Ball

1. Public Session. Limited to 15 minutes

Mrs Ball told the meeting that the grit bins in the village had not been replenished. The Clerk told the meeting that this had been reported on numerous occasions and would be reported again. It was also reported that the bin in Gretton was empty.

All the people responsible for clearing local roads in the recent snow were congratulated on their swift action and The Parish Council’s appreciation was extended to all who had worked very long hours to ensure local roads were kept open.

Mr Pennington explained his application for the erection of an extension to the barn at Grove Farm. This application was not discussed as Councillors had already carried out a site visit.

2. Acceptance of Apologies

C’Ilr Maydew who was unwell and C’Ilr McMillan who had been held up on business. The apologies were accepted.

3. Declarations of Interest

C’Ilr Pennington expressed a personal and prejudicial interest in the planning application for the Barn at Grove Farm (18/00275/FUL). Councillors had already made a site visit and had no objections so the application was not discussed at this meeting,

4. Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9th January 2018

It was proposed by C’Ilr Barker, seconded by C’Ilr Pennington and unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th January provided a true and accurate record of the meeting.

5. Website update

The Clerk told the meeting that the new web site was kept up to date and she also forwarded Agenda and Minutes to David Elliott for the Village web site as agreed. The website address had been publicised in the March Parish Magazine and will be included on all future notices of meetings.

C’Ilr Tonks told the meeting that C’Ilr Barker was still shown as Chairman on the village web site. The Clerk agreed to contact David Elliott and get this amended.

Further funding had been applied for under the Transparency fund and is reported under item 12 Finance.

6. Phone Kiosk update

C’Ilr McMillan had investigated costings for fitting the phone kiosk as an information point and perhaps a book exchange. As he was unable to attend the meeting he will circulate details to all Councillors and this will be discussed at the May meeting.

C’Ilr Rogers and Mrs C Ball agreed to clean the phone kiosk when the weather improves.

7. Churchyard – Update

(a) Church Wall repairs

This work will be completed in the spring.

(b) Planting of Cherry Trees

C’Ilr Norris collected the two free Cherry Trees from Craven Arms on 10th February and these were planted in the

churchyard to replace two trees which had been taken down. The Clerk completed the Questionnaire concerning the trees provided and will return to Shropshire Council.

(c) Plan of churchyard

The Church have agreed to supply a plan of the burial ground owned by the Parish Council which will indicate the individual burial plots.

C’lfr Barker expressed concern following the recent NALC guidance on “Financial Assistance to the Church”. The Clerk copied this guidance to all Councillors. It appears that there is ongoing expert legal uncertainty as to whether the legislation dating back decades takes precedence over original legislation dated in the late 19th century. It is hoped that some clarification of the situation can be achieved as all Parish Councillors wish to ensure all their decisions and actions are legitimate. It was noted that Parish Councillors also need to be aware that any involvement with the Church might be deemed to give them a personal or prejudicial interest. It was recalled that when agreeing and contracting current repairs to the churchyard wall the Parish Council acted on expert information provided to them at the time. Income from burials from 2011 has been separated in the accounts and will be earmarked for future expenditure relating for the upkeep of the churchyard.

8. Shropshire Council Local Joint Committee

The date has not yet been agreed for the next Local Joint Committee Meeting. The Planning Meeting will be held at Acton Scott Village Hall on Wednesday 21st March commencing at 5pm. C’lfr Barker agreed to attend if he could arrange transport.

9. Updates from Councillors: as per areas of interest.

There were no updates which were not covered on the Agenda.

10. Planning:

a. Decisions on previously discussed applications:

- 17/02843/FUL Middle Hill Farm, Cardington Moor – erection of kennel block and application under Section 73A of the Town and Country Planning Act for the retrospective erection of office/kennel block and change of use of land to exercise area –Parish Council had no objection - Granted 26.1.18
- 17/05461/TCA Rose Cottage Cardington. Reduce 1 no Yew tree by 30% within the Cardington conservation area.. No comments made. Decision – No objection
- 17/05575/FUL Southmere, Cardington Erection of stable building and installation of ménage – shown as awaiting a decision
- 17/05847/DIS Discharge of Condition 3 (Archaeology) on Planning Permission 17/02569/LBC for the erection of two storey rear extension - Southmere Cardington. Approved 31.1.18
- 17/05771/FUL Holly Cottage, Comley – erection of mono pitched sedum roof extension, cladding to existing walls, removal of front and rear gable and chimney, replace existing tile roof with slate (re-submission of earlier application approved on 2.11.17). Granted 2.2.18.

b. considered between meetings using delegated powers:

- 18/00228/TCA Southmere, Cardington – notification to carry out tree works including the felling of 3 fir trees and 1 sycamore all within conservation area – Parish Council did not comment. Decision 9.2.18 – No objection.
- 18/00505/TCA St James Cottage, Brook House junction Cardington to Rose Cottage junction – reduce by 25% 1 No Walnut tree within conservation area – forwarded to all Councillors 3.2.18 – PC had No objection. Decision – no objection 9.2.18
- 18/00275/FUL Barn at Grove Farm, Cardington – erection of an extension to barn conversion – forwarded to all Councillors 1.2.18 – PC had no objection. Shown as awaiting a decision.

c. Any other planning matters including any new planning applications received just before the meeting:

- 16/05320/FUL Land adjacent to the Spinney, Plaish – erection of 1 No. local needs dwelling – permission granted 28.2.18
- 18/00970/LBC Manor Farm, Cardington – installation of an external black flue pipe affecting a grade II listed building. It was unanimously agreed that the parish Council had no objection to this application.

12. Finance:

(a) Invoices to pay:

- Clerk salary – the Chairman and Vice Chairman agreed that the Clerk could claim three months' salary for January, February and March to enable all 2017/18 expenditure to be reflected in the financial year. This totalled £500 less £100 tax due. Paid cheque 100254
- HMRC Tax due on Clerk's salary. £100. Paid cheque 100255
- Clerk – photocopying January Meeting, postage Jan – Mar £30.68. paid cheque 100256
- Data Protection Annual Fee £35, Paid cheque 100257

It was proposed by C'lr Barker, seconded by C'lr Rogers and unanimously agreed that the above accounts be paid.

(b) Burial fees

The Clerk told the meeting that £1,430 had been paid for burial fees for the period 16.5.12 – 27.4.17 and a further £290 had been paid for a burial on 3rd February 2018.

The clerk had a list of individual burials the above amounts referred to.

(c) Transparency Funding

As agreed by e-mail following the January meeting the clerk had prepared a claim in the sum of £588 from the Transparency Fund for the web site. This consisted of £12 per hours x 2 hours per month for Clerk to administer web site = £288, £75 for Clerk on line training, £225 fee payable for annual hosting. The Clerk told the meeting that this application had been approved and payment would be received in the next two weeks.

(d) Bank Reconciliation

The Clerk had prepared the bank reconciliation which was circulated at the meeting. This showed a balance of £14,136.85 held at bank after payment of the accounts above. However this included a total of £11,968.22 for ring fenced items, therefore the actual carry forward at the end of March would be £2,168.63 and this includes £600 expenses towards the 2017 election.

The Chairman then signed a copy of the bank reconciliation and the Bank Statement dated 21st January.

13. Appoint Data Protection Officer

The Clerk told the meeting that with effect from May 2018 the Parish Council must appoint a Data Protection Officer to comply with the General data Protection Regulations.

The Clerk had printed the 70 page GDPR Toolkit for Local Councils.

This was noted and it was agreed that this would be discussed at the May meeting.

14. Shropshire Council Report.

C'lr Dan Morris gave the following report to the meeting:-

Full Council signed off the Budget at the February Meeting. As a result the Council Tax for a Band D property in 2018/19 will increase 5.99% (1.99% they are allowed to raise legally, plus 2% for increased adult social care and a further 2% allowed to be levied for adult social care). In 2019/20 this will drop back to 3.99% (as the additional 2% will not be added). C'lr Barker declared a personal interest as his daughter is employed by Shropshire Council in Adult Social Care.

Any shortfall in the 2018/19 budget will be covered by capital reserves.

It is hope in 2019/20 the County Council will be able to retain all of the business rates and they hope to attract more business into the area.

Shropshire Council have a safe budget and know their spending for the next three years and this has been audited and signed off.

C'lr Morris circulated a map showing Broadband coverage in the Parish and stated that BT would not support this area as a commercial company were offering speed of up to 30mbps...

C’Ilr Morris read a letter he had received from Daniel Kawczynski concerning mobile phone coverage which stated that mobile phone providers aim to cover 95% of the land mass by 2022.

17. Highways

(a) Maintenance scheme: update.

C’Ilr Norris told the meeting that the planned work to improve laybys to be paid from the Highways Maintenance Grant had been discussed with Jonathon Ingolby who was reluctant to agree that the Parish Council should carry out this work. To date an order had not been placed with the contractor to carry out this work.

(b) Highway Matters reported: update

The following highways matters had been reported at earlier meetings-

The road at Comley (by the bend over the stream) – a more permanent wooden fence has been erected. However work to the collapse will be added to a future work programmes when budgets allowed. .

Prior to the October meeting C’Ilr Barker had attended a site visit with a representative of Shropshire Council to discuss the repairs to the footbridge over the Ford. It was agreed that the Parish Council could fund the repairs to a standard agreed by Shropshire Council. The Parish Council consider that the footbridge is dangerous and for disabled access a wider footbridge with handrails is required. At the January meeting the Clerk confirmed that she had included this in the Place Plan Review as being in a dangerous state of repair and a requirement for disabled access. The Clerk told the March meeting that she had completed the Expression of Interest Form to claim monies from the community Infrastructure Levy. However, this cannot be submitted until costings are known.

The following highway matters were reported at the October meeting and are still outstanding:

The drain at the top of Botvyle Bank overflows summer and winter and is a hazard in icy conditions. The Clerk has asked Tim Sneddon to comment on this report but to date no comments have been received

The side of the highway opposite Gretton Lodge is eroded. The Clerk has asked Tim Sneddon to comment on this report but to date no comments have been received.

The following Highways Matters were reported at the January meeting and are still outstanding:

The road from Enchmarsh to Chatwall has deep ditches on the sides of the roadway.

The hedge between Shoot Rough and Comley is overgrown. This is in the ownership of Mr Davies.

c. Further highway matters reported at the March meeting

Pot hole outside Addlestrope.

Potholes near the pub in Cardington had been filled but the contractor had also filled a drain and this was now causing flooding.

C’Ilr Morris told the meeting that Keir had been awarded the Highways contract and this would commence in April.

It was agreed that the Clerk would prepare a spreadsheet showing all highway matters previously reported and all Councillors would contact the Clerk if they were made aware of any further highway matters before the May meeting. Following which a representative of Shropshire Council Highways Department would be invited to attend a site visit to all problem areas together with members of the Parish Council and C’Ilr Dan Morris. This seemed a more effective way of dealing with highway issues.

18. Correspondence.

No correspondence had been received.

19. Date of next scheduled meeting – Tuesday 1st May 2019 – Annual General Meeting commencing at 7pm followed by parish Meeting.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.55pm.

