

DEERHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 23 February 2016, in Apperley Village Hall.

PRESENT:

Councillors L Attard – Chairman
E Checkley
J Pollard
S Ridal
A Wilkes (partial attendance)
Mrs F Wallbank – Clerk
County Councillor Awford
Borough Councillor Waters
Parishioners: 3 (partial attendance)

1 APOLOGIES: Councillor Smith and Oldham and Village Agent Ann Vaughan

2 MINUTES OF MEETING:

The minutes of the meetings held on the Tuesday, 26 January 2016, having been circulated with the agenda were agreed and signed.

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

4 PUBLIC COMMENT: Received

The Chairman brought forward agenda item 9.1 Allotments:

The Chairman and Clerk had met with Mr Butcher at his allotment (no 12) and inspected the proposed allotment which will be known as allotment no 14. Mr Butcher has offered to clear the area of nettles, weeds etc and to get the land into useable area for use as an allotment. There are two scruffy hawthorns which would be very helpful if they could be removed and it was agreed that the Clerk would speak with Mr Leeke to see if his “worker” could undertake this task.

It was also agreed that the Parish Council would not require any rent for Allotment 14 until 1 April 2017. The parishioners who were interested in taking on Allotment 14 as a project has decided to wait until another Allotment becomes free.

Leylandi Tree damaged during Storm Imogen: The Clerk reported that she had received an email about this tree and the damage from a local parishioner. Although the Parish Council mow the small triangle of grass no one really knows who is responsible for the tree. Borough Councillor Waters said he would make some enquiries at TBC and report back to the Clerk.

5 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:

- County Council will increase the Council Tax by 2% plus a further 2% for adult social care. The Police and Crime Commission will be making a 1.2% increase.
- He will receive this County Councillor’s Highways money - £20,000 to be spread across his 29 parishes. Could finance the services of a lengthsman who could deal with small tasks like cleaning road signs, rodding blocked gullies, footways etc.
- He will be meeting with Highways to discuss the road closures signs following the recent flooding of B4213. A417 and Wainloade Lane.

Councillor Wilkes entered

6 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT:

- Council Tax will go up by £5 per annum for a Band D as from 1 April 2016 – first rise in 5 years.
- Currently in the process of replacing the waste vehicles – there will be a separate vehicle for food waste.

7 PLANNING:

7.1 Applications: None

7.2 TBC Decisions: None

7.3 Appeals: None

Appeal Decisions: None to date

8 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

8.1 Accounts for payment and receipts:

Mrs F J Wallbank –

Salary for 1-29 February 2016 309.33

Additional Hours from Transparency

Grant to upload financial information

To website 2 hours per month for period

1 April 2015-31 March 2016 263.52

Less Tax 114.60 458.25 Via Bank Transfer

Refund due to Clerk for Inland Revenue payment 114.60 Via Bank Transfer

Apperley Village Hall – cost of meeting Held 23.2.16 15.00 Via Bank Transfer

System Force IT:

Cost of Laptop 350.00

Cost of printer/scanner 99.00

VAT 89.80 538.80 Via Bank transfer

Total Payments **£1126.65**

Receipts

Transparency Grant 712.52

TBC flood alleviation grant monies:

Morris Contractors 1800.00

Andrews Sykes Invoice 1301.73

Total Receipt: **£3814.25**

8.2 Financial Statement: Circulated with the agenda.

8.3 Pinkerton Leeke & Co – Invoice for acting on behalf of DPC and the DPFA: No update.

9 MATTERS ARISING

9.1 Apperley Village Hall: The Chairman reported that he was the Village Hall representative

Playing Field: Nothing to report

Football Club: Chris Freeman said that currently they were unable to settle the PC's invoice in full and would the PC like part payment. It was agreed that they would. CC Awford said he would check to see if there was any money available in his "Active Together" fund.

Play Area: The Clerk asked if the Councillors were happy to continue with the services of John Hicks for the annual ROSPA inspection and they confirmed that they were. Brian Leeke had recently installed three pieces of new equipment in the Play Area.

Allotments: See above.

9.2 Highways:

Inghams Corner: Drains worked well during the recent floods.

Roadworks A38: Will be taking place hopefully on a Stop and Go traffic control system

Road to Deerhurst Church: Will be closed from the 9-16 March.

Deerhurst Road: Manhole covers are a serious trip hazard and the potholes are really bad.

Parking outside the School: The Chairman met with the head, Jayne Neveu and discussed the parking problem at the school. The PC had been informed that staff park in the layby and Jane

reported that when she arrived at the school at 6.30am cars were parked in the layby. Discussions took place about putting double yellow lines along the layby but how would this be policed if this was done? It was agreed that CC Awford would speak with Garry Handley at the Road Safety Partnership and request a site visit. Apparently there is no further land at the School without losing some of the playing field to create additional parking. Clerk to email the Head to let her know what the PC had agreed.

9.3 Deerhurst Walton Flood Alleviation Scheme: Nothing further to report.

9.4 Public Rights of Way: Mr Field's letter dated the 5.2.16 regarding the footbridge on ADE85 had been circulated to Councillors for their attention. Councillor Pollard reported as follows:

- When he phoned 08000 514514 he discovered that the matter had not been recorded on the Amey system - now (ref. 11091681). There are two bridges on ADE85, one at the northern end at Deerhurst Walton, the other at the junction with ALE3 and ALE33. Since Mr Field mentioned flooding, it is much more likely to be the latter.
- He also asked if the bridge he reported before on ADE60, with a similar problem, is on the system. It is not, so it is now logged (ref. 11091656). The two are linked as being near to one another, which should save time if Amey are alerted. He had reported the problem with this bridge several times, the last in October 2014.
- Enquiring how many PROW matters were logged for Deerhurst (parish) showed how: (a) finding a list of open issues is not straightforward; and (b) matters he had reported in the past to Ian Soule are not logged on the system. While on the phone, he also provided training on how to use the PROW online map and on the parish prefixes (ADE for Deerhurst, ALE for The Leigh, etc).
- At a previous Chartered Parish meeting, Mike Barton (Amey) and John Lane (GCC) were given a hard time about a lack of feedback and the reporting system. This just adds to those concerns raised by clerks and other councillors.
- The PC will have to see whether both these bridges are repaired in the coming months, after the flood water has receded.

9.5 Broadband: No update as Councillor Oldham was not present.

10 CORRESPONDENCE:

Any Other Correspondence:

TBC: Review of Scheme for Public Participation at Planning Committee: TBC are undertaking an assessment of how the Scheme has worked since its introduction and are inviting representatives to give their view at meetings on the afternoons of Tuesday, 1 March and Monday, 7 March. The Chairman said he would attend on Tuesday, 1 March and Councillor Pollard would attend on Monday, 7 March.

11 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION:

Kelly Osborne: Conservation Volunteers: Clerk reported that the cost was £125 for a half day and £300 for a full day.

Proliferation of Estate Agents Signs: Complaints had been received about the proliferation of signs at the top of Sawpit Lane – Andrews, Carver Knowles and Rhodes. It was agreed that the Clerk would email these three estate agents and ask for evidence that they have permission to erect the signs on the green area within 2 weeks otherwise the signs would be removed.

12 DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 22 March 2016 at 7.15pm

The meeting closed 8.45pm.