

Minutes of the Aldwincle Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 23rd October 2017 in the Village Hall.

Present:

Bob Blakeman Chairman
John Lawrence
Tim Hankins
David Strode-Willis
Bernard Lowe

Richard Reed – Clerk

NCC Cllr. Mrs Wendy Brackenbury

There were no residents in attendance

17/076 Public Open Time

There were no members of the public in attendance.

17/077 Apologies

Cllr. Penney

17/078 Declarations of Interest

Pecuniary: None

Other interests: None

Requests for Dispensations: None

17/079 Minutes of the meeting held on 11.09.17

Cllr. Lawrence referred to minute 17/067 and said that he agreed to contact Shoosmiths to see what fees they required to review the Pocket Park lease, not to ask them to review the document.

With this amendment, it was proposed by Cllr. Hankins and seconded by Cllr. Strode-Willis that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th September 2017, and having previously been circulated, be accepted and signed as a true record of that meeting.

17/080 Matters arising.

There were no matters arising that were not covered by agenda items.

17/081 Reports from Other Bodies

Village Hall: Cllr. Lowe confirmed that the WI had insurance cover through the main body of the WI. He gave details of forthcoming events and said that the next meeting of the Village Hall Committee was scheduled for 1st November. The grant for the replacement windows and back doors of the hall had now been received and Cllr. Lowe confirmed that the landlord would be informed of the work. As the units are to be of hardwood, it was considered that planning permission would not be required.

17/082 Pocket Park

The Chairman had contacted Savills to ask for the lease to be drawn and also raised the matter of boundary fence provision/repairs. It was understood that Savills were inviting quotes for this work. Shoosmiths had provided an estimate of the professional fees required to review the draft lease. The Clerk is to seek a quote from Lamb and Holmes. **Action: Clerk**

17/083 Highways

Cllr. Mrs Brackenbury had spoken to Sarah Barnwell in respect of the H-bar markings but had heard nothing from Erik Drake but she said that she would follow this up. **Action: WB**

Patching repairs had been completed on Lowick Road but the work to the BT cover on Thorpe Road was still outstanding.

There had been no response from NCC about the “No horses” sign.

17/084 Street Lighting

While carrying out maintenance work, an E.ON official had informed the Chairman that there were two lanterns that could no longer be replaced and he would get E.ON to notify the Parish Council. It was agreed to consider replacement lanterns at the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

17/085 Vehicle Activated Sign

The Chairman had found that most portable signs were in the order of £2500 - £3000 although there were some smaller units at around £1000. With the cost of the licence, etc., it would be difficult to justify such an expenditure. Cllr Mrs Brackenbury suggested sharing a unit with other parishes and said that she would raise this at meetings. **Action: WB**

The Clerk had contacted Sarah Barnwell over the provision of “gateways” at the entrances to the village. Currently there were no funds available for these works and it was unlikely that this situation would

Chairman

Date

change. Parishes could fund these measures which work out at about £1500 per site depending on location.

It was suggested that a 20mph limit could be implemented by the school. Cllr. Mrs Brackenbury said she would speak to Steve Barber at NCC and arrange a meeting with representative councillors.

Action: WB

17/086 To Consider Correspondence Received

Various items of correspondence as per list circulated to Members were discussed. The Chairman said he would respond to the questionnaire from Oundle First Responders. **Action: BB**

17/087 Planning

- a) There were no applications for consideration.
- b) No applications had been considered since the last meeting.
- c) It was noted that application 17/01782/FUL had been withdrawn.

17/088 Finance

- (i) The Clerk presented the monthly statement of accounts. Since the last meeting, £4350 being the second half of the precept had been received. The Clerk also presented the bank reconciliation statement to 31.08.17.
- (ii) The budget monitoring report was considered. The payment of the notice board invoice and the receipt of the ARAPAC funds had both been expected in 2016/17 and provision had not been made in the 2017/18 budget. It was agreed to consider the extent of works to be undertaken in 2017/18 at the next meeting and councillors were asked to bring forward proposals. One suggestion was to clean the War Memorial and Cllr. Mrs Brackenbury said she would forward details. **Action: All**
- (iii) The following invoices were approved for payment, proposed by Cllr. Hankins and seconded by Cllr. Lawrence:

BDO LLP £120.00 Cheque No. 100688
E.ON Street light maintenance £200.74 Cheque No.100689
E.ON Street light energy £211.44 Cheque No. 100690
Francis Hale (3 x invoices) £290.00 Cheque No. 100691

- (iv) The Clerk reported on the Internal Audit Test undertaken prior to this meeting with Cllr. Strode-Willis. There were no issues arising.
- (v) The Clerk presented the Annual Audit Report. It was noted that the auditors had raised the issue of staff expenses being included in staff costs rather than with other costs. The Clerk said that previous internal auditors had told him to include items such as travelling, annual costs, etc., with salary and this had not been queried before. It was agreed to accept the report, proposed by Cllr. Blakeman and seconded by Cllr. Lawrence.
- (vi) The Clerk will prepare the base draft budget for the next meeting and will circulate it to councillors prior to the meeting. **Action: Clerk.**

17/089 Items Requiring Urgent Attention, For Information or For the Next Agenda

Cllr. Mrs Brackenbury spoke of NCC's financial issues and the consultation that had been launched. Councillors discussed the situation and possible options if the budget cuts went ahead.

17/090 Date of next meeting.

Monday 11th December 2017 commencing at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further urgent business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.02pm.