

Minutes of The Uffington Parish Council Meeting held Wednesday 8th November 2017

Present: Cllr. Brown – Chairman, Cllr. Dodsworth, Cllr. Mulvaney, Cllr. P. Genever & Cllr. Sheehan, Cllr. K. Genever, Cllr. Babbs.

Member of public Mr R.Irvine

1. Apologies. All councillors present.
2. Introduction to meeting of prospective new clerk.

Lorraine Thurston was introduced to the councillors and, following clarification of terms and conditions, was offered the position of clerk for a probationary period of three months. At the end of this period Lorraine will be employed at the discretion of the council.

3. **Minutes of the previous meeting** - approved as a true record.

Proposer: Cllr Mulvaney. Seconder: Cllr Brown

4. **Declarations of interest** – Cllr Brown declared in interest in the allotments

5. Matters arising

The Big Clean

There was concern about the efficiency of this enterprise. As further work is to be registered to the big clean it was felt that the cleaning/clearing could be more effective.

Play area

Cllr Mulvaney reported that a solution has been found to the problem of burnishing children's names into the palings. She has sourced some industrial strength transfers which can be fixed and varnished over in situ if required. The film is UV protected and guaranteed for 10 years. The company are willing to print these for the village and to provide additional names if required at a later date.

Action : Cllr Mulvaney to find out lead time on order and notify council of expected delivery date.

The Wicksteed report said that the toddler's swing is too close to the fence. As the swing is set in concrete it was thought that the wood may be damaged by trying to move it and the swing would need to be re-inspected by Wicksteed. The best solution is to clear the brambles and move the fence. Other minor issues also require attention.

Action: Cllrs agreed to form a working party to clear brambles and move the fence.

The spacing of the fence palings has been questioned.

It was agreed that the palings will be re-spaced and additional palings will be sanded by Cllr P Genever and Cllr Brown. Ben Freeman has agreed to re-fix them.

Additional play equipment. The Somes Trust would like to donate some equipment to the toddler area. This will be discussed further when a piece of equipment has been selected.

Defibrillator

Cllr Mulvaney reported that the charity Dosh for Defibs has closed down.

Tallington received 50% of their funding from external agencies and raised the remainder. The total cost for the machine, secure box and connection is in the region of £2000.

Fundraising strategies and grant help from SKDC discussed.

Action:

Cllr Dodsworth to set a pub quiz, Cllr K Genever to set a date, Cllr Mulvaney to research SKDC community funding. Clerk to approach scarecrow committee to discuss.

Refurbishment of village sign

Cllr P Genever reported that the sign is drying out but appears to be in good order and will be referred to a professional for re-painting.

It will be slightly shorter when it is re-set as the base of the post has rotted.

Allotments

One of the tenants has now been given notice as discussed at the previous meeting.

Several of the tenants have planted trees and have plans to re-dig the pond and erect new .It was agreed that any surplus funds from allotment rents could be allocated to this project.

Two new tenants will be given agreements for the plot discussed at the previous meeting. Tenancy will commence in January 2018.

Correspondence

Anglia water

The clerk invited a representative from Anglia Water to the council meeting to discuss the water main replacement, but did not receive a reply.

Letter from resident

Cllr Brown received a letter from an Uffington resident with reference to hedgerow which had been damaged during other works.

After discussion it was decided to plant hawthorn before spring. A concern was raised because of the leylandii on the other side of the fence which will over-shade new growth.

Proposed: Cllr Babbs. Seconder: Cllr Dodsworth.

Action: Clerk to reply to letter. Cllr K Genever to source and plant.

7. Planning

The following three applications were discussed and there was no objection.

S17/1869 – Erection of single storey ext. bay window and alterations – 56 Casewick Lane, Uffington - Bender

S17/1881 – Fell horse chestnut tree, The Coach House, Main Road, Uffington – J Horne

S17/1880- Fell 2 x sycamore tree, The Coach House, Main Road, Uffington – J Horne

The following application was discussed and there were objections on the grounds that it constituted development in an agricultural paddock and there were concerns about the level of lighting.

S17/2011 – construction of pond, putting green and golf bunker, erection of summerhouse and pergola and associated engineering and landscaping works – Hedley Stroud, 1 Main Road, Uffington.

Action: Clerk to notify planning department at SKDC re: objections.

8. Accounts

The following accounts were approved Proposer: Cllr Brown & seconder: Cllr K Genever

2 x grass cutting 12/10/17 & 02/11/17 = £100.00 C. Harris

Litter picking 16 hours from 14/07/17 to 23/09/17 = £104.00 Fergus Barratt

Bank balances before above accounts were debited:

Treasurers account £1788.53

Deposit account £5471.06

Precept

The Precept for 2018/19 was discussed. Agreement reached to precept for £4000 (The same as last year) Proposer: Cllr. Mulvaney, Seconder: Cllr. Babbs

Action: The Clerk to notify SKDC.

Litter picking

Fergus is continuing to do this job around the village. There is also a voluntary team of litter pickers in Stamford organised by Jane Hartley. It was thought that there was no overlap.

Grass cutting

Accounts approved

Any Other Business

Footpath 10. This is overgrown.

Action: Cllr Babbs to inspect the path and report back for any action required.

Village Hall 100 Club. Cllr Mulvaney reminded the council members that this is available and will raise valuable funds for the Village Hall.

Pot Holes. There are pot holes in Lindsey Road.

Action: Clerk to contact highways.

2 School Lane.

There have been further issues reported about plumbing for foul water being wrongly connected. This has been passed on to SKDC for investigation.

Clerk will also write to SKDC expressing concern over the management of these alterations.

Village Hall Committee:

Mr Irvine strongly urged the Parish Counsellors to send a representative to the Village Hall Committee as they need support from village organisations.

Meetings are bi-monthly and it was proposed that there could be a rolling representation. There was doubt as to whether this fitted into the constitution.

Action: Clerk to request and read the constitution and report back to next meeting.

Date of next meeting Wednesday 20th December at 20:00.

Meeting closed 21:40.