

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held 10 July 2017. Venue: Norman Fraser Suite, Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Parish Councillors – H. Jenkins, R. Corkin, R Curtis, P. Johnson, J. O’Neil

Also Present: Richard Shepherd- Cross, Mike Stokes & Val Day.

Parishioners’ issues:

Val Day outlined the options for the future of the 3 Parishes Magazine [see Appendix 1] to ensure that the magazine had a wider circulation; was an independent charity & was less dependent on subscriptions. The Council was happy to support the proposals but recognised that this was only the first stage in making the magazine self-sufficient & further consultation would be required. Richard Shepherd-Cross made an impassioned plea about the entertainment at the White Lion Pub. A noisy, licenced party starting at 11am on a Sunday morning, with the PA system on much too loudly, was hardly what was expected in a small village. It was accepted that there would be a degree of noise expected living near a Public House but this was considered to be excessive. A protest was made to the Landlord & the noise abatement department has been notified. There have been other objections to the number of functions being offered. There was no request for the Parish Council to take any action but to be aware of the increasing level of village dissatisfaction. There was a reminder about a “Noisy Neighbour App” available from Cherwell District Council. Madeleine Gilpin submitted a written report [see Appendix 2] about the support needed for the saplings on the edge of Ardley Wood; unkempt hedges in Somerton Road & Water Lane and the difficulty exiting Water Lane because of the overgrown plants in the borders of the bungalow. The Chairman took an action point to investigate.

Declaration of Interests: None

Apologies: N. Lewis; D. Peat & County/ District Councillor I. Corkin.

Minutes of the meeting held on 08 May 2017 were accepted & signed.

Matters Arising:

- B430 Air Quality results. No updates currently. I. Corkin to follow up.
- Clearing culvert & fitting new safety rail – Clerk to contact Gordon Hunt
- Emergency Plans to be developed in conjunction with Church & Village Hall are ongoing
- Planning training for Councillors. Clerk to arrange with Bob Duxbury
- Quote for 2 new notice Boards & appropriate locations for 2017/18 – ongoing.
- Traffic calming. 2 speed surveys undertaken at a cost of £240.
- The village mower was sent to Turney for a service estimate, which resulted in a bill for £241. Councillor O’Neil continues to consider how best to dispose of, or utilise, the mower.
- Storm damaged tree at 13 Castlefields, Councillor Johnson still investigating.

District Councillor – In a written report Ian Corkin advised that the DC continues to make good progress delivering services, controlling costs, generating income & fostering culture to allow this to happen, based on the benefits identified in various reports commissioned by the councils.

County Councillor: - Ian Corkin submitted a written report [see Appendix 3].

Grass Cutting & Woods Report - Councillor Johnson was reviewing the grass cutting since there had been comments about overgrown areas by Derwent House & the bus stop opposite the pub. He would check the situation & add to the contract if necessary. It was reported that the Paddock was rife with ragwort & a spray quote was recommended. Councillor Johnson reported that he was happy with the Ardley Wood committee & Councillor R Corkin offered her support to the team. Discussions about the ongoing woods' maintenance raised questions about holistic advice & whether the Woodlands Trust might be able to provide this. Councillor Johnson to consider.

Planning Applications. - A schedule of planning applications was tabled & discussed. All items agreed. Proposed by Councillor Johnson & seconded by Councillor O'Neil.

Finance – As discussed at the previous meeting the PC reserves include £15,000 of restricted funds awaiting a decision on the proposed footpath. If this was not to proceed the funds may need to be repaid or an acceptable alternative urgently proposed to the CC. Councillor Lewis to review. The Clerk confirmed that the NALC scale could be progressive or fixed depending on the terms of the employment contract. PC to decide at a future date.

A schedule of payments made in May & June & expected to be made in July 2017 was presented. All items agreed. Proposed by Councillor Jenkins & seconded by Councillor Johnson [Appendix 4]

Any Other Business -

After much discussion about the most appropriate way to help, a £400 sponsorship for Village Hall Beer Festival was agreed. Proposed Councillor Johnson; Seconded Councillor Curtis

Next Parish Council Meeting will be in the Village Hall on **11th September 2017 at 7.30pm**

Signed.....

Date.....