

HIGHAM ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Date: Monday 11th November 2019
Time: 7.30 pm
Present: Cllr Golder (Chair), Cllr Jenkins, Cllr Gayton, Cllr Grimes, Cllr Waterton
A Perkins (Clerk), Jonathan Collet, Kate Phillips, 1 member of the public
Cllr Collett joined the meeting at 8.10pm.

1) APOLOGIES

Cllr Whitehead, Cllr I Ould.

2) MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd September 2019 were agreed by the Parish Councillors present, and then signed as a true record of the meeting

3) DECLARATION OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS

Cllr Waterton declared an interest relating to item 9.1 of the agenda.

4) LOCAL POLICING ISSUES / NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

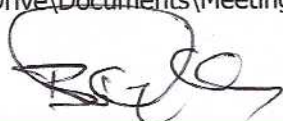
- No Police representative attended. The clerk had forwarded the October Police Newsletter by email to each parish councillor.
- Community PCSO's had carried out a speed watch event near to the school and a parking officer had been advising parents how to park thoughtfully.
- Stoke Golding PC had advised of their worsening speeding problems and that an ANPR camera had been suggested. Clerk to investigate further. **Action: Parish Clerk**

5) COUNTY COUNCIL ISSUES

Cllr Ould had emailed his September report and this had been forwarded to all Councillors.

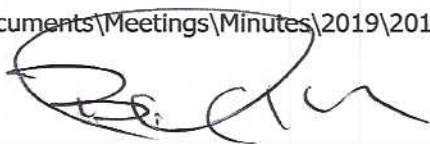
6) BOROUGH COUNCIL ISSUES

- Threat to land acquisition for housing is still very real and could affect Higham on the Hill. 5 year land supply: Barwell SUE is still a live application however if this fails then HBBC will be looking at land in the whole of the Borough.
- HBBC have agreed to offer free parking in their car parks on Saturdays this Christmas
- Cllr Collett will be stepping in for Santa at Higham on the Hill CE Advent Fayre.
- Cllr Martin Cartwright looking for Rural Priorities. Clerk to contact. **Action: Parish Clerk**



7) **MATTERS OUTSTANDING**

- 7.1 Recreation Ground: Cllr Gayton had identified items requiring attention outlined in the 2019 RoSPA Report. Cllr Gayton to notify clerk which parts to order. Clerk to pass contact details for Michael W Smith Ground Maintenance to Cllr Gayton. **Action: Cllr Gayton/Parish Clerk**
- 7.1.2 RoSPA Inspection: Report on Open Field to be sought **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 7.1.3 Boundary in playing field – Miss Lysette Sampey had been notified and confirmed that once building works were complete, a new fence would be erected on the permitted boundary No. 19 Main Street - no new gate access required. **Action: Completed**
- 7.1.4 Michael Smith had submitted a 3 yr grounds maintenance contract to include extra items as requested but to exclude emptying of dog waste bins. It was agreed to accept the quotation. **Action: Completed**
- 7.1.5 Access to Playing Field from Oddfellows Arms: A R Cartwright had re-installed fencing to allow vehicle access for mowing etc. **Action: Completed**
- 7.2 First Aid Training for Defibrillator Users – Defer to next meeting **Action: Cllr Gayton**
- 7.3 Path down Nuneaton Lane (Ref: SR-13788950) [Ref: 4593101913630]. Despite Cllr Gayton's article in the Fresh Outlook, only two residents had contacted LCC with their concerns. Cllr Ould to be contacted for an update. Clerk to investigate Access and Equality for Disabled users. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 7.4 Land at Rear of Hilary Bevins Close (previously 7.4 Matters Outstanding).
- 7.4.1 Meadow has been cut and invoice paid. **Action: Completed**
- 7.4.2 Naming of land: The School to be contacted again in the Spring 2020
Action: Cllr Jenkins
- 7.5 Parking: A resident had emailed his concerns about road safety and the parking opposite the Oddfellows, the shop and the junction. It was agreed to look into providing a parking layby taking some of the green and rerouting the footpath. HBBC to be contacted and costing worked if agreed. **Action: Parish Clerk**
- 7.6 Pavements in Station Road: LCC confirmed that footpath undulations are within tolerance levels except at the front of 2 Station Road. Resident had been asked to contribute – ongoing.
Action: Parish Clerk
- 7.7 Kate Phillips of 'Save the Oddies' committee gave an update. A meeting to be arranged with A R Cartwrights re their intentions for the site. A request for £400 for a paper valuation to be carried out was deferred until the above meeting has taken place. .
- 7.8 Dog fouling (previously 7.9 Matters Outstanding).
- 7.8.1 HBBC had repainted stencils around the village and supplied a stencil, paint and signage to enable the parish council to refresh/renew in problem areas as needed – ongoing.
Action: All
- 7.8.2 New dog waste bin: This has been installed by HBBC at an agreed cost of £138.89.
- 7.8.3 A new contract for emptying of 8 dog waste bins @ £1.61 per bin weekly was agreed.
Action: Completed



→ for open Area

- 7.9 Maintenance of Old Churchyard: Deferred. Cllr Jenkins had organised a Working Party for 24th November to tidy the area and plant hedgerow plants donated by the Woodlands Trust. Future grass tidying requirements had also been confirmed to Michael Smith. **Action: Completed**
- 7.10 The gate rents were collected from all properties around the recreation ground by the clerk and the cash banked. The next due date will be March 2023. **Action: Completed**
- 7.11 The Parish Council Website (previously 11.1): Cllr Whitehead and the Clerk had met and updated the website. **Action: Completed**
- 7.12 Vehicle activated sign: Cllr Gayton had liaised with Westcote re the maintenance and a new battery had been purchased. **Action: Completed**
- 7.13 Christmas Tree – Cllr Gayton to meet with prospective donor and arrange for erection. **Action: Cllr Gayton**

8) **CORRESPONDENCE**

- 8.1 Paradise Found Garden Design – Free Ginkgo Bilboa Tree: Offer declined as faculty would be required to plant in the old churchyard and also a native variety would be preferable. Letter of thanks to be sent to the donor and also for maintaining a village planter. Letter of thanks to be sent to Hazel Green for also maintain a village planter. Oak Tree issue: It was agreed that LCC's arborist be contacted re the overhanging bough before any damage occurs on footpath T49. Kissing gate also to be investigated. **Action: Cllr Jenkins/Parish Clerk**

9) **PLANNING**

- 9.1 Wall around front of property on Main Street (Pump Row). Waiting for an update from LCC.

10) **FINANCE**

Cheque	Dated	Payee		Goods/Services	£
001348	16.9.19	Fisher Partnership	Rural	Mowing of field	300.00
001349		Mrs D Dickson		Thank You Gift	100.00
001350		Lexis Nexis		Arnold Baker 11 th Ed.	110.99
001351	05.10.19	Playsafety Ltd		RoSPA Inspection	153.60
001352		NALC		Councillors Guide	10.49
001353		Michael W Smith		September mowing etc	491.60
001354		Westcotec Ltd		VAS Repairs	595.80
001355	14.10.19	NALC		Finance Guide	3.49
001356	11.11.19	Michael W Smith		October mowing etc	572.00
001357		Alison Perkins		Expenses 1.8 to 31.10	90.20
001358		Mrs E Fisher		Audit Fee 2018/19	60.00
Card	04.09.19	Plant Life		Membership Fee	39.00
Card	04.10.19	Ryman Stationers		Archive Boxes	14.00
Card		Amazon		HP All in one Printer	102.99
DD	27.09.19	Currys		Laptop Insurance	6.50
					£2650.66
Income Received:					
04.09.19	HBBC		Precept		7223.95
22.10.19	Cash Payments		Gate Contract Fees		5.00
					£7228.95

Current Bank Balance at 4th October 2019: £26,906

- 10.1 Budget 2019/20: It was agreed that funds would be made available for the following
- Party in the Park £1,000
 - Footpath improvements £10,000

11) **OTHER MATTERS**

11.1 PSPO (Public Space Protection Order): Signage to be reviewed for all open spaces in the parish at the next meeting. **Action: Cllr Gayton**

11.2 Adoption of policies and procedures: To be emailed to all for their approval. **Action: Parish Clerk**

Cllr Whitehead had requested a period of 6 months extended leave due to family commitments:

Thanks for the messages. I understand the predicament I have left the PC in. I feel very guilty that you would need a further election and totally understand your reasons for not wanting this.

Given this, I am happy to not resign at this point and take a leave of absence for the 6 months. However, I must stress I would like this minuted and that I will not have any involvement in decisions with the PC for this time period and there would be no expectation from me to attend meetings and participate in the PC.

I say this because if it isn't minuted and documented, this would leave me accountable, if there were any serious issues etc during this time period and this would not be fair. Not that I'm expecting there to be, but you never know!

It doesn't sit comfortably with me to have a silent involvement, as I do not feel I'm giving the PC the support and time it needs. However, if all council members are happy with this plan and it's acceptable within parish council rules, I will take the 6 mths leave of absence. I do not want to give any false hope that I'll be back in 6 mths though.

Currently, I'm awaiting a date for surgery myself and we are seeing a surgeon on 29th Nov for Evies maxofacial surgery. To be honest Brian I'm taking week by week at the moment and i can't think any further than this.

I do not mind you sending this email to the council members, as they need to agree with the above and know my situation if I was to take leave.

I hope you understand my reasons and it's certainly nothing personal to the PC. It's just a very difficult time for me and my family at the moment.

Best wishes

Kay

Cllr Grimes agreed to take over the administration of the website with the help of the parish clerk.

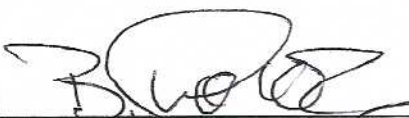
12) **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions from the public

The meeting concluded at 9.10pm.

The next meeting will be held in the Methodist Church as follows:

Monday 13th January 2020

Signed 

Dated 13th JAN 2020