

Knightwick and Doddenham Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at 8pm on Monday 17th November 2014 in the Village Hall, Knightwick.

Present;

D Kirkbright – Chairman

Cllrs: Ms G Evans, Ms M Horton, Ms J M Peters

Messrs; F Budden, P Edwards, S K Munday, G M Brewin (Clerk), P Tuthill (County Cllr.), A Warburton (District Cllr.)

Apologies:

Cllrs, B Munt, D Hughes (District Cllr.),

Visitors - Mr D Darling - The Chantry School, Martley

Public Question Time prior to the formal meeting;

Mr D Darling - The Chantry School, Martley presented the plan for improved community sports facilities at Martley and the process for obtaining financial support for these. Councillors asked the clerk to write a formal letter of support for this project. (see appendix-a for details)

Reports; County Councillor, District Councillors, Parish Footpath's Warden et al.

Cllr P Tuthill reported on further developments on the cost reductions at County Hall, the widening of the Worcester Southern Relief Road and progress on the proposed Parkway railway station at Norton.

Cllr A Warburton reported on the developing process of MHDC co-operation with Wychavon District Council and the new joint chief executive.

The formal meeting began at 8:45pm

Agenda

1.

Apologies for absence and members' declarations of interest.

The chairman advised that he had received a letter of resignation from Cllr B Munt. This was formally noted. The clerk was asked to write to Mr Munt thanking him for his contribution to the work of the council.

The clerk advised that as the time to the next election was less than six months it was not necessary to co-opt a new councillor. This was agreed.

There were no declarations of interest in agenda items.

2.

Confirm the minutes of the Meeting of the Council - Monday 15th September 2014, circulated in advance.

These were agreed as a true record and signed by the chairman

3.

Financial Matters;

a) Note Clerk's delegated payment, B-Gas – V/Hall electricity, £24.51 inc vat - Noted

As the fixed period agreement with the supplier was due to end in December the clerk was asked to investigate an alternative source for electricity.

b) Note Clerk's delegated payment, Andrew's Gardening Services - V/Hall Surroundings £110.00 - Noted

c) Parish of the Lower Teme Valley - request for support.

The clerk advised that amongst the items of expenditure incurred by the Parish only that of the repainting of the lych gate would qualify for support. As members were unhappy with the result of this work it was agreed not to make a contribution.

d) Pay Clerk's expenses April - Sept, £27.31 - agreed

e) Pay F Budden - repairs to vandalised Bus Shelter; £68.00 - Agreed

e) Note the half-yr financial situation and consider a precept for 2015-16 to be decided at the January meeting

The clerk drew members' attention to the low level of the reserve caused by the large repair and maintenance cost of the village hall. He urged members to consider raising the precept to repair the fall in the council's finances. (see appendix-b for details)

4.

Planning Matters;

Note clerk's delegated response to 14/01011/HOU - Cherry Tree Cottage, Sunningdale - 'No Comments'

Noted

5.

Possible Sale of the Village Hall

Clerk to report on progress ref. detailed design for residential development.

In discussion with Mr Ian Guest of Ian Guest Associates he had agreed that the only way in which planning permission for a domestic property could be obtained would be if a car parking and turning area which would meet the requirements of the highways and planning authorities could be arranged. To do this it would be necessary to

purchase a 22 m wide strip of land to the north side of the building from the current landowner.
Mr Guest proposed that he would set out a car parking and turning area which would meet the requirements of the highways and planning authorities. (details circulated to Cllrs.) This had been done and was presented to the council.

It was agreed that the clerk should write to the landowner concerned asking for agreement in principle for the purchase of this land if the council could then obtain planning permission for a residential dwelling.

6. Neighbourhood Plan – Progress etc.

Cllr D Kirkbright to report.

Progress has halted as the demands of the project exceed the volunteers available. The leader - Dr S Cumella of Martley - has proposed a revised method of working and is discussing this with the group to identify a way forward.

7. Clerk's Report,

Correspondence, - is now virtually all via email and is circulated to councillors on receipt if relevant. Actions from the previous meeting, - have been completed and reported above, on the Neighbourhood Plan project he would circulate a paper from the Alfrick and Lulsley team showing their approach to the problems they are encountering.

8. Items for the next meeting

- a) Discussion on the future of the Neighbourhood Plan
- b) Precept for 2015-16

9. Confirm the date of the next meeting:

Bi-Monthly Meeting of the Council - 19th January 2015 – Agreed.

The meeting closed at 9:45pm

Minutes confirmed 19/01/2015