

SEDGEBERROW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Sedgeberrow Parish Council Meeting held at the Betteridge Room in Sedgeberrow Village Hall on Tuesday 29th April 2014.

Present Cllr's Mrs M Pratt [Chairman], Mr J De Paris, Mr D Farmer, Mr R Hunt and Mr A Stow.

In Attendance Ms J Shields (Clerk), Cllr E Eyre (County) and Mr M Parker.

1. Election of Chairman.

Cllr Stow proposed and Cllr De Paris seconded and it was agreed by all to elect Cllr Pratt as Chairman, who duly signed the acceptance of office.

2. Apologies: To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence.

Apologies had been received from Cllr Roma Kirke (District).

3. Declaration Of Interests.

Councillors were reminded to update their registers of interest and to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and their nature.

4. To Consider The Adoption Of The Minutes Of The Meeting Held On Thursday 13th March 2014.

The minutes having been previously circulated were agreed and signed as a true record.

Meeting was closed.

SeSaME feedback

We had a successful "European Leader" study visit from ten Swedish villagers on the 30th March that was reported in the Evesham Journal. The Swedish group was introduced to the Business, Environment and Community department at County Hall, with two officers joining us and supporting our visitors during their visit.

SeSaME will be entering the new, Intelligently Green Awards recently launched by Wychavon DC.

The Energy Event held on the 12th April led to 10 villagers registering for a Free, Green Deal assessment of their homes. Due to changes in government policy since our Home Energy Survey was completed, there is still some doubt about how grants will be allocated, though the County Council were successful in their bid for DECC funding. Whatever the outcome, Sedgeberrow is well placed to benefit, if residents wish to take up any offers.

SeSaME has been invited to attend:

The Worcestershire Leader Consultation Event, hosted by the Business, Environment and Community department, to be held on Thursday 8th May 2014 at Pershore College. The aim of this event is to harness local knowledge on how best to deliver effectively against the national priorities in Worcestershire. All areas classed as rural will be eligible under the new Programme.

And: The Worcestershire Climate Change Strategy group on the 20th June.

Mike Parker Chairman

Meeting resumed.

5. Police.

No Report.

6. County Councillor.

No Report.

7. District Councillor.

No Report.

8. Election of Vice Chairman.

Cllr Pratt proposed and Cllr De Paris seconded and it was agreed to the election of Cllr Hunt as Vice Chairman.

9. To Appoint Representatives To The Following.

- a) Worcestershire Association of Local Councils.
 Cllr's Pratt and De Paris.
- b) Village Hall.
 Cllr De Paris.
- c) Police Group.
 Cllr Farmer.
- d) Transport.
 Mrs Sylvia Brown
- e) Footpath.
 Cllr De Paris.
- f) Tree Warden.
 Cllr De Paris.
- g) Flood Warden.
 Cllr Hunt.

Clerk to write to Mrs Brown and to confirm the appointment, and to thank her for the previous years' work.

Clerk to write to Mr May to thank him for the previous year's work.

10. To Review The Councils Financial Regulation, Risk Assessment And Insurance Requirements.

Cllr's Pratt and Hunt will look at the Insurance Policy, which is due for renewal to ensure the council is adequately covered.

The council agreed to keep the Financial Regulations as they are and the risk assessment had only recently been carried out.

11. Progress Reports For Information.

- a) Clerk.
 Report previously circulated.
 The Clerk had completed and submitted PAYE.
- b) War Memorial.
 A further quote had not yet been received.

12. Correspondence.

- The SWDP Inspector's Further Interim Conclusions and New Homes Bonus Protocol 2014 - 2016 had been circulated.
- Worcs. County Council had agreed to the retention of the mobile classroom at Sedgeberrow first school for a further 3 years.
- No councillor is able to attend the Localism in Action Event, Resilience Focus group meeting or the 10th Parish Conference.
- Sarah Long had written to ask if the council would put in a ramp to enable easier access to the Play Area in Main Street. The council had looked into this when the area was refurbished, due to the area available and the cost it is not feasible, Cllr Pratt to reply and to write a piece for the Post explaining.
- Litter pick - The flood group will carry out the litter pick, Cllr Hunt to organise.
- The Chairman will respond to an E mail from Fiona Argyle, regarding a ditch by the school.

13. To Discuss Co Option of a Councillor.

The council unanimously agreed to co opt Mr C Devereaux-Little on to the council, clerk to write and inform of the next meeting.

14. Highway Matters.

Cllr Eyre had informed the council that surface dressing was taking place in the Sedgeberrow area.

Clerk to report the following to the County Council:-

- Various potholes and uneven surface in Winchcombe Road from the Pub to the edge of the parish heading toward Dumbleton and the Cheltenham Road between 13 and the Old Police House.
- All the white lines in the parish need re doing especially the junction of Millfield and the Winchcombe Road, there are 'cats eyes' missing from the Cheltenham Road.

15. To Consider The Purchase Of A Defibrillator.

The School Governors have no objection to the siting in the School/Hall site, however no funding was offered. Cllr Pratt to speak to the Village Hall Committee. The council will advertise in the post, to ask for support for the project and donations, this will fulfil the criteria for new homes bonus funding, to cover the shortfall.

16. To Ratify the Council's Continuation in the WCC Lengthsman Scheme.

The council agreed to continue participating in the County Council Lengthsman Scheme, clerk to complete and return the necessary paperwork.

17. To Agree Lengthsman Terms.

The council having been concerned at the cost of operating the VAS had investigated other parish council operating costs. The council agreed to pay £25.00 per month for the operation of the VAS to include, weekly charging of the battery and a four weekly change of position. The clerk will draw up separate contract of services, one for Lengthsman duties and one for VAS operation, these will be sent to Mr Woodhouse.

18. Finance.

- a) To Receive Bank Reconciliation As At 29th April 2014.

No figures were available.

b) To Receive Accounts To Date.

The following remittance had been received:-

Vat £709.13, Precept £4,510.00, Grant £274.00.

c) To Approve Payments.

The council approved the following payments:-

S O J Shields £154.43 (April and May), Village Hall £40.00, Lengthsman £ 250.00, Came and Co. £467.04, HMRC £110.80 and Seseme Seeds £102.60 (from allocation).

d) To Approve Accounts 2013/2014.

The council agreed the accounts and the audit form was duly signed by the chairman. The accounts will be taken to the auditor next week and will be sent to Grant Thornton the external auditor at the end of June.

e) Application for rate relief 500242545.

The council agreed to support this application with a cheque for £120.50.

f) Application for rate relief 500234520.

The council agreed to support this application with a cheque for £150.63.

19. Planning.

a) To consider applications since last meeting.

- I. W/14/00734/PP - Manor House, 9 Main Street, Sedgeberrow. Proposed rear extension. No reason to object.
- II. W/14/00089/PN - Orchard Farm, Cheltenham Road, Sedgeberrow. Reserved matters application following permission W/13/01856/OU for access, appearance, landscaping, layout & scale of new residential dwelling. No reason to object.
- III. AB/14/00378/AB - Longfurrow Farm, Sandfield Lane, Sedgeberrow. Mono-pitched, steel framed agricultural building to house farm machinery. No reason to object.

b) To report decisions since last meeting.

Approved by Wychavon.

- I. AB/14/00378/AB - Longfurrow Farm, Sandfield Lane, Sedgeberrow. Mono-pitched, steel framed agricultural building to house farm machinery.
- II. W/13/01948 84 main street, Sedgeberrow. Single storey extension (retrospective).
- III. Land Adjacent, 79 Winchcombe Road, Sedgeberrow. Two new dwellings on land adjacent to 79 Winchcombe Road - as approved under permission reference number W/13/00934/OU but without compliance with condition number 9 (visibility splays).

20. Items For Future Agenda and Councillor Reports.

The entry forms for the Parish Games had been received and will be distributed.

The council has £3,139.00 in New Homes Bonus funds available to date.

Chairman to investigate cost of new swing, agenda item for July.

Cllr Hunt had attended the 'European Leader' study, as above.

21. Date Of Next Meeting.

Thursday July 10th 2014.