**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**HELD AT THE GUILD HALL, ASTON CANTLOW**

**ON THURSDAY 10th NOVEMBER 2016 – NO. 84.**

1. **Record of Members Present:**

Cllr. Harvey, Chairman, Cllr. Wallis, Cllr. Berry, Cllr. Fitzgibbon and one member of the public.

 Part meeting: County Cllr. Horner

**2. Apologies:**

District Cllr. Gittus

**3. Written requests for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests where that interest is not already in the register of members’ interests:**

 No requests were received.

**4. Minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2016.**

These were approved by all Cllrs. and signed by the Chairman.

**5. Public Participation:**

 Mrs. Flood expressed concern that the new railings adjacent to 3 Holyoake Farm Cottages appeared to be in front of the hedge line. Cllr. Harvey is of the opinion that the railings are actually in line with the hedge but offered for the Parish Council to ask Enforcement Officers to have a look to make sure all is in order. Mrs. Flood did not want us to do that and said she would arrange for it to be looked at herself.

 No further items were raised.

**6. County and District Cllrs. reports for information only. (Unless known in advance items raised for a decision will appear on the next agenda.)**

 County Cllr. Horner had provided a written report ahead of the meeting and this is attached on page 6.

**7. Planning matters – update on current planning applications:**

*Planning Application No. 16/02385/FUL Pools Barn Farm, Little Alne:* Conversion and change of use of agricultural barn to agricultural financial business office and Pools Barn Farm office. Pending consideration.

*Planning Application No. 16/02539/OUT Pinehurst, Little Alne*: Outline application for erection of local needs Bungalow with all matters reserved. Pending consideration.

*Planning Application No. 16/02659/FUL Driftway Barn Glebe Farm, Mill Lane, Aston Cantlow:* Oak framed double garage. Permission granted.

*Planning Application No. 16/03012/LDE* *Cantilupe House*, Chapel Lane, Aston Cantlow: Detached Garage. Existing Lawful Development permitted.

*Planning Application No. 16/03233/TREE Apple Tree cottage, Bearley Road, Aston Cantlow:* 4 No fruit trees reduce crowns between 15% and 20%. Pending consideration.

Cllr. Harvey queried whether fruit trees in the conservation area require planning approval as her tree surgeon is of the opinion that they do not because they have to be regularly pruned anyway. The Clerk is of the opinion that all works to trees in a conservation area, with stems above a certain size, require planning approval but agreed to check this with SDC.

**8. Progress Report for information only:**

 The damaged black & white marker post outside the pub and damaged/displaced manhole cover in Brook Road have been reported to the Highways Dept.

 The hole in the tarmac by the BT cabinet has been filled and the sewerage encroaching onto the highway in Mill Lane appears to have been attended to.

 The defects on the countryside path No. AL173 have been reported to both the landowners and the County Council. Mr. Mason has confirmed that he will have the plank that has rotted away replaced.

 Confirmation had been received from Cllr. Gittus that the new hedge at Meadow Furlong was planted some time ago and the whips are growing well.

 The Clerk confirmed that she had reported the damaged sign near Little Alne bridge to the Highways Dept..

 Speeding traffic through Little Alne: The Clerk confirmed that she had requested this for a priority at the Alcester/Bidford Forum in December providing it is not cancelled. A few Slow signs had also been obtained for residents in Little Alne to put on their wheelie bins.

**9. Correspondence received:**

 - BT programme of intended public payphone removals. This includes the kiosk in Aston Cantlow. Cllr. Wallis was not opposed to this being removed. Seconded by Cllr. Harvey and agreed by Cllrs. Berry and Fitzgibbon.

 - Footpath & bridleway maintenance work – enquiry from a resident.

 It has been ascertained that a Lengthsman can, with agreement from a landowner and taking into account Health & Safety conditions, carry out something specific that may need attention on countryside paths.

 - A resident’s report about public footpath defects – AL173.

 - Resident report of damaged/displaced manhole cover on Brook Road.

 - Resident report of tarmac sinking where work carried out to install BT cabinet by Village Hall, possible water leak in Mill Lane.

 The following were received after the agenda had been circulated:

 - Details of free safety testing for Christmas lights on November 29th November at Stratford Fire Station.

 - Launch of Volunteer Connect – online service delivering volunteers to your inbox for organisations.

 - Wilmcote and Pathlow Pre-Submission Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 Consultation – repeat of the previous consultation due to new area designation. Cllr Harvey proposed no comments were necessary, seconded by Cllr. Berry and agreed by all.

**10. Parish Plan update:**

 A schedule of comments has been received for consideration from Matthew Neal as a result of the consultation. Some comments will not require action, but a number may result in amendments to the Plan and the associated Action Plan.

 Cllr. Harvey asked all Cllrs. to let her have their views on the comments for incorporation into the plan within the next week. The revised plan must then be returned to Matthew Neal for checking. Once a revised version of the document is agreed, it will then be reported to the Cabinet for endorsement.

**11. Draft Precept:**

Cllr Berry had prepared a draft precept for Cllrs. to consider and a final version will be prepared for agreement at the January meeting.

**12. S 137 Grants:**

 A request for a grant had been received from the PCC to help towards the upkeep of the churchyard, trees and boundary wall. Cllr. Harvey proposed that the requested figure of £300.00 be paid. Cllr. Berry seconded the proposal and all Cllrs. were in agreement.

 It is understood that an annual inspection has recently been carried out at the playground although no specific grant request has been received from the Village Hall Committee for our consideration.

**13. E5341:** Cllr Horner had not managed to contact the relevant officer regarding more suitable permanent closure notices but has confirmed that he will pursue the issue.

**14. Lengthsman scheme:**

One expression of interest has been received from a local company. Cllr. Berry will make contact and acknowledge their interest.

 The Clerk was asked by a resident whether a Lengthsman would be able to undertake work to countryside paths. This is dependent on individual landowners. If there is something specific that needs doing other than a ground-level obstruction which prevents safe access (this is WCC's responsibility and should be reported to WCC), then the Lengthsman can do anything, taking into account the usual Health & Safety considerations, after discussion with the landowner.

 If a landowner is approached and common sense prevails then there is no problem.

**14. Defibrillator update:**

 We are still awaiting news of our grant application. The Secretary of the Village Hall had written enquiring whether a power supply would be required. Cllr. Berry was not aware of the need for this but he did say there are many different models available and when we know the result of the grant request we can investigate further.

**15.** **Parish Council Events:**

Cllr. Wallis has started putting together a list of suggestions for next year and will also check event dates with other groups in the parish in order not to clash with them, or maybe to join with them in some way.

**16. Asset Register:**

Cllr. Wallis has carried out a visual inspection of all items, replaced or added some photographs and updated the register.

**18. Payment of outstanding invoices:**

Aston Cantlow Village Hall £ 13.00 (200474)

Mrs. E. Butterworth expenses March to November 191.74 (200475)

St. John the Baptist Church 300.00 (200476)

**16. Councillor’s reports and items for the agenda for the next meeting:**

Cllr Berry had noticed a damaged manhole cover in Shelfield – he will supply a photograph to enable the Clerk to report it to the Highways Dept..

Items for the next agenda:

Defibrillator update

Lengthsman Scheme update

Parish Plan status

Precept

Parish Council events

**18. Date of next meeting:** 12th January 2017.

No further business – Chairman closed the meeting at 9.45 p.m.

**County Councillor Report**

**County Budget 2017-2020 is in preparation**. The assumption is that local government funding will not change in the Chancellor’s Autumn Statement due out on November 23 and the Council will need to find an addition £67 million annual savings by 2020. The challenge is severe and the Council is looking at radically redesigning the way services are delivered as a way of ameliorating the impact.

County Council and key strategic partners have launched a **second annual cyber crime survey** to assess the impact that online crime is having around the county.  This is to test if there is a change in the level of awareness of cybercrime.
The survey can be found on [https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RegionalCyber16](http://track.vuelio.uk.com/z.z?l=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuc3VydmV5bW9ua2V5LmNvLnVrL3IvUmVnaW9uYWxDeWJlcjE2&r=7218855085&d=2030999&p=1&t=h&h=c8f58eb50daa5159fd3edcaf0dc0e0e0)

A secret store of illegal cigarettes led to **prosecution** of a Rugby Shop and Save store owner. 25% of a sample of **ham and cheese pizzas** bought from 40 small takeaways from across the County and were found not to be ham or cheese.

A major new **business support service** for small and medium sized firms in Coventry and Warwickshire has been launched. The service is available to businesses with up to 250 employees.

A series of **child car seat clinics** will be held at supermarket car parks around the county, organised with the Police and the Good Egg Guide, as there has been a worrying increase was found in the number of children who were not being appropriately restrained in cars.

The gap in **life expectancy** between North and South Warwickshire is at its smallest in a decade. On average, life expectancy in Warwickshire for males (80.1 years) and females (83.9 years) is higher than both the national and regional rates. The gap in expectancy across the best and worst areas in the county is 17 years for men and 16 years for women.

John Horner