**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

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

**ON THURSDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2015 – NO. 74.**

1. **Record of Members Present:**

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

1. **Apologies:** District Cllr. Gittus who was carrying our Chairman’s duties elsewhere.

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

No requests were received.

1. **Minutes of the meeting held on 15th October 2015:**

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

**5. Public Participation:**

Mrs. Flood had kindly provided some information setting out landowners and farmers responsibilities for river maintenance.

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

A report provided by County Cllr. Horner is attached on page 5.

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

*Planning application No. 15/02943/TPO* Polly Jones Associates, Holyoake House, Little Alne:T1:P copper Beech: reduce to clear house by 1.5m and balance, lift crown to 2.2m over parking area, LPG tank and hedge by removing seven lower branches. T2: Beech: Remove one branch growing through crown of nearby Yew, prune branches to clear telephone lines by 0.6m. T4: Ailianthus: section fell and replace with suitable tree to be agreed with local authority. Pending decision.

*Planning Application No. 15/02567/LBC* The Olde Barn, Shelfield: Conversion of section of garage block to a holiday let. Listed building consent approved.

*Planning Application Nos 15/03501/LBC and 15/03500/FUL* Mill Cottage, Mill Lane, Aston Cantlow: Erection of summerhouse (retrospective). Pending consideration.

The following application was then considered:

Planning Application No. 15/03683/FUL Fairfield, Bearley Road, Aston Cantlow: Demolition of existing garage and erection of proposed two storey side extension.

The application was discussed at length and after due consideration Cllr. Harvey proposed that the following response be made:

In the absence of any volume calculations or measurements, the proposals in this application would appear to be disproportionate and have a detrimental impact on the streetscene in the Green Belt. Therefore, Aston Cantlow Parish Council recommends the application is refused.

Cllr. Berry seconded this proposal and all were in agreement.

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

Road sinkage adjacent Midway, Bearley Road: It appears the Network Co-ordinator for Stratford West has not been able to track down the utilities responsible for these works and is in discussions with County Highways to work out how best to repair this section of works. A further update is expected. In the meantime the Clerk provided further information obtained from another resident that Severn Trent had to carry out some work in 2014 to the services to The Old Forge.

Water leak adjacent Teapot Hall: Severn Trent had been unable to carry out the work due to the requirement of three way traffic lights. A permit was obtained from the District Council and the work was due to be carried out today.

Loose and missing setts adjacent to the Kings Head: These have now been replaced/repaired.

Warwickshire County Council - Lengthsman Scheme

Proposals: Jenny Murray, Localities and Partnerships Manager (South), has advised that once they have assessed the issues that have arisen following the first six month review of the two year pilot scheme currently underway with several parishes in Rugby, she will be in a position to come back to us with further details.

**9. Correspondence received:**

-CSW Broadband Update – October 2015

-Parish Sand Bag offer

-Two telephone reports received from residents. One regarding one of the b & w marker posts in Brook Road being flattened and the other about a damaged manhole cover adjacent to The Old Forge in Bearley Road. Both items were reported to the Highways Dept., the b & w marker post has since been reinstated and Severn Trent have been notified about the damaged manhole cover.

-Warwickshire Minerals Plan (2017-2031) Consultation. Documents received on disc and Cllr. Harvey agreed to have a look at them.

Two further reports were received after the agenda had been circulated: a) Standing water on footpath outside the Arden Centre - this has been added to the Deliver Team’s work list and b) Damaged Chevron in Wilmcote Lane by The Old Green – reported to the Delivery Team's sign repair list.

It was agree that we should request 100 sand bags. Cllr. Berry will contact WCC to place the order and arrange a convenient time for collection. Cllrs. Berry and Wallis will meet with the Clerk to check up on current stocks of bags and sand. The clerk will contact Mr. Godfrey to ascertain if we can continue to store the sand and hopper on his land.

**10. Draft Precept estimation 2016/17:**

Various items were discussed such as renewal of the website hosting with SDC from 1st April 20126 and ring fencing a further £2,500.00 from reserves towards Superfast Broadband as originally agreed in 2012. Cllr. Harvey’s view at present is that our precept request should remain the same as the current year, £9,400.00. The final decision will be agreed at the January meeting.

**11. To agree Parish Council activities going forward:**

Cllr. Harvey provided a draft annual review of aims, objectives, workload and priorities for Cllrs. to consider prior to the next meeting.

**12. Social media:**

To be considered as part of the annual review mentioned in agenda item 11.

**13**. **Superfast Broadband:**

To be considered as part of the annual review mentioned in agenda item 11.

**14. Consultation: CIL Submission Charging Schedule:**

No response was considered necessary.

**15. Audit of non-listed properties of historic interest:**

In 2011 WCC launched a project, Imaging our past and present, the aim being to look for buildings and landscapes that are currently not protected within the planning process but people feel are important to their communities and future generations.

It is understood this particular project is no longer active and the Clerk is attempting to ascertain whether it is still possible to upload photographs onto the Historic Environment Records

**16. Parish Plan update:**

To date about 25 completed questionnaires have been returned and the deadline is 15th November. The next step will be to analyse the responses.

**17. Payment of outstanding invoices:**

Aston Cantlow Village Hall £ 13.00 (200445)

Colemans Office Supplies 45.18 (200446)

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

Items for the next agenda:

Final Precept

Analysis of Parish Plan questionnaire

Annual review of Parish Council activities – decisions

**16. Date of next meeting:** 14th January 2016.

No further business – Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00 p.m.

**County Council Report – November**

This is the first month this year I do not have to report something about public sector reorganisation. A few matters of interest involving various services provided by the County are:

**There is a new Consumer Rights Act** that applies to purchases of goods and services made on or after 1st October 2015. It simplifies, strengthens and modernises consumer law, giving consumers clearer rights and remedies. In addition the law now gives consumers specific rights when they download digital content, which they did not have before. Consumers’ rights include:

* A 30-day time period to return most faulty goods and get a full refund
* A ‘tiered’ remedy system, clearly setting out consumers’ rights to a refund, repair or replacement depending on how long the consumer has had the goods.
* The right to a repair or a replacement for faulty digital content such as music downloads and e-books, and additional rights if they cause damage to the consumer’s equipment
* A right to their money back after one failed repair (or one failed replacement), rather than having to accept numerous attempts to get it fixed. No deduction can be made from the refund in the first six months (with the exception of motor vehicles)
* The right to challenge terms and conditions which are not fair or are hidden in the small print
* The right to have a service redone if it has not been done with reasonable care and skill

**Support for small businesses.** Warwickshire County Council has announced new funding worth £1 million to support small businesses in the county. Small and micro firms across Warwickshire will be able to apply for grants worth £5,000 to £35,000. Please contact me for more information.

**CONNECTing Business and Education** is a web portal that enables businesses and education providers to search for specific activity in a defined geographic area. It will mirror the Skills for Employment programme and seek to facilitate higher levels of work experience and get teachers, as well as students, short term placements in businesses. There is also a drive to encourage business leaders to go into schools and deliver motivational speeches.

**Mental health support** has been improved by a new initiative has launched in Warwickshire to try and help the thousands of people in the county who might be anxious, down, or not coping well with everyday life. The county council is working with Big White Wall, an organisation heralded nationally in championing mental health, in helping people to take control back of their lives. Anyone wanting to register should go to [www.bigwhitewall.com](http://track.vuelio.uk.com/z.z?l=aHR0cDovL3d3dy5iaWd3aGl0ZXdhbGwuY29tLw%3d%3d&r=5545652018&d=1408704&p=1&t=h&h=a9e4ac47896be1926cf53ae110641222) and go to the ‘Join Now’ button on the top right of the screen, and enter their post-code in the United Kingdom section.

John Horner

For information only.

The following payment was made between meetings:

Henley Community First Responders £ 100.00 (200442)

Aston Cantlow Tennis Club 200.00 (200443)

St. John The Baptist Church 300.00 (200444)