

PAUNTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Pauntley Parish Council held in Pauntley Village Hall on Monday 9 September 2013 at 7.45 pm.

Present: Councillor Mrs B Bainbridge, Chairman; Councillors Mr R Gosling, Mrs A Rawson, Mr J Stallard, Mr N Fowke

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs L Harding

Councillor Windsor-Clive was present along with three members of the public.

Mr Crompton asked what was happening at Hazel's Cottage as worked seemed to have stopped and the building was again at risk from the weather. The hedges also needed cutting. The Clerk will investigate.

LH

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND ACCEPTABLE REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies and acceptable reasons for absence were received from Councillor Mullinger.

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATION OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of personal or prejudicial interest in items on the agenda.

3. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Councillor Clare Shepherd has resigned from the Parish Council due to continued health problems and she apologised for missing a number of meetings as a result. The Clerk will write on behalf of councillors to thank her for her work on the Parish Council, and will advertise a casual vacancy.

LH

4. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 JULY 2013

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2013 were approved.

5. TO DEAL WITH ANY ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE ABOVE MEETING

The Chairman will remind Mr Davis about the grit bin for Welsh House Lane.

BB

Item 7 - Councillor Fowke reported that he is still trying to get a response from Zoll AED regarding funding for a defibrillator. He will continue to try and is also looking for other sponsors.

NF

Item 11 - The Clerk has still to look into the lights in the telephone boxes, which are not working.

LH

6. FINANCE

a) The Clerk reported that the accounts for the Parish Council for 2012-2013 have now been successfully externally audited and the notice regarding their inspection has been posted.

b) The Clerk reported that the balance at the bank at 31 August was £5,122.77. This includes £827.80 held for the village hall, leaving £4,295. This is more than

in the budget, as some monies were not been spent by the end of the last financial year. This should, however, allow money to be carried over to meet election costs in 2015. There was no charge for the external audit under the new regime, saving approximately £50 in a normal year. The Clerk will prepare the draft budget for 2014-2015 for the November meeting and asked councillors to let her know beforehand of any items that they think should be included, for discussion at that meeting.

LH

- c) The payment of a donation of £50.00 to Winston's Wish charity in memory of District Councillor Peter Ede was approved (under S137 of the Local Government Act 1972).

LH

- d) The new pay scales for clerks were considered. Under these, the Clerk's revised salary from 1 April 2013 would be £8.428 per hour, equivalent to £1753.02 p.a., an increase of £17.46 p.a. It was resolved to approve this increase and to make the backdated payment of £7.28 by cheque.

7. TO REPORT ON NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

- a) Barn Farm, Ketford – application for Lawful Development Certificate for the occupation of Barn Farm without compliance with the agricultural occupancy condition. There had been no objection to this application.
- b) Walnut Farm Building, Brand Green – discharge of conditions (03) materials and (06) landscaping of planning permission P1322/11/FUL. There had been no objection to this.
- c) Little Ketford Farm – proposed two storey extension. The Planning Committee supported this application as they felt it would improve the appearance of this part of the house and would improve the accommodation for a young family.

8. TO CONSIDER NOTIFICATION FROM THE FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL REGARDING LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT COSTS

Councillors considered a communication from the District Council regarding the loss of funding from a government grant for the local council tax support scheme. The impact of this on the council tax for Pauntley from 2014-2015 was estimated to be an increase of 0.36%. If the precept is held at the 2013-2014 level, this would therefore show as an increase on the council tax bill. It was agreed that this would re-considered at the time of setting the budget and the impact of this estimated at that time.

LH

9. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR GOSLING ON THE TIME CAPSULE AT PAUNTLEY SCHOOL AND TO DISCUSS THE WEATHER VANE DONATED TO THE SCHOOL

Councillor Gosling reported that the weather vane had now been erected at the school. The school has asked the Clerk to let councillors know that they would like to hold an official ceremony and invite the press on Tuesday 17 September at 1.00 p.m.

Maurice Elton has donated a concrete plinth for a cover for the time capsule burial site and Councillor Gosling has fixed the brass plaque to this plinth.

10. TO DISCUSS THE OPERATION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH IN THE PARISH.

LH

Some parts of the parish were not receiving Neighbourhood Watch updates as there were no co-ordinators in Brand Green now. The Clerk was forwarding on to councillors any messages received. The Clerk will check the Neighbourhood Watch signs to see which need replacing and this will be an item for the next agenda. These would be £10 each and would need collecting from Coleford. The police telephone number will be included in the parish

11. TO RECEIVE AND RESPOND TO INVITATIONS:

- a) Briefing on 18 September by the Forest of Dean District Council regarding local Council Tax support costs.
- b) 'Being a better councillor' training session on Wednesday 11 September from 1.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Quedgeley Community School.
- c) 'Standards in Local Government' training event on Tuesday 24 September at 6.00 p.m. at the Council Offices, Forest of Dean District Council, Coleford. One delegate from each town or parish council (depending on initial booking). Two places have been booked and any councillor who would like to go was asked to contact the Clerk.
- d) GRCC's 90th AGM on Thursday 12 September at 6.00 p.m. in the Parliament Rooms, Gloucester Cathedral.

12. TO AGREE THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF PAUNTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of Pauntley Parish Council will be held on Monday 11 November at 7.45 p.m. in Pauntley Village Hall. Meeting dates for 2014 will be set at this meeting and days other than Mondays considered.

13. TO CONSIDER ANY OTHER URGENT RELEVANT BUSINESS

Councillor Fowke had commented on the driving of a number of supermarket delivery vans, at unsuitable speeds for the narrow lanes. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting, to ask councillors if they felt it was worthwhile writing to the main organisations responsible.

LH

Signed.....

Date.....