



PARISH COUNCIL OF CLAVERDON

Minutes of Council Meeting 7th November 2017

Present : Councillor S. Lawton (Chairman) : Councillors M. Wilcox : H Spiers: P. Bicknell : N. Dargan :
K Meeson : D Middleton.
County Councillor J. Horner
12 members of the public

Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Councillor D. Middleton and District Councillor P. Richards, both of whom were away, and Councillor M. Wilcox who had a hospital appointment.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of Interest were made at this meeting.

1 Minutes of the last Meeting.

1.1 On the Proposal of The Chairman the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10th October 2017 were approved and, later, signed as being a correct record.

2 County Council Matters

2.1 General Report.

Councillor Horner said that rather than take time at the meeting discussing general County Council matters he would concentrate the time this evening on the issues related to the recent Accident on Henley Road. A county council report will be circulated later.

3 District Council Matters

3.1 Councillor Richards General Report

4 Public Input

No separate issues were raised at this meeting.

5 Planning.

5.1 Update on previously considered applications.

5.1.1 Sunnyside, The Green 17/02662/TREE – Prune 2 off Douglas Fir and Fell one Cypress

5.1.1.1 CPC response of 'no objection' was returned/

5.1.1.2 The Application was approved 11th October 2017.

5.1.2 Mistletoe Cottage 17/02766/TREE - T1 Christmas Tree - Fell : T2 Conifer – Fell

5.1.2.1 CPC agreed a response of 'No objection' following e-mail circulation of the details of the application.

5.1.2.2 Consent Granted 19th October

5.1.3 The Ridge 17/02558/VARY – Variation of Planning Permission 17/000210/FUL for the replacement dwelling with integral garage and associated works, seek to amend driveway access.

5.1.3.1 Having discussed the application at the October meeting CPC submitted an objection on grounds that the additional break in the hedge line introduced by the second access is unacceptable to the street scene. This view, being contrary to that of the Planning Officer, the application has been referred to The Planning Committee for a decision, at the meeting of 8th November.

5.2 Applications Responded to Inter-meeting.

5.2.1 The Old Vicarage 17/03050/TREE – Sundry pruning on thirteen individual trees plus line of pine / Cypress hedging alongside path.

5.2.1.1 The application was circulated by e-mail for comment and response of 'No objection' subsequently agreed and submitted.

- 5.3 Applications for consideration at this meeting.
- 5.3.1 Yarningale Farm 17/02826/FUL and 17/02827/LBC – Repairs, alterations and extension. Separate responses required against the Full application and the Listed Building Consent application. For access to the documents on line, use the link.
- 5.3.1.1 The plans for the application were available at the meeting and checked by Councillors and following inspection it was agreed that an objection should be submitted against both the FUL and LBC applications, on grounds that the proposed extension would impair openness in the Green Belt and its design would be out of keeping with the existing listed building.

6 Neighbourhood Plan

- 6.1 Green Spaces
- 6.1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (paragraph 76) and enables local communities to designate land as Local Green Space in order to safeguard these important spaces from new development other than in very special circumstances. The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group has identified a number of Local Green Spaces which are felt to fall within this category and is writing to each of the land owners to take a view on their inclusion. Among the areas being considered are Yarningale Common, The Recreation Field, The Green, Lye Green and the Kington Lane Woodland.
- 6.1.2 A number of e-mails were circulated between Council Members expressing the thought that the Kington Lane Woodland should not be nominated as 'Green Space'.
- 6.1.3 The Chairman said that he agreed with the expressed feeling that the Woodland should not be counted as 'Green Space and, in any case, is adequately protected by way of a covenant. Following further discussion, it was agreed that Kington Lane Woodland should not be listed as Green Space. The other areas listed are considered acceptable. The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group is to be informed.

7 CLASP

- 7.1 Meeting with Nadim Zahawi (M.P. for Stratford) with Arden Division Parish Council Chairmen.
- 7.1.1 County Councillor Horner arranged the meeting as a result of a continuing growth of concerns about traffic related problems in the area and for this meeting noted.
- 7.1.1.1 The big issue being raised is the combination of the ever-increasing volume of traffic, speeding and the subsequent expansion of use of the side roads as 'Rat runs'.
- 7.1.1.2 With government saying it will safeguard Green Belt and the area being largely so designated, it would be expected that the area would be at low risk of development. However it has to be recognised that the Stratford District is already committed to 30,000 new houses with areas of growth yet to be allocated, all of which will only serve to aggravate any traffic problems in the future.
- 7.1.1.3 Mr. Zahawi has 'taken on board' the severity of the situation and will look in to it further.
- 7.1.2 Councillor Horner is intending to widen the discussion in the County, bringing together Engineers and Officers within the WCC Highways and Transport division with Councillors to consider what has to be done.
- 7.1.3 There are some 600 sites in The County where 2+ accidents per year are experienced resulting in injury, and the top four causes of accidents are Speed : Distraction : Technology (mobile 'phone / Sat Nav : Drugs / Drink).
- 7.2 Recent near fatal accident on Henley Road.
- 7.2.1 Opening discussion on this, Councillor Horner said that initial thoughts on this would suggest that the cause of this accident come down to engineering problems of layout / visibility.
- 7.2.2 He also noted that it had been suggested that the Claverdon Bypass proposal of some years ago would be advantageous, but commented that this would have fed the traffic back on to the main road in the area where this accident occurred.
- 7.2.3 There ensued a general exchange of views on road safety in The Village including the following points
- 7.2.3.1 In the case of this accident, the primary cause can be put down to excessive speed and difficult field of visibility.
- 7.2.3.2 The question was asked what has to be done to justify extending the speed limit area. Councillor Horner said on this that there would have to be a further speed survey and also the point at which the limit would change must be such that there is an obvious change in the surroundings, to heighten driver awareness. Councillor Spiers suggested that this would adequately be met in the area under consideration. Councillor Dargan said that where the current change from 30 to 50 mph occurs the drivers view might encourage commencing overtaking, despite the fact that this in in an area where children walking to school, in the mornings, are often seen to cross the road.
- 7.2.3.3 Various views as to the relative merits of the measures taken in Wootton Wawen and other areas, in the management of vehicle speeds, noting that there are things to be learned here.

- 7.2.3.4 *In respect of the Cross Roads at the Green, Councillor Horner said that he has persuaded WCC to look again at revising the 'slip road' to improve the situation. Claire Lewis commented that had noted a number of instances of dangerous overtaking, in The Village and was in no doubt that this habit has led to many of the accidents. She is also aware of many accidents that were not recorded, there being no injury.*
- 7.2.3.5 *Discussing alternative ways of controlling vehicle speeds, it was noted that the Hockley Heath system of Average Speed Cameras, is extremely effective. Unfortunately the cost of installation of the system is in the order of £130K would rule it out for Claverdon.*
- 7.2.3.6 *It was noted that there has been very little use, in Claverdon, of the 'speed gun' held by the Neighbourhood Watch, although it has been loaned out to Bearley on a number of occasions. It was agreed that this should be used more to make use of its deterrent properties and, more importantly, to gather data which will support the case when lobbying for action on road signs, extending speed restrictions etc.*
- 7.2.3.7 *The question was asked, whether Sat Nav software could be modified to route heavy goods vehicles away from The Village. Councillor Horner said that this sort of thing was being done at one time, but now, more and more people are using mobile 'phones, rather than custom equipment and Google Earth always uses the fastest route via A class roads.*
- 7.2.4 *Following further discussion, a number of areas were nominated for follow up :-*
 - 7.2.4.1 *Councillor Horner to take up the matter of The Green with Warwickshire Highways.*
 - 7.2.4.2 *Lobby to extend the 30 mph limit at least as far as the commencement of the 40 mph limit together with pushing the 40 limit further out, especially on Henley Road.*
 - 7.2.4.3 *Push for extending the use of double white lines within The Village to curtail overtaking.*
 - 7.2.4.4 *Council to investigate the possibility and costs of putting up 'Drive slowly through Village', 'End (or Start?) of Village' or other suitable notices, to better mark the village boundaries.*
 - 7.2.4.5 *Make more frequent use of the Village Speedwatch scheme using the equipment held by the Neighbourhood Watch.*

8 Dorothea Mitchell Hall

- Councillor Spiers gave an update on the situation noting*
- 8.1 *Whilst there is little fresh to report, the AGM will go ahead on the revised timing of January*
- 8.2 *There has been some progress in encouraging more people to come on to the Management Committee and this should ensure continuity in the operation of The Hall for its rightful purpose.*

9 Recreation Field

- 9.1 *Update on the situation on the Pavilion Extension project, The Chairman noted*
 - 9.1.1 *The Planning Application has been submitted to SDC.*
 - 9.1.2 *Build Specifications are being drawn up, with the objective of being able to go out for quotations during next month. It is intended to include a paved or hard standing area between the Pavilion and the Playground area.*
 - 9.1.3 *Moving on to the playgrounds, there was some discussion regarding what equipment is being envisaged. A proposal was originally put forward based on a new playground at Bearley, but it was agreed that alternatives should be looked at.*
- 9.2 *Tree Works*
 - The Chairman checked the two trees, earlier reported to be requiring some attention and suggested -*
 - 9.2.1 *For the tree on the boundary line between The Recreation Field and 'Ambleside'*
 - 9.2.1.1 *Positioned as it is, this can only be regarded as being in joint ownership and, the cost of any work should be shared between The Council and 'Ambleside'.*
 - 9.2.1.2 *If the Ambleside owners would like to nominate what action should be taken to take out any suspect branches etc. the Parish Council will meet half of the cost.*
 - 9.2.2 *Tree adjacent to School Cottage.*
 - 9.2.2.1 *This is a self set tree, contributing little in the overall picture. With the suggestion that the roots are likely to be endangering the neighbouring water pipes, it would be better to remove it as requested.*

10 Footpaths/Bridlepaths,

10.1 Footpath Lye Green Road across Claverdon Hall Farm to Station Road

10.1.1 The first section of this footpath at the Lye Green Road end is again overgrown and appears to be fenced off making access difficult or impossible. Clerk to write to request it is cleared again.

11 Yarningale Common

11.1 Mowing

11.1.1 Invoice received for mowing completed in September – listed with the others for approval.

11.2 Trees,

11.2.1 A request was received from Mr. Cook, Dingleberry Cottage, for further work to be carried out on 2 trees overhanging and risking damaging the house, felling of 2 dead trees, at risk of falling in to the garden of the property and one entangling with overhead telephone cabling.

11.2.2 Clerk has checked and an estimated for £480.00 for the work has been received. The Chairman said that at this level of cost, a further estimate should be obtained.

12 General Other matters including any arising from Earlier Meetings and not already covered.

12.1 Defibrillator for The Crown.

12.1.1 The Defibrillator unit has been checked and new batteries and pads being obtained. Councillor Spiers confirmed that arrangements for the mounting of the cabinet at The Crown are in hand.

12.2 Red Telephone Kiosk re-siting.

12.2.1 At the time of taking over the kiosk, BT indicated that the power supply would be cut off 'at some time within five years', although without saying exactly when. It has never been confirmed whether or not this has been carried out and whilst the light in the box appears not to come on any longer, it cannot necessarily be taken as firm indication whether or not power is still connected.

12.2.2 A Quotation has been received from a contractor, recommended by BT with the capability of dealing with the electrical disconnection if this proves necessary. This amounts to £1,000 for the moving the kiosk, plus an additional £550 for disconnection in the event of this being required.

12.2.3 The Chairman said that an alternative estimate should be obtained.

12.3 Parish Clerk Appointment.

12.3.1 A short list of three applicants was drawn up and interviews offered to the candidates. One subsequently withdrew and interviews on the other two completed on 7th November. From these, one candidate was felt to be particularly well suited and a formal offer is to be made.

12.4 Bonfire at The Crown.

12.4.1 The Chairman noted that in the absence of a bonfire being organised this year by the Rugby Club, The Landlord at The Crown kindly volunteered to hold the event, for The Village, with any profit going towards the Playground Fund. In the light of this being so, he proposed that The Council make a donation of £150 towards the cost of the excellent fireworks display, that was provided. This was agreed with all in favour.

13 General Post Received

13.1 WCC Localities and Communities

CSW Broadband Project Update - October. (Circulated by e-mail).

13.2 Councillor John Horner

Circulation of News release that WCC is listening Studley Concerns regarding Traffic on the A435 through The Village. (Circulated by e-mail).

13.3 Alcester North SNT

Weekly update and prompt W/C 15th October 2017 - one Claverdon Note of suspicious circumstances in St. Michael's Road where stranger seen leaving the garden of a property and walking to and along Langley Road. No Offence reported. (Circulated by e-mail).

13.4 WCC Localities and Communities

Scam Awareness Update. (Circulated by e-mail).

13.5 SDC Planning and Housing

Notice of Consultation on Long Marston Airfield Garden Village with link to view and respond to Consultation Document. (Circulated by e-mail).

13.6 WCC Highways

Notification of Gritting Routes for winter 2017 -2018. For Claverdon the roads covered remain as last year, A4189, Lye Green Road, Saddlebow Lane.

13.7 Alcester North SNT

Weekly update and Prompt W/C 22nd October 2017. Suspicious Circumstances noted in Langley Road, Man going door to door offering driveway work, also offering to take people to cashpoint to pay for any work. (Circulated by e-mail).

13.8 WCC Localities and Communities

Latest issue of Scam Awareness Update. (Circulated by e-mail).

13.9 Alcester North SNT

Weekly update and Prompt W/C 29th October. Two Claverdon Notes - Suspicious Circumstances Man with Flat Bed Lorry in Church Road offering to do work on driveways, and Theft BMW in Kington Lane while the Owner had got out of the vehicle to open the gates to his house. (Circulated by e-mail).

13.10 SDC Corporate Communications

Latest edition of Parish and Partners. (Circulated by e-mail).

13.11 Alcester North SNT

Weekly Update and Prompt W/C 5th November 2017. Four Claverdon Items noted - Theft of Terracotta Plant Pot, St Michael's Road: Attempted Burglary St Michael's Rd. - Garage door forced open but nothing stolen 06/11/2017 Works Van broken in to but nothing stolen: Suspicious circumstances - male seen walking round Village and also later seen in Vehicle: Suspicious Circumstances in Glebe Road - White van acting suspiciously: Theft of vehicle (without keys) from Hotel Car Park in The Cumsey: residential Burglary in Langley Road. Details available via Warwick Police Website. (Circulated by e-mail).

13.12 Civic Voice

*Request for consideration of donation of £50 toward fund to make the case to MPs for appropriate investment in to Conservation areas and publish a report on the impact of loss of Conservation Officers. (Circulated by e-mail).
Following discussion, it was agreed that a donation would be inappropriate.*

14 Finance

14.1 On the proposal of The Chairman payments due to date, as below were approved, together with the account projection to end November.

Date	Item	Cheque No	Current Account	Debits	Deposit Accounts	Total
			Deposits			
31 Oct 17	Balance		£28,301.98		£36,283.68	£64,585.66
	<u>Payments for Approval</u>					
06 Nov 17	Opus Energy - Pavilion Electricity Bill to 20th September	DDI		£15.75		-£15.75
07 Nov 17	Claverdon Gardening Group - Winter Planting on Verges	2132		£76.00		-£76.00
07 Nov 17	Thomas Fox Landscaping - October Verges Mowing	2134		£432.00		-£432.00
07 Nov 17	Claverdon Garden Services - August to October mowing on Recreation Ground	2135		£650.00		-£650.00
07 Nov 17	ROSPA Play Safety - Annual Inspection of Playgrounds and equipment	2136		£79.80		-£79.80
07 Nov 17	R.C. Lees - Purchase of new printer from Hewlett Packard	2137		£115.00		-£115.00
07 Nov 17	R.C. Lees - October Salary and Admin Expenses	2138		£535.18		-£535.18
	Item	Amount				
	Salary	£586.00				
	Office Allowance	£18.00				
	Postage	£3.85				
	Travel including 29.3 Vehicle Miles	£13.53				
	H.P. Help Line assistance investigating Printer Problems.	£31.00				
	Less Tax Paid to H.M.R.C. (Cheque No. 2139)	-£117.20				
	Total	£535.18				
07 Nov 17	H.M.R.C. -October PAYE	2139		£117.20		-£117.20
07 Nov 17	Perennial Landscapes - Mowing on Yarningale Common	2140		£1,140.00		-£1,140.00
07 Nov 17	Avon Planning Services - Consultation Services for Neighbourhood Plan	2141		£558.00		-£558.00
07 Nov 17	The Crown Inn - Donation towards Village Fireworks Display	2142		£150.00		-£150.00
15 Nov 17	Severn Trent - Pavilion Water Supply	DDI		£33.54		-£33.54
	Receipts and /or Transfers					
15 Nov 17	Claverdon Cricket Club - Ground Fees for 2017 Cricket Season	BACS	£250.00			£250.00
	Projected Interest on Reserve and Deposit Accounts				£16.57	£16.57
30 Nov 17	Projected Balance		£24,649.51		£36,300.25	£60,949.76

15 Meeting Dates

15.1 Dates agreed to end of the year are: December 5th; January 9th; February 6th; March 6th