Atworth Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 30th October 2019 at 6.45pm in Atworth Village Hall

www.atworth.org

Present:

Cllrs. Effie Gale-Sides (EGS) (Chairman), Richard Clark (RC) (vice-chair), Kathy Hartley (KH), Arnold Snowball (AS) Andrew Gooding (AG), Heather Chaplin (HC),

Clerk: Phil McMullen

Ref. **Agenda items**

063/20 1. **Welcome**

EGS welcomed those present to the meeting this evening.

064/20 2. **Apologies for absence**

The Clerk reported that apologies had been received from PCSO Maggie Ledbury

065/20 3. **Declarations of interest**

To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 17th September 2017

It was noted that RC and AS are trustees of the Atworth Village Hall Charity.

066/20 4. **Questions to the Chair of the Council by Members of the Public**

Public speaking time is restricted to 15 minutes in total

Public Participation

There were no members of the public at the meeting this evening

Reconvene meeting

The meeting was reconvened.

067/20 **5. To Receive Reports from our partner organisations**

5.1 Police report

PCSO Maggie Ledbury reported via email:

ED12 Beat Code monthly report for October 2019 Meeting

September's figures

Atworth

09/09/2019 BRADFORD ROAD

Unknown driver has passed the RP on a narrow stretch of road and scraped the side of the RP's vehicle, causing paintwork damage to multiple panels on the driver's side. The driver failed to stop. No injuries.

13/09/2019 BRADFORD ROAD

RP reports that his rabbit's cage has been found open and the rabbit gone and on two occasions his side garden gate has been left open after he has closed it, voices whistling have also been heard late at night outside his address.

19/09/2019 BATH ROAD

Suspect has been following the IP home from work.

5.2 Wiltshire Councillor

Cllr. Phil Alford (Wiltshire Council) was not present this evening so no report was submitted.

5.3 Village Hall committee

RC reported that a letter had been received regarding two trees that were dead or dying in the Recreation Ground and needed to be removed. RC had obtained quotes for the work, and confirmed that the work had now been completed to everyone's satisfaction.

RC further noted that an application had been submitted to Melksham Area Board for a grant towards the cost of replacement tables and chairs in the Village Hall as the existing stock was becoming unstable. This would be discussed at the November Melksham Area Board.

5.4 CATG report

RC and EGS reported that they had met with a Mark Stansby, Highways Dept. on 11th October to discuss the extension of the double yellow lines leading into Mead Park, Atworth, and also at Fleetwood Rise and the entrance to Clock Tower View. Wiltshire Council said it would take some time to set the process in train, and in the meanwhile the Parish Council should identify whether there were any other locations in the village which would benefit from double yellow lines. Councillors agreed to inform the Clerk who could collate responses and submit via RC.

068/20 **6. Planning Applications**

6.1 Application Ref: 19/09007/FUL

Application for Full Planning

Proposal:- Loft conversion to bedroom

At: 81A Bradford Road, Atworth, SN12 8HY

Councillors considered application 19/09007/FUL and following a vote resolved unanimously to direct the Clerk to submit "Object (for the reasons set out below)" for the application in question.

Councillors expressed concern that the part of the roof that is visible from the road would be much higher than at present. As it's in the village conservation

area, the introduction of a raised, flat roof would be inconsistent with the surroundings.

6.2 Application Ref: 19/09750/FUL

Application for Full Planning

Proposal:- Erection of a timber stable block comprising three stables and a haybarn for storage of feed and bedding, change of use to equestrian. Manure clamp and a track from the gateway.

At: Field East of The Lodge, Broughton Gifford Road, Broughton Gifford, SN12 6NF

Councillors considered application 19/09750/FUL and agreed unanimously on a submission of "no objection" for the application in question

6.3 Application Ref: 19/09022/TCA

Application for Work to Trees in a Cons Area

Proposal:- Crown lift Field Maple, Cherry, Indian Horse Chestnut, Plane, Cypress, Apple, Norway Maple and Scots Pine to 2.5 Metres From Ground Level (T1-T17); Re-pollard Willow (T19); Crown Lift Whitebeam, Wild cherry, Lime and Goat Willow to 2.5 Metres from Ground Level (G3) and Remove 1x Hung-up Branch.

At: 83 Bradford Road, Atworth, Melksham, Wiltshire, SN12 8HY

Councillors considered application 19/09022/TCA and agreed unanimously on a submission of "no objection" for the application in question

Full details are available to view on Wiltshire Council's website at: http://planning.wiltshire.gov.uk/Northgate/PlanningExplorer/ApplicationSearch.aspx

069/20 **7. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

7.1 To consider, approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in September 2019

Link to copy of Minutes

Proposed by RC, seconded by HC and all those present were in agreement that the minutes represented a true record of the meeting. The minutes were presented to the Chairman for signature.

070/20 **8. Clerk's Report**

Updates on the following actions arising from previous minutes:

8.1 Parish Steward – The Clerk informed the meeting that he had provided the Parish Steward with a worksheet for October and would be meeting with the Steward in the coming week.

Councillors to inform the clerk of overgrown hedges which need to be cut back and addressed.

The dates for the winter had now been received: the PS would be visiting Atworth on 28th, 29th November; allegedly 25th and 26th December; and 6th and 7th Jan. The Clerk had written to ask if Atworth would be receiving alternative dates in December in lieu of those scheduled.

8.2 Village benches – the Clerk reported that he had received information from the supplier on 23rd September to state that they were "waiting for a stock update and will get back to you shortly" – Clerk chased again on 21st and then the 28th October.

Action on Clerk to escalate with the Chairman.

071/20 **9. Finance**

9.1 Councillors to note that we will be considering the precept for the year 2020/21 at the November meeting. The Clerk explained that Wiltshire Council will be issuing the draft tax base on 4th November 2019.

9.2 Approval of Payment Schedule and authorisation of cheques

Approvals for the meeting taking place in			October 2019				
Date	**Payee Name**	**DD/Chq**	**Net £**	**VAT £**	**Gross £**	**Payment Details**	**Approved By**
	P. McMullen	DD	4.20	-	4.20	1st class stamps	
	Philip McMullen	DD	470.49	-	470.49	Salary and Office Allowance	
	HMRC	DD	117.62	-	117.62	HMRC income tax for wages	

The payment schedule was proposed by AG and seconded by AS and all were in favour.

Atworth Parish Budget Monitoring 2019/20

October 2019

	Annual Budget	Spend to date	Balance Remaining	CODE
Expenditure				
	£	£	£	
CLERKS SALARY	5,600	2,776	2,824	4000
CLERK'S OFFICE EXPENSES	560	278	282	4005
WI VILLAGE CLEAN & TIDY	580	288	292	4010
GENERAL ADMIN	250	103	147	4020
INSURANCE	4,300	2,119	2,181	4030
WALC	500	454	46	4050
SLCC	50	43	7	4052
BENCHES	2,300	-	2,300	4065
SID DEPLOYMENT	400	13	387	4070
VILLAGE MAINTENANCE	1,690	665	1,025	4100
AUDIT FEES	300	275	25	4157
VILLAGE HALL RATES	130	135	(5)	4200
REC RATES	170	171	(1)	4201
VILLAGE HALL	4,500	45	4,455	4203
WATER RATES	160	143	17	4205
GRASS CUTTING	4,500	301	4,199	4215
ARMISTICE WREATH (S.137*)	20	-	20	4250
YOUTH CLUB RENT	30	-	30	4261
PRESENTATIONS	100	65	35	4265
HIGHWAYS WORK	2,500	-	2,500	4300
COMMUNITY RESILIENCE EQUIPMENT	200	-	200	4320
NOTICE BOARDS	1,500	-	1,500	4335
VILLAGE ENHANCEMENTS	1,250	55	1,195	4336
CLOCK TOWER SITE IMPROVEMENTS (	250	4,094	- £3,844	4337
VAT		1,018	- 1,018	515
Total Expenditure	**31,840**	**13,041**	**18,799**	
Income	**£**	**£**	**£**	
PRECEPT	28,521	28,521	-	1176
B/F from existing balances	3,319	306	3,319	1180
Grants		-	-	1050
Interest			-	1190
HMRC Tax refund		- £41	-	120
VAT refund		-	0	115
Total Income	**31,840**	**28,786**	**3,319**	
Net Expenditure	**-**	**(15,745)**	**15,480**	
Balance Brought Forward	***20,216***			
Current Balance (Cashbook)	**35,961**			
Current Balance (Deposit A/c)	**-**			
-Current Balance (Bank)	**35,961**			
=Unpresented cheques	*£0*			

Ring Fenced Funds

Defibrillator	554
QUEENS LONGEST REIGN PLAQUE	1,000
VILLAGE ENHANCEMENTS	500
Funeral Bier	50
	2,104

Acceptance of the Budget Monitoring Statement was Proposed by RC and seconded by AS and approved by all.

072/20 **10. Agenda items**

10.1 Project: Lighting the Clock Tower

AS explained that he had met with the electrician to discuss options for laying cables, either one cable through the public footpath or two cables exiting from either side of the clock tower itself. The former would require permission from Highways, and there would potentially be a cost involved; and the latter would require permission from Historic England in order to progress.

The Clerk explained that he had submitted a pre-app enquiry to Wiltshire Council and had been given an application number of 19/09893/PREAPP which would be responded to by 19 November 2019.

AG expressed the opinion that should we decide not to progress with the project, the Parish Council should make a clear statement explaining why we have taken that decision.

10.2 Conversion of stockyard to visitor's car park in Bradford Road

AS mentioned that he had approached Poplar Farm on Bradford Road with a view to using an area of unused land there for visitor parking for the adjacent museum, for

the church and for the school. He had spoken to the tenant farmer there who wasn't against the idea, but who had explained that we first needed to approach Sir James Fuller.

Councillors agreed that the Clerk should approach Sir James Fuller with an enquiry. The Parish Council wouldn't want any direct involvement with the project and were unable to use taxpayer's money, but were supportive of the idea of providing further parking opportunities in that part of the village if at all possible and alleviating congestion.

10.3 Re-Wilding areas of Atworth

The Clerk reported that he had been in touch with Wiltshire Wildlife Trust who had responded favourably, and had expressed a willingness to discuss the project further. EGS explained that wildflower verges on highways required ongoing maintenance and management programmes. The verge to the east of Neston Lane would be suitable for flowers and shrubs. Trees could also be planted here. There could be other small areas identified. Action on the Clerk to contact Highways regarding the potential for tree planting.

Additionally a small part of Recreation Ground could possibly be adapted. EGS and RC to meet with WWT reps, and report back to APC and AVH. Clerk to forward the WWT's details to RC to set up a meeting.

10.4 Flags

HC provided the meeting with a list of the flags that she's holding: the Wiltshire Flag, the Flag of St Andrews, the Welsh Dragon, St George's, St Patrick's, a Union Flag and an Armistice Flag (to be erected next week). Changing the flags is not as easy as thought as it requires two people.

073/20 **11. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence of note received this meeting.

074/20 **12. Any Other Business**

RC raised the subject of Box Parish Council having erected a new sign on their boundary. The meeting agreed that some new Atworth boundary signs would be very welcome and an action was placed on the Clerk to contact Highways to investigate potential costs and procedures.

The fact that the Parish Boundary had recently been walked was noted by Councillors. There is currently no Footpath Warden in the Village.

AS mentioned the Christmas Lights. They are currently in the APC ACRE store. These would need to be put up on 1st December. AG and AS to install.

RC mentioned the emergency store, which requires a stock improvement. EGS stated that an emergency exercise was required to identify our response effectiveness and identify what equipment we are short of.

075/20 **13. Date of the Next Meeting of Atworth Parish Council**

November 27th in Atworth village hall

Followed by December 18th in Atworth village hall

Meeting closed at 20:30

Signed……. **Date …….**