

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF COTTERED PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN COTTERED VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 19 JULY 2011 AT 7.10 PM

Present Bryan Pitman (Chair) Terry McGrath
David Charles Brian Murchie
John Harwood-Bee

Officer attending Marty Kilby

Present: 14 members of the public.

APOLOGIES

11.22 Francis Ridley

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

11.23 None

MINUTES OF MEETING

11.24 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17th May 2011 were before the meeting. There was discussion on minute 11.13 regarding election literature and whether a resolution had been taken. It was agreed that no resolution had been made and the minutes were signed as a correct record

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

11.25 **18th May:** The Chairman received telephone call from Herts County Council informing him that the applicant had withdrawn the planning application for a bund at Southern Green farm. This was to be decided by the Development Control Committee that morning and the Chairman was to attend the meeting. The application was withdrawn before the DC Committee meeting. The Clerk was asked to ascertain what access approval had previously been granted.

8th June: Chairman attended a an exhibition / presentation given by the Veolia Water Company and HCC concerning a proposed power station powered by public waste to be developed on the outskirts of Hatfield. Essentially this will be a very large incinerator, the heat from which will be used to generate electricity. Needless to say there is much local opposition from Hatfield residents.

16th June: Village of the Year judging day.

24th June: Chairman attended Civic Reception at Buntingford. The Buntingford Civic Society have requested the Chairman to supply them with general information regarding Anaerobic Digesters. There are tentative early proposals to have one very near Buntingford

30th June: The Vice Chairman and other Cottered residents attended the Village of the Year Award Ceremony at County Hall. Cottered was commended as a "well kept village". John Harwood Bee won the Peterkin Award for an individual making an outstanding contribution to village life.

12th July: The Chairman and his wife attended a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace.

ELECTION LITERATURE

11.26 The Police had investigated the circulation of anonymous election literature and interviewed a number of people. A technical offence had been committed but it had been decided to take no further legal action.

PLANNING**11.27 Notification of planning applications**

East Herts Council have from 1st July ruled that planning applications will be notified to the Clerk by email, and applications will be able to be viewed on the EH website. In future no paper applications and drawings will be circulated. Councillors were very concerned that this placed those parish councillors without access to the internet at a disadvantage. It was agreed the Clerk would put a link on the website when applications were received.

11.28 Planning Schedule

The updated planning schedule is an appendix to these minutes.

11.29 Cumberlow Green 1/**-11****Variation of vehicle movements**

The application proposed the variation of planning permissions to allow Saturday deliveries of waste and to increase the permitted annual tonnage.

Initial views were that it was bound to cause disruption to the village by increasing heavy vehicle traffic on the small side road during the weekend, and an increase in heavy vehicle traffic generally. It would increase the throughput of the site by 33% from 30,000 to 40,000 tonnes annually.

11.30 **Buttermilk Hall Farm 3/****-11**

Change of use from hardstanding to stationing of skips/bins and waste transfer, for Park N Load.

Application for proposed change of use of the remaining part of the agricultural bulk storage building and the adjoining farmyard concrete apron for use for the stationing of skips, bins and waste transfer in conjunction with the continuation of the same use of the other part of the agricultural bulk storage building (planning permission 3/0274-10) and the skip store site immediately adjoining the building (planning permission 3/2200-07). Vehicle movements will be 69 in and 69 out per day.

FINANCE

11.31 **Financial Report**

The financial report was before the Council and noted.

11.32 **Payments Authorised**

608	Clerk	£366.48	Clerk salary and expenses June/July
609	Cottered Village Hall	£15.00	Village Hall hire
610	Information Commissioner	£35.00	Data protection renewal
611	Nigel Bentley	£100.00	Grasscutting Recreation Ground 2011

11.33 **Annual Return 2010-2011**

The Annual Return was agreed and signed by the Chairman. The Annual Governance Statement was agreed and signed by the Chairman.

PLAYING FIELDS

11.34 **Review of use by Cricket and Football Clubs**

The representatives of the Football and Cricket Clubs were invited to speak. After discussion it was agreed to continue with the present arrangement for use, which is that the Cricket Club uses the ground from the first Saturday in May until and including the first Saturday in September. The Football Club use the ground from the second Saturday in September until the last Saturday in April.

The cricket square had been damaged by children crossing it in studded boots. Clerk to suggest to the Cricket Club that they fence the square so that it is obvious that the square is not to be walked upon.

RIGHTS OF WAY

11.35 **Parish Paths Partnership (P3)**

The P3 venture had now been closed by Herts County. Roger Gomm was thanked for his work on the rights of way.

11.36 **Footpath 45**

Agreed to continue to protest to Herts County that FP 45 was not a right of way in the first instance, but that seven years ago it was decided by all parties to establish a footpath around the farm, and that Herts County agreed to finance the cost of establishing the right of way. Agreed to meet in the first instance with the landowner before responding to Herts County.

11.37 **Non-Stockproof Gates**

Latches had been fixed to the gates in question by Herts County, which now appear to be stockproof.

CLERK'S REPORT

11.38 The Clerk's report was before the Council and the correspondence noted. The report is an appendix to the minutes.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 13th September 2011 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm and was followed by an open session.

Signed _____

Date _____

OPEN SESSION

1. Surface water drain outside Magpie Farm is blocked, Clerk to ask Highways to clear.
2. Cumberlow Farm - comments made said that no record was kept on vehicles leaving the site, they do not cross the weighbridge and are therefore not counted. Accurate information needs to be provided by the owner to Herts County. Loads are arriving and leaving without being sheeted.
3. Southern Green Farm - queries were raised about what planning applications were in place relating to the access road.
4. Stocking Hill Development - complaint received that a family with 4 children are living there which if true, would be against the planning approval which states that ownership is for 50 years of age and older. Enquiries to be made.
5. 39 The Crescent - complaint made that the hedge is growing over the path and Highways to be requested to arrange for cutting back.
6. Grantchester - complaints that building contractors were parking vehicles on the grass. To be checked whether this is village green land.

The open session closed at 9.35 pm