

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF COTTERED PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN COTTERED VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 7.00 PM

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

Officer attending Marty Kilby
Present: 8 members of the public.

APOLOGIES

13.44 Francis Ridley

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

13.45 None

MINUTES OF MEETING

13.46 The minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 9 July 2013 were before the meeting and signed as a correct record.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

13.47 31st July

Eddie Heydon reported that one of the platforms on the Rocking Horse was broken. The Chairman obtained adhesive black and yellow hazard tape and taped off the broken sections.

9th September

The Chairman went to the Wicksteed factory at Kettering and collected the replacement parts that Marty had ordered in August for the broken rocking horse, these being the foot platforms, side guards and associated fixings.

FINANCE

13.48 Clerk's Finance Report

The clerk reported on the report from the Internal and External Auditors. The Clerk proffered four recommendations:

1. Risk assessments - The financial risk assessment be reviewed and adopted.
2. An complete separation between the Parish Council and the Trust take place.
3. The Trust undertake all financial obligations and apply to the Parish Council for a grant under Section S137 rules if the Trust does not have enough finances to support its obligations.
4. These actions take place before 1 January 2014 to avoid further adverse reports from the auditors and to ensure legal compliance.

Agreed that the Clerk's Finance Report would be discussed in full at the next Parish Council meeting.

13.49 Finance Report and Payments Authorised

The finance report was before the meeting, together with a statement of the bank holdings. The authorised payments were:

670	Cottered Parish Trust	£3.100	Easement 3-4 Home Close Cottages
671	EHDC	£55.86	Playground inspection
672	Wicksteed Leisure	£364.13	Rocking Horse parts
673	BDO LLB	£120	External auditors 2013
674	J W Salmon	£168	Flint Cottage/Recreation Ground trees
675	M Kilby	£85.03	expenses Aug-Sept 2013
677	M Kilby	£262.40	salary Aug-Sept
678	HMRC	£98.40	PAYE July Aug Sept

PLANNING

13.50 Planning Schedule

The updated planning schedule is an appendix to these minutes.

13.51 3/13/1375/OP - Land beyond Freeman College

Application for 180 houses, new access to A10, provision of amenity space, care home and sheltered accommodation.

No objections

13.52 3/13/1371/FP - Land adjacent Cottered Road, Throcking

Riding arena, stable yard and additional concrete to front of stable base.

No objections

13.53 3/13/1055/FP - Briar Mead, Sandon Lane, Buntingford

Demolish existing dwelling and erect replacement

No objections

13.54 **3/13/1512/FP - Cheynes House, Cottered**

Change of use from domestic to B1a office employing 16 people

No objection to the change of use, but concerns expressed about the capability of the sewage system to cope with the additional employment and request for any appropriate work to the sewage system to be made.

13.55 **Peasecroft development**

Noted that permission had been granted to remove the garage site in Peasecroft and erect residential housing instead. Councillors reiterated their great concern about the loss of parking facilities.

13.56 **East Herts Rural Parish Meeting**

The EHC Rural Parish Meeting is scheduled for 13 September and District and Neighbourhood planning will be a major agenda item. All councillors are invited to attend. Noted the Clerk and Cllr John Harrington-Bee would be attending (the Chairman would be away).

HIGHWAYS

13.57 **Brook End drainage**

No update has yet been received from HCC Countryside Management.

13.58 **No Tipping Signs**

Buckland and Chipping Parish Council have requested permission to erect 'No Tipping' signs in the Brick Bridge area on highway land, but within Cottered Parish. Councillors had no objection to the erection of such signs.

13.59 **Slow Down Signs**

Buckland and Chipping Parish Council have requested permission to erect flashing Slow Down signs along the A10, within Cottered Parish. Councillors had no objection to the erection of such signs.

13.60 **Potholes**

Noted that potholes have been filled in at the access to the Village Hall, and also access to Stocking Hill.

13.61 **Hedges**

Clerk to ask Highways who will be cutting the hedges generally, and particularly along the Cottered Road to Throcking.

RECREATION GROUND

13.62 **Playground**

The Rocking Horse replacement parts had been collected and needed fitting by a qualified contractor. Clerk to ask East Herts API Associates for guidance.

13.63 **Annual Inspection Report**

The Annual Playground Inspection report has been received.

TREES

13.64 **Recreation Ground - Flint Cottage**

Noted that the dead trees in the Recreation Ground along the boundary with Flint Cottage have been removed.

13.65 **Yew Tree 1 Coopers Coppice**

District Cllr Jim Ranger reported that EHDC Tree Officer Malcolm Amey had inspected the tree and a report was awaiting.

CLERK'S REPORT

13.66 The Clerk's report was before the Council and the correspondence noted.

13.77 **Winter Provision - Salt**

Agreed that the provision of 25 kg salt bags - a total of 34 bags in all, be delivered to Brian Muchie for distribution through the parish. Agreed to also ask for salt bins to be topped up.

OTHER BUSINESS

13.78 **Peasecroft Parking**

Suggestion received from parishioner asking if Highways can carry out a housing survey on whether residents would support parking within Peasecroft on either one side of the road or the other.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

13.43 Tuesday 12 November 2013 7.30 pm Village Hall

14 January 2014; 11 March 2014; 13 May 2014 (Annual Meeting)

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm

Signed _____

Date _____