

**MINUTES OF COTTERED AND THROCKING PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN COTTERED VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 7.30 PM**

Present: Bryan Pitman (Chair) Terry McGrath  
John Bull David Charles  
Barry Dean

Officer attending: Denise Anderson (Clerk) District Councillor Paul Kenealy  
7 members of the public

**APOLOGIES**

15.75 Colin Bayles

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

15.76 None

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

15.77 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015 were before the meeting and signed as a correct record.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

15.78 **Chairman's Report**

**14<sup>th</sup> July**

Parish Council meeting.

**22<sup>nd</sup> July**

The Chairman attended a meeting of the HCC Development Committee and spoke to oppose the application for a waste site at Buttermilk Hall Farm. A Cottered resident also spoke in opposition to the application. The application was not approved.

**13<sup>th</sup> August**

In response to a telephone call from a Throcking resident the Chairman inspected a large hole at the edge of the road near the Throcking sewage works. The hole had been reported to HCC Highways by the public spirited resident and it appears on the HCC fault website. No repair has yet been carried out although HCC have inspected the hole.

**1st September**

Roger Gomm, Neville Chuck and the Chairman commenced a leaflet drop into every property in the parish. The leaflet was aimed at encouraging residents to comment on the draft Neighbourhood Plan as a 6 week consultation period had started.

**FINANCE**

15.79 **Finance report and payments authorised**

The finance report was before the meeting and the report is an appendix to the minutes.

15.80 **Register of Fixed Assets**

Councillors reviewed the insurance values of the items listed on the Fixed Assets Listing and suggested some amendments. The Clerk will contact the Council's insurance company and make the required changes.

**PLANNING**

15.81 **Planning Report**

The updated planning schedule is an appendix to these minutes.

**3/15/1265/HH** Lordship Barn Cottered Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 9QL – **Approved**

**Planning Applications since the Parish Council Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015**

**3/15/1413/FUL and 3/15/1414/LBC**

Nottingham Baldock Road Cottered Buntingford Hertfordshire.

The Parish Council objected to the application.

**3/15/1569/FUL and 3/15/1570/LBC**

The Bull Inn Baldock Road Cottered Buntingford Hertfordshire.

There was no objection by the Parish Council to this application.

15.82 **Planning Applications**

**3/15/1725/FUL** Elmfield Stables Thirty Acre Farm Broadfield Throcking Buntingford

**Councillors voted unanimously to suspend Standing Orders to allow public participation to discuss this application**

There was discussion relating to the many aspects of this application and all members of the public participated

**Resolved to resume Standing Orders**

Councillors voted unanimously to object to planning application **3/15/1725/FUL**

**3/15/1757/HH** Layston Brook End Cottered Buntingford Hertfordshire

There was no objection by the Parish Council to this amended planning application.

**15.83 Buntingford Community Area Neighbourhood Plan (BCANP)**

Cottered and Throcking Parish Councillors had studied the document and unanimously approved the intentions, objectives and policies set out in the Buntingford Community Area Neighbourhood Plan.

**15.84 Telephone Box**

The Clerk provided a report on the current state of the telephone box and an indication of the cost of replacement parts and materials required for renovation based on initial investigations. Councillors felt it appropriate to go ahead with the purchasing the required items. The Clerk will order the parts and materials and obtain quotes for painting and general repairs.

**15.85 The Old Barn and Village Green**

UK Power Networks have agreed to pay £2,000 for the easement.

**HIGHWAYS****15.86 Drain cleaning and flooding issues**

These issues have been reported to Highways.

**15.87 Pothole in Throcking**

As confirmed in the Chairman's Report the hole had been reported to HCC Highways appears on the HCC fault website. No repair has yet been carried out although HCC have inspected the hole.

**LITTER****15.88 Litter Bins**

All 5 new litter bins have been secured at the bottom of Peascroft, the Children's Play Area, The Bull, the Guide Centre and the Well.

**RECREATION GROUND****15.89 Tractor**

The Clerk secured the purchase of a tractor for the cutting of the Recreation Ground grass. It was serviced prior to purchase, has been insured, registered with the DVLA and housed in a suitable place.

**15.90 Annual Playground Inspection Report**

The Playground Inspection Report is an appendix to the minutes. The Clerk is tasked with finding a suitable individual to address some of the 'wear and tear' issues requiring repair or refurbishment detailed in the report.

**CLERKS PAY and HOURS**

**15.91 Resolved to move this agenda item to the end of the meeting.**

**CLERK'S REPORT**

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

**Correspondence for noting or not on the Agenda**

1. Letter from Herts Air Ambulance requesting a small grant towards their work. Councillors agreed a £50.00 donation to Herts Air Ambulance
2. Letter from Herts Sustainability Forum about their latest campaign "Green your Garden" promoting environmentally friendly gardening to residents. The poster advertising a competition and information leaflets have been placed on the Village Hall noticeboard.
3. Emails from HATPC regarding Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities.
4. Emails from Peter Knight informing the Parish Council about the Scouts Night Hike which is taking place in Cottered and Throcking Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2015 from 5.00pm until midnight and requesting details of landowners in order that he could, as a courtesy, inform them about the hike, its route and supervision. Councillors were able to furnish him with the required information.

**DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

All meetings to start at 7.30 pm in Cottered Village Hall

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2015

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**PUBLIC SESSION**

No members of the public were still present for the Public Session.

Councillors raised the issue of the hedges still obscuring a clear view for drivers when turning onto the A507 Baldock Road from The Crescent and Peascroft. The hedges had been trimmed on one side but not the other. The Clerk would contact Circle Anglia Housing again with a view to getting this issue resolved.

Public session closed at 9.50pm

**CLERKS PAY and HOURS**

15.91 **Resolved to close the meeting to public and press due to the confidential nature of the business discussed.**

After discussion it was unanimously resolved that the Clerks pay would be increased from SCP 22 to 24.

It was also resolved that the hours per week should increase from 4 to 5.

Both decisions were arrived at due to the increased responsibilities of the Clerk and the increase in the workload as a result of various Acts of Parliament recently passed.