

MINUTES OF COTTERED AND THROCKING PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN COTTERED VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 11th JULY 2017 AT 7.30 PM

Present: Terry McGrath (Chair) David Charles
Colin Bayles Barry Dean
John Bull

Officer attending: Denise Anderson (Clerk) 4 members of the public

APOLOGIES

17.72 Bryan Pitman sent his apologies as he was recovering from an operation.
It was resolved to approve Bryan Pitman's absence
District Councillor Paul Kenealy

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

17.73 None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

17.74 Standing Orders were suspended to allow Public Participation.
The members of the public had no matters to raise.
Standing Orders were resumed.

MINUTES OF MEETING

17.75 The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9th May 2017 were before the meeting and signed as a correct record.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

17.76 A Chairman's Report was not available due to the recent hospitalisation of the Chairman.

FINANCE**17.77 Finance report and payments authorised**

Payment to John O'Conner (Grass Cutting Contractors) raised the question of some areas of the Parish not being cut. The Clerk confirmed that the immediate issue had been resolved but it was suggested that maybe a 'Parish walk' to reiterate the requirements of the contract might be beneficial prior to the remainder of the season and the final yearly payment. The Clerk stated that an informed Councillor would need to indicate their availability and she would make the arrangements with the Contract Manager.

PLANNING**17.78 Planning Report**

The updated planning schedule is an appendix to these minutes.

3/17/0387/OUT AMENDMENT	Land Adj To The Old Rectory Baldock Road Cottered Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 9QP	Refused
3/17/0727/HH	The Farm House Lordship Farm Cottered Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 9QL	Approved

17.79 Planning Applications since the Parish Council Meeting 9th May 2017

3/17/1273/HH	1 Cottered Road Throcking Hertfordshire SG9 9RR	There was no objection by the Parish Council to this application
3/17/1146/HH	Ye Olde Off Licence Baldock Road Cottered Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 9PU	There was no objection by the Parish Council to this application

17.80 Planning Applications

3/17/1376/FUL	1 - 4 Peasecroft Cottered Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 9QS	The Parish Council objected to this application
3/17/1463/FUL	The Bull Inn Baldock Road Cottered Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 9QP	There was no objection by the Parish Council to this application
3/17/1205/LBC	4 Home Close Cottages Baldock Road Cottered Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 9QW	There was no objection by the Parish Council to this application

17.81 The District Plan

No further update.

17.82 Community Governance Review of the Buntingford Parish Boundary

Councillor Bayles explained that he and James Smyth from Throcking had attempted to visit all the homes in Parkside. He said residents were keen to discuss the matter and indeed there were some strong feelings on the matter; opinion was to remain within the Parish of Cottered and Throcking.

Cllr Bayles had contacted Sir Oliver Heald MP before the election and as such was no longer an MP but stated that if he was re-elected he would take up the matter in a formal way on behalf of the Parish.

After various communications from East Herts Cllr Bayles had a meeting with the Chief Executive Liz Watts regarding the timetable of events. There was the promise that the Parish would be consulted in a timely fashion in order to respond and he was alerted to the guidance documents the review process will be referring to. Cllr Bayles was reassured that the Parish Council will be kept fully informed and all stakeholders will have the opportunity to respond.

It was felt that the District Councillor could put up a good argument about local democracy on behalf of the Parish Council.

17.83 Cottered Conservation Area Appraisal

The Clerk confirmed that a public meeting organised by John Bosworth, the EHDC Conservation Officer to present the findings of the Cottered Conservation Area Appraisal was to be held on Thursday 20th July 2017 from 7.00pm – 9.00pm in the Cottered Village Hall. A flyer would be delivered by 6th July 2017 and the Clerk had put the information on the Parish Council website.

HIGHWAYS**17.84 The junction of The Crescent and A507**

The Clerk reported she had sent further emails to Circle Housing requesting a meeting with their surveyor with a view to discussing the visibility issues at the junction of The Crescent and A507 Baldock Road. There had been no response and the Housing Officer for the area was now on annual leave.

It was resolved that the Clerk would contact Circle Housing and attempt to speak directly with the surveyor.

PARISH MATTERS**17.85 The Old Barn and Village Green**

Cllr Pitman dealing with this issue.

17.86 Annual Playground Inspection Report

The Clerk presented the information she had researched with regard to addressing the issue of signage as identified on the Annual Inspection Report. The signage supplied by Wicksteed Playgrounds was both expensive and required personalised wording; this in turn highlighted further complications.

It was resolved the Clerk would contact the Playground Inspection Company and discuss with them what would be considered a workable solution.

17.87 Brook End Lane

Councillor Charles to speak to Andy Pettitt re his quote for topsoil and seed to repair the Village Green either side of Brook End Lane.

17.88 Unauthorised parking in the Petanque/Cricket Club Car Park

The Parish Council had received complaints from the members of the Petanque Club that club members and visiting teams were unable to park their cars in the Car Park due to residents of the village parking their cars in the Car Park.

There was discussion about this issue and it was felt that consultation with the homeowners concerned should be the starting point.

Consideration was also given to reinstating the gate on the access road to the Petanque/Cricket Club Car Park.

CLERK'S REPORT**17.89 Clerks Report**

The Guide Centre now has a fully functioning, public access defibrillator housed at the entrance. Gill Park from Girl Guiding UK provided a simple location and instruction poster that the Clerk has enhanced, laminated and placed on all the Parish Noticeboards. The Clerk will produce some more posters for placement in the Village Hall and other public areas and she has also sent this information to the Cottered and Throcking News for inclusion.

Cottered and Throcking Parish Council has received a further £531.12 grant from the Transparency Fund to fund the continued increased hours for the Clerk to maintain the website and ensure compliancy with the Transparency Code.

Further to the issue being raised at the Annual Parish meeting the Clerk has sourced some notices from EHC to address dog fouling and draw attention to owners of their responsibilities under the Public Spaces Protection Order.

Discussion took place about the placement of these signs especially in view of the 'No Dogs' signage around the Recreation Area. It was decided that as they generally addressed dog fouling on all land in the District placement along the footpath at the top of the recreation Ground was appropriate. The Clerk offered to put these in place and Councillors also took some to place in areas throughout the village that were blighted by the problem.

Correspondence for noting or not on the Agenda

Information received re. Seafarers UK – Fly the Red Ensign for Merchant Navy Day 3rd September 2017. The Clerk to put the poster on the Parish noticeboard.

Guide to safe and successful events supplied by the East Herts Safety Advisory Group (SAG). The clerk will upload this information to the Council website.

Consultation on East Herts Draft Physical Activity Strategy 2017 – 2022. Deadline for comments 5pm Wednesday 19th July 2017.

Stansted Airport Community Consultation – details of exhibitions within the local area to find out more about the plans for London Stansted and the future of the region. The Clerk has put the posters on the Parish Noticeboards.

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

All meetings to start at 7.30 pm in Cottered Village Hall

12th September 2017

14th November 2017

9th January 2018

13th March 2018

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed _____

Date _____