



**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON
MONDAY, 10TH SEPTEMBER 2018 COMMENCING AT 7.45 PM**

Present: Andrew Marchant
David Oxley
Peter Sapsed

Members of the Public: Ann Grimsdale
Kate Hurst

County Councillor: Jeff Jones

Officer present: Caroline Jones (Clerk)

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the September Parish Council meeting.

22.1 To Receive Any Apologies for Absence

Cllr Pledger was unable to attend this evening's meeting.
Mandy Parker and Simon Bagnall were absent.

22.2 To Receive any Personal or Prejudicial Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda – Peter Sapsed declared an interest in any discussions regarding The Hale property.

22.3 To Approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th July 2018

It was noted that on item 21.11 the minutes should read – the Village Hall floor needs to 'breathe' which was corrected. With this correction, it was unanimously agreed that the minutes were correct and it was RESOLVED that the minutes for the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th July 2018 were a true record and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

22.4 Adjournment for County Councillor

CC Jones gave an update on the Quarry. The latest information had been circulated; a Stop Notice was issued and came into effect immediately. HCC issued a Breach of Condition Notice which takes 28 days to take effect. The Quarry site is now shut. Herts CC are pursuing the breach of conditions. There is 9,000 cubic meters of soil to remove which would take a month with 30 in/out movements. We are left with this problem now and it will be dealt with legally. Somehow the site will need restoring.

It was reported that generators were going and that caravans were there last week.

A Buntingford Community Bus service has been running for 5 months and is being extended to cover neighbouring villages. From 2nd October 2018 there will be a service running one day per week with 4 return services from Buntingford, to Wyddial, to Anstey and Meesden. There is one bus running and it is hoped that it can be rolled out to meet demand. Cos is £1/ trip.

The Chairman informed CC Jones about HGV vehicles using the Anstey route and damaging verges and causing power failure to a property. Weight restriction is the only way to avoid HGV's travelling through Anstey which exempts farm access. Verge damage is also occurring through the village. CC Jones confirmed he can put it forward – it's taken Cottered 2 years to impose theirs and would involve a study with automatic counters. Concern was also raised for walkers through the village.

22.5 Adjournment for Police Update

PC Miller was unable to attend tonight's meeting but sent a report.
Crimes since last Parish Council Meeting – 2
Burglary – non-dwelling – barn broken into but nothing stolen.
Theft – stolen from a building site – tools worth £1,000 stolen from resident.



2017 there were 6 reported crimes:-

2 x thefts, 2 x assaults, 1 x offensive weapon, 1 x criminal damage.

999 / 101 calls 2017 and 2018 = none.

The Police are still working in partnership with the Environmental Agency with regards to Anstey Quarry. Enforcement notices have been served by the EA and Herts CC. Police have been attending on a few occasions to ensure notices are being adhered to.

Now the harvest has been completed, North Herts and other counties have started to become victims of Hare Coursing, currently we have had no reported. Previously, the area surrounding Anstey has been subject to such activity and the Police urge all residents to call 999 if they see any Hare Coursing activity.

Damage to the Playing Field was discussed, it hadn't been reported to the Police.

22.6 Adjournment for Public Questions/Comments – discussed under item 22.4.

22.7 Planning Applications / Decision Notices

- 22.7.1.1 3/18/1505/ARPN Bandon's Barn, Barkway Rd – prior approval with conditions granted 28/8/18.
- 22.7.1.2 3/18/1251/CUAPN The Barn, Opposite The Hale – still in consultation, awaiting decision.
- 22.7.1.3 3/18/1265/ARPN The Grove – prior approval granted with conditions 8/8/18.
- 22.7.1.4 3/17/2641/FUL High Trees – enforcement notice ref: E/18/022/ENF.

22.8 Finance

- 22.8.1 Little John Auditors have accepted our Exemption Certificate and our audit for 2017/18 is now complete.
- 22.8.2 No current actions on the Audit Task List for September/October.
- 22.8.3 The Parish Council received an update of finances and the summary of funds available to date. It was noted that the cheque donation was yet to clear from the Village Hall, £3,717.
- 22.8.4 The Bank Reconciliation of 3rd September 2018 was accepted as correct.

22.9 To Receive an Update on Anstey Quarry

An enforcement Closure Notice was issued on 22nd September 2018.
CC Jones gave an update above in 22.4.

22.10 Village Defibrillator

The Heartsine Defibrillator was agreed to purchase @ £1,995 + VAT.
It has been agreed that the Blind Fiddler will allow the defibrillator to be installed on their Public House – clerk to discuss with Cllr Pledger regarding power supply.

22.11 Fly Tipping / Highways

There's been a complaint about the formalities of getting a trailer permit. There's a new permit scheme that can be done online now. The permit allows 12 visits per year, takes a week to receive. Clerk to add details to the next newsletter.

22.12 Village Hall Update / Window Refurbishment Plan

The windows and door were all completed on time and on budget. The Village Hall Committee are very impressed with the work carried out by Clearway. The Village Hall Committee thanked the Parish Council for their support.

A resident commented that the new committee have done a great job with the activities and film nights.



The 7th film of the year was shown last Friday with further 2 planned this year.

Unfortunately, the Zumba class has sadly stopped, details will be in the next newsletter flyer.

Sporting England's grants will stop in October after 2 years support.

Two more events this year, Race Night 22nd September and the Christmas Dance on 1st December. In the middle of those there is a Church Quiz on 18th October. There will also be a reception for the new Vicar.

The School is now using the Village Hall for lunches.

The Chairman reiterated all the good work that is being put into the Village Hall and thanked them for all their hard work.

22.13 Playing Field Update

Summer inspection has been completed with very few repairs which have been undertaken. The gate will not be locked to allow access.

The play train has been repaired following vandalism at the Playing Field last month.

The Playing Field with the next item on the Agenda will need a new contractor to cut grass in the Spring – quotations required – clerk to add to newsletter.

22.14 To accept the resignation of Councillor Sapsed and discuss Co-option

Cllr Sapsed is moving away and will be resigning at the end of the year.

The position will be advertised for 14 days with a view to co-opt a new councillor.

Peter was thanked for his input and all his hard work with the Parish Council. He did two terms as Chairman previously and was Chairman when the Village Hall was built.

22.16 Correspondence Send / Received – noted and received.

22.15 AOB

22.15.1 A date will be set for the Conservation Area Appraisal Public Meeting.

22.15.2 Storm lighting was discussed – clerk to chase up the inspection of Fire Hydrants.

22.15.3 Using the Transparency Grant for internet connection will be discussed following input from the School.

22.17 To note the next meeting will be held on Monday, 19th November 2018 at 7.30pm.

Meeting concluded at 8.45pm.

Signed _____

Date: _____