



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY, 16<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 7.30PM

Present: Andrew Marchant  
David Oxley  
Simon Bagnall  
David House  
Amanda Parker

County Councillor: Jeff Jones  
District Councillor: Peter Boylan  
Public: None

Apologies : PC David Miller

Officer present: Caroline Jones (Clerk)

The chairman welcomed those present.

**28.1 To Receive Any Apologies for Absence.** PC David Miller – on shift.

**28.2 To Receive any Personal or Prejudicial Declarations of Interest on Items on the Agenda** – none received.

**28.3 Adjournment for Public Questions/Comments** – none present.

**28.4 Adjournment for County Councillors :** Anstey Quarry – there was no update from the case officer. There was enforcement ongoing with Winters. There had been communication with the landowner regarding restoration of the site and a planning application submitted for chalk extraction to 2030 – this was rejected due to lack of information in the application.

The Chairman brought forward Item 27.9 on The Quarry. He received communication from the owners in August – a year from the enforcement breach giving information of resuming extraction prior to site restoration. The local understanding was that the chalk supply was almost exhausted, and that extraction would have ceased by now. Under the planning conditions, restoration was due to be completed and the site return to agricultural land by July 2020. The Parish Council agreed that an alternative commercial business run from the site would not be supported at this time. However, there was support for the site to have an acceptable height and minimal restoration to have the steep edges levelled and make the site safe.

The Chairman asked if they could be kept informed of any progress with the Environment Office and Planning Departments. CC Jones confirmed he would notify the Parish Council of any developments on the Quarry as he received it.

An update on the speeding issue by the school was discussed, there had been a meeting with the school. The chairman explained that there had been a long summer holiday break and there was no further update. He thanked CC Jones for offering a speed survey. Having a 'right of way priority' past the school would be a positive step, or a 20mph restriction. The situation will be monitored with the school.

**Adjournment for District Councillor :** Conservation Area Appraisal will be discussed under 27.16.

There have been several break-ins in Braughing and suspicious cars reported. It was agreed to circulate a village warning of a spate of break-ins ranging from sheds to household properties. Parishioners were reminded not to be complacent and ensure that their outbuildings and properties were locked. Any unusual activity should be reported via 101 or 999.

**28.5 Adjournment for Police Update**

A report had been received; up to 16<sup>th</sup> September there had been one attempted motor vehicle theft and two reported criminal damage crimes this year. There had also been ten 999/101 calls made from the Parish.



No Hare Coursing had been reported in the Anstey Parish but with the harvest over, the area could be targeted. Residents are requested to report any sightings.

Some local churches have been victim of roof lead thefts, any residents living close to the church are asked to report any suspicious activity. Anstey's church roof was alarmed.

## **28.6 To Approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019**

The minutes were reviewed and it was unanimously agreed that with corrections listed below, they were a correct and a true record of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019 and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

Amendments: Point 27.4 Suzanne Rutland-Barsby it should read '**conservation**', not conversation.  
Point 27.8.4 should read no '**quotations**' were received.

## **28.7 Planning Applications / Decision Notices**

### **28.7.1 High Trees Ref. 3/19/1338/HH** Erection of single storey (with 2 car ports and enclosed garden store) together with relocation of crossover.

A letter has been sent to EH Planning with concerns over the encroachment of access into agricultural land and planting of trees in the field which may contravene the planning application. Clerk to obtain clarification of the complaint made last year and request details of the boundary of agricultural and residential land.

A letter has also been received noting that furniture and football posts being in the field and agricultural land, not residential – this to be followed up by the Parish Council.

It was noted that the pasture has been ploughed and there have been quad bikes on the land and parties held with loud music playing late at night.

### **28.7.2 Wayside Cottage** Ref. 3/19/1580/HH have reapplied.

### **28.7.3** None.

## **28.8 Finance**

### **28.8.1** External Audit – all paperwork has been received by the external auditors –further updates were not expected.

### **28.8.2** The Budget was presented for adoption prior to the November meeting – clerk to add to Capital Account the window refurbishment donation to Village Hall.

### **28.8.3** The statement for payments to date this financial year was accepted as correct.

Capital Account balance was £11,500 and a playing field grant will be applied for when open.

The Village Hall may also need future financial assistance. There was no immediate plan to use the capital funds.

### **28.8.4** The Bank Reconciliation date 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019 was accepted as correct.

### **28.8.5** Payments for September and October were approved (cheques to be signed at the end of the meeting).

## **28.9 Anstey Quarry**

Covered under point 28.4 with County Councillor.

## **28.10 Highways / Vegetation**

The drain by Wayside / entrance to Castle Cottages (no's 3-6) was reported and a standard response received.

The Chairman will chase hedge and grass cutting at Anstey Hall.

## **28.11 School / Parking**

Flyers have been added to vehicle windscreens parked from the school to the church asking them not to park there as vehicles coming up the hill are approaching a blind corner on the wrong side of the road. It encourages drives to use the Village Hall Car Park. The school have been informed via e-mailed and Cllr Parker will discuss at her next visit.



## 28.12 Defibrillator – Box Number 1580

Cllr Oxley was delighted to report there had been no use of the defibrillator. It is checked every 2-3 weeks.

21 people attended the defibrillator training session and DC Boylan was thanked for recommending the trainer.

The WhatsApp Group details have been circulated in the Parish.

Following agreement at the last meeting, Cllr Oxley decided circulated the code to defibrillator box to the Parish.

## 28.13 Phone Box

Following the Conservation Meeting held last month, John Bosworth has kindly written to BT as the Conservation Officer and requested replacement glass and repainted of the phone box, he is moving this forward for us.

## 28.14 Village Hall

The school continue to use the hall for the purpose it was bequeathed; lunches and PE, Archery and Assemblies.

Film and Social Club continues after the August break, there's films this month, October and November.

Film attendees are approx. 30.

Pilates class has ceased, and six other classes continue to run.

Sat 28<sup>th</sup> September is the Barn Dance – information was published in the newsletter.

Only Committee concern is the timing of the carpark and drive repair with the autumn weather approaching. Cockenach's offer to make the improvements is appreciated but the committee are worried about progress before the weather breaks. The hedges need trimming right back to allow access to undertake the works. Week commencing 28<sup>th</sup> October was agreed – needs liaison with the school as to whether the work can be carried out at half term.

Permission may need to be sought for storing topsoil material from the bank when the car park is enlarged to the other side of the road. Cllr Oxley to forward the details to the Clerk to request this.

## 28.15 Playing Field one more cut is required before the end of the year. One table to be moved.

## 28.16 Conservation Area

Meeting held at EHDC. There were two issues and our attempt to get our satellite areas in the plan were pointless. The hamlets had no historic relevance to be in the conservation area. The conservation area is usually one region, not spread out. Any conservation alleyway requirement would be covered by the District Plan. The final report will contain a proviso to consider the hamlets and land between them for any future planning applications. The Head of Planning was very apologetic at how the conservation area appraisal was handled.

DC Boylan informed the Counsellors that the final version will be shared with the Parish Council before it is submitted. It will be forwarded when the executive papers are published. Due to go to Exec on 8<sup>th</sup> October for adoption on 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

The chairman thanked DC Boylan for organising the Conservation Area Meeting and for his assistance in this matter.

## 28.17 Correspondence Received / Sent – report received.

28.17.1 Another e-mail was received from the Head of Planning yesterday explaining there was no further information on Cargreen and Well Cottage but the matter was being investigated.

## 28.18 AOB

28.18.1 The Luton and Stansted Airspace changes for both airports affect our parish.

Clerk to send a copy DC Boylan for information.

28.19 To receive meeting dates for 2020 for consideration.

28.20 Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Meeting concluded at 8.45pm.