## ANSTEY PARISH COUNCIL



## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY, 15 MAY 2023 AT 7.50PM

**Andrew Marchant** Present:

> David Oxley Simon Bagnall David House Amanda Parker Jan Pledger

Members of the Public: Stuart Bonnet and Marissa Zoppellini

County / District Councillors: None Police: None

Apologies: CC Jeff Jones, DC Geoffrey Williamson and PC L De Bruyn

Officer present: Caroline Jones (Clerk)

- 49.1 Declaration of Acceptance of Office: Councillors signed Declarations of Office for the ensuing year, 2023-24.
- 49.2 The Chairman for the ensuing year 2023-24 was appointed: One proposal was received and seconded – Andrew Marchant was duly appointed as Chairman.
- 49.3 The Vice Chair for the ensuing year 2023-24 was appointed: One proposal was received and seconded -David Oxley was duly elected as Vice-Chair.
- 49.4 Apologies: Received from CC Jeff Jones, DC Geoffrey Williamson and PC De Bruyn.
- 49.5 Personal / Prejudicial Declarations: None received.
- 49.6 **Public Comments**: Discussions held included:
  - The change of land use at the Hare Street Travellers' site, covered in item 49.10.6.
  - The Rave at Anstey Quarry in Apr-23: Police were contacted residents were informed to take no action and allow those attending to disperse. Clerk to respond to the Police regarding the absence of reporting this on the local crime report. It was noted that the Hunt is regularly reported but also not included in Police crime reports.
- 49.7 County / District Councillor Comments: DC Geoffrey Williamson has been elected and intends to attend the July meeting.
- 49.8 Police Report: The crime report for April was received. See comments in item 49.6.
- 49.9 Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 March 2023: The chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 20 Mar-23 as an accurate record of the meeting.
- 49.10 **Planning**
- **49.10.1** Anstey Hall SG9 0BY: 3/23/0821/FUL (3/23/0659/FUL withdrawn): no issues raised from St George's End for changes to the manege. Councillor Pledger will liaise with Two Acre residents, response due by 30 May-23.
- 49.10.2 The Grange SG9 0DG: Ref. 3/23/0821/FUL S/S side and F/F side extn, installation of north facing glass balustrade - no objections were raised by Parish Council - APPROVED: 05 Apr-23.
- 49.10.3 Dove Cottage SG9 0DH: 3/23/0558/HH and 3/23/0559/LBC Demolition of side porch, erection of S/S extn., detached garage/plant room – AWAITING DECISION. Council raised concerns over this application.
- 49.10.4 Windy Ridge SG9 0DN: 3/23/0601/HH demolition of conservatory, rear extn. Part 2-storey side extn. Front porch and alterations to Juliet balconies – AWAITING DECISION. Council raised no concerns.
- **49.10.5** Granary Cottage SG9 0BY: 3/23/0069/HH and 3/23/0486/LBC APPROVED 28 Apr-23.
- 49.10.6 Plot 64: Ref. No: 3/20/2139/FUL Change of use of land to Gypsy/Traveller residential Parish council objected - APPEAL LODGED 14/01/22.

The planning application was made on 02 Nov-20. The site contains a high number of parts of land within, the travellers bought one and cleared the area 3 years ago whilst making various planning applications. One was refused and another withdrawn. An appeal has been lodged and there appears that no-one is currently residing

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on the site. The Parish Council's main concerns were sewage arrangements, the lack of site ownership and site

- **49.10.7** New applications or decision notices not listed above the only notification is the footpath diversion.
- 49.11 **Finance**
- **49.11.1** a) Form 2PM Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) Sections 1/2 were accepted and duly signed. b) Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2022/23 Form 2PM – was accepted as correct and duly signed.
  - c) Form 2PM Section 1 Annual Governance Statement 2023/23 was accepted as correct and duly signed.
- **49.11.2** The May-23 finance report was accepted by the Parish Council.
- **49.11.3** The latest bank reconciliation was accepted for 15 May 23 was accepted and duly signed. It was noted that this was prepared on 01 May 2023. A VAT payment is still awaited, £3,342.
- 49.11.4 Payments for May/Jun-23 were approved, including an additional £1.40 paid to the clerk to cover the salary underpayment during 2022-23.
- 49.12 Phone Box Kiosk: Communication has restarted to deal with the Parish Council's complaint that the kiosk repairs were not to the required standard following remedial works in 2021 with no response. There is also no response from Highways regarding culverts and drainage to ascertain why a pool of water collects in front of the kiosk. Historically there was a ditch along the road but has since been filled – a letter regarding ditch clearing will be prepared by the Clerk.
- 49.13 Highways / Vegetation:

Hedges and overgrowth encroaching onto highways was reviewed, together with potholes in the village.

49.14

Clerk to write to Highways requesting that the verges are cleared again at Silkmead.

It was noted that flooding is still apparent at this site, together with Cave Gate – both are being monitored.

49.15 Playing Field:

> Details and pricing for a new bench at the playing field were discussed, Cllr Bagnall to progress purchasing via Flint Hall and arrange reimbursement once arranged.

> UK Power Networks were contacted following trees surgery works and subsequently removed branches left onsite.

> A Ukrainian Scout weekend has been organised for 20 May-23, the field and village hall toilets will be used. Rubbish will be bagged up and removed from site. The forest school area will be used, as agreed with the School.

49.16 Ditch works undertaken:

> Ditch works completed in Anstey were substandard – the Chairman asked for details of the survey and reasons for the works carried out. It was agreed that the results were seen as pointless and rubbish was left on Flint Hall/ Lincoln Hill, together with the digging up of snow drops. It was noted that works outside Anstey Hall were not included. Clerk to investigate who surveyed the area and instigated the works.

- 49.17 **Church**: Font renovation work has been completed. Fundraising will be organised for general maintenance.
- 49.18 School / Parking:
  - Parking has been only problematic at pre-school collection/drop off. Cllr Oxley to discuss with the school.
- 49.19 Speeding: PC De Bruyn has concluded that vehicles do not speed in the centre of the village. It was noted that speeding occurs on Lincoln Hill. The Police Commissioner has confirmed action will only be taken if an incident occured in the village.
- 49.20 Village Hall: This was covered in the report for the Annual AGM held earlier on 15 May-23.
- 49.21 Newsletter: The Jun/Jul-23 newsletter is being compiled. There are now 10 paid advertisements in the Newsletter amounting to £300 revenue per annum. Meesden are contributing to printing costs.
- 49.22 **Anstey Quarry**: there was no update since the last meeting to provide.
- 49.23 **Defibrillator**: Cllr Oxley reported it was fully functional and ready for service if needed. The use and location of the defibrillator was explained to those members of public in attendance.
- 49.24 **Correspondence Received**: The correspondence received and sent was accepted.
- 49.25 **Any other business** None.
- 49.26 Dates of Meeting: Next meeting to be held at 7.30pm on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> July In the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Clerk: Caroline Jones, 7 Martins Drive, Hertford SG13 7TA Date: 17/07/2023  $\sim$  Page 2 of 2  $\sim$ Tel: 01992 475 335 email: clerk-ansteypc@hotmail.co.uk