



## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY, 20<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023 AT 7.30PM

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

Members of the Public: None present.

County / District Councillors: None present.

Police: None available to attend.

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

Officer present: Caroline Jones (Clerk)

**52.1 Apologies** received from PC Leon De Bruyn, CC Jeff Jones, DC Geoffrey Williamson and David House.

**52.2 Personal / Prejudicial Declarations** : None received.

**52.3 County / District Councillor Comments** :

**DC Geoffrey Williamson** – no report received.

**CC Jeff Jones** forwarded a report : the drainage register identifies that Cave Gate is registered for drainage works. The comment 'CD to establish what this is' came from the previous Ringway Officer, Charlotte Dunham. CC Jeff Jones has updated Highways on the issues and they are in receipt of our letter of 20.11.23 – it is hoped that this area will soon receive attention.

**52.4 Public Comments** : None.

**52.5 Police Report** :

No reported crimes in Anstey from Oct-23.

A request to receive parish council newsletters was received and actioned. 2024 meeting dates have been shared.

**52.6 Minutes of the Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

The chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

**52.7 Planning**

**52.7.1 Elm Cottage SG9 OBN** : 3/23/1910/HH – demolition of conservatory, erection of part S/S 2-storey rear extn, installation of windows, enlargement of rear patio – awaiting decision.

**52.7.2 Elm Cottage SG9 OBN** : 3/23/1804/LBC and 2803/HH – removal of 3 chimney stacks, S/S link extn, closure of open carport and door, fenestration alterations – awaiting decision.

**52.7.3 Two Twitts SG9 OFD** : 3/23/1626/FUL – change of use from part of outbuilding at G/F to Clinic, creation of entrance ramp and car parking facilities – no objections were raised on this application following discussions at the last meeting – permission granted : 17/10/23.

**52.7.4 Dove Cottage SG9 ODH** : 3/23/0558/HH and 3/23/0559/LBC : **AWAITING DECISION.**

The Parish Council have raised with Planning that they were not notified of some major changes to this application. Clerk wrote to Planning on 15/11/23 to request clarification but received no response. There were no objections to the property expansion originally, but concerns were highlighted with regards to the change of view for neighbours. Previous comments will carry forward on this application change.

**52.8 Finance**

**52.8.1 To receive an update on the 2022-23 External Audit** : no communication received.

**52.8.2 To receive and ratify the budget for 2024-25** : the budget for 2024-25 was discussed, approved and ratified.

**52.8.3 To ratify the precept amount for 2024-25 and sign the appropriate form** : 26% increase is required to cover the additional costs for 2024 newsletter costs and litter picking (now no grant), together with a clerk's salary increase. Precept request : £6,000 (previous £4,750). The increase was voted in favour by all councillors present and ratified.



- 52.8.4 To ratify the Clerk's salary increase in accordance with NALC guidelines**  
Ratification of the salary increase was voted in favour by all councillors present.
- 52.8.5 To ratify the Clerk's backdated pay increase to Apr-23** : this was agreed and ratified by all councillors present.
- 52.8.6 To receive a donation request from the Citizen's Advice Bureau** : as in previous requests, parishioners funds are not spent to support donations outside the village and this request was declined.
- 52.8.7 Update on Finances** : there is liaison with Barclays Bank with regards to the payments to Sharpe Print in May – payments made twice of £180 on 23/04/23 but only credited once – clerk remitted to Sharpe due to non-payment. Laptop replacement costs will be covered by the balance carried forward at the end of this financial year, or funded from the capital account, to be agreed when needed.
- 52.8.8 Bank Reconciliation** dated 18 Sep-23 was approved and accepted.
- 52.8.9 Bank Payments** for Nov/Dec-23 payments due were approved and the chairman permitted to sign cheques. Trialing of bank transfers to be undertaken this month.
- 52.9 Phone Box** – no quotations yet received, clerk to chase for January, Councillors will also investigate providers.
- 52.10 Highways / Vegetation** – The footpath bridge has been repaired and it is hoped it may be replaced in Spring-24. It has been confirmed that CC Jones will chase Cave Gate which continues to flood on the highway.
- 52.11 Flooding** – see 52.3 and 52.10 above.
- 52.12 Playing Field** – no issues reported at the playing field.
- 52.13 Church** – Cllr Parker attended the remembrance service. An event at the village hall on 21/10/23 was well attending and took £1,197 profit for the church. War memorial will be cleaned (with soap and water).
- 52.14 School / Parking** – A small number of vehicles continue to require parking notices on the corner.
- 52.14.1 School / St George's End** – No sewage tank update available, further information will be provided at the next meeting.
- 52.15 Village Hall**  
Exercise classes continue with fluctuating attendance. Classes are PAYG.  
The film club is well attended by 25+. Next film showing is 24<sup>th</sup> November – there is no film club in December. Membership renewal in Jan-24 anticipates no price increase. A regular small profit is made from the bar. Technical glitches with the AV film equipment are hoped to have been resolved by an upgrade of cabling, purchase of a new transmitter and receiver at a cost of £290.  
The blind wine tasting event was well attended by 28.  
A music night will be organised for 13<sup>th</sup> Jan-24.  
The VHC are planning to improve the fire doors which do not open smoothly and are badly insulated. Cost is £6,000+VAT. It is hoped to apply for an EHDC grant for this project.
- 52.16 Newsletter**  
Digital edition is being circulated tomorrow and the 12-page newsletter is currently being printed. Brent Pelham have not provided past narrative but will now contribute to news in the forthcoming editions. Currently have 12 paid advertisers with 2 new signed-up; Attend2Health and a local AirB&B.
- 52.17 Anstey Quarry**  
The Quarry is in the process of being sold to Wren Contractors for a storage, reclamation and recycling business. There has been no contract exchange to date.  
The potential owners have been carrying out site clearance and reinstating roadways onsite.  
The excessive (+4m) height levels have been highlighted by the Parish Council to enforcement and the site is due to return to agricultural land. The Chairman has corresponded with the new buyer, Wren Contractors to emphasise that any major works at the Quarry site would not be supported.
- 52.18 Defibrillator** – was checked last week, it remains in good working order and ready for use if needed.
- 52.19 Correspondence** – a list of correspondence received and sent was accepted.
- 52.20 Any other Business** – none.
- 52.21 Matters Carried Forward** : monitor laptop performance and obtain phone kiosk renovation quotations.
- 52.22 Next Meeting** : Next meeting to be held at the village hall on Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Meeting closed at 20.22.