



Anstey Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM

Councillors Present: Simon Bagnall (SB)
 Jan Pledger (JP)
 Andrew Marchant (AM)
 Amanda Parker (AP)
 Stephen Wylie (SW)

Others Present: David Oxley

Officers Present: Caroline Jones (clerk)

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

ACTION

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from District Councillor Rose Cheswright and PCSO Higham

2. Declarations of Interest

None declared.

3. Approval of Minutes 8th July 2013

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting had been previously circulated and were reviewed. **Resolved** – that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 8th July be duly signed as correct by the chairman.

4. Co-opt a new councillor

One application has been received for a co-option to the Parish Council – David Oxley. The council reviewed this application and voted unanimously to co-opt. **Resolved** – that David Oxley be co-opted onto the parish council.

David commented that it was difficult to know who is on the council and how to contact them. Details will be added to the website to include contact telephone numbers and councillors listed on the future minutes.

David noted that planning applications are reviewed and asked how the council comes to decisions on these – the chairman explained the planning criteria. The Chairman is attending a Planning Seminar at Woolmer Green.

5. Police /Public Adjournment

PCSO Higham submitted a report covering the church break-in. There have been a number of thefts from the church in recent years; a wall-mounted box and candle sticks have been taken. It was also noted that there was a robbery and attack at the Filling Station in Hare Street. Now the fields have been cut, all parishioners are asked to keep an eye on the fields for any hare coursing and call the relevant numbers – 101 for non-urgent or 999 if people and dogs are present on fields.

6. Planning

6.1 3/13/1434/FP North End Farm Tennis Court with surround fencing – the Chairman showed a photograph taken from another angle where it can be seen from the entrance to the property. This new application is a better site and there were no objections. No comment to be made.

6.2 3/13/1466/LB Snow End House Single Storey Extension – no objections and no comments.

clerk



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		ACTION
<p>6.3 Buntingford New Homes Planning Applications – the proposed plans for new houses in Buntingford does impact on Anstey if the amenities are not upgraded and the roads improved. The Chairman proposed a standard response that the amenities must be in place before any plans are approved. It was agreed that the parish council will oppose each new planning application on the grounds of infrastructure and amenities need improving first. Any developments that impede travel into Buntingford for Anstey residents will be opposed on an individual basis.</p> <p>6.4 Anstey House – the response from East Herts planning was read out to the parish council.</p> <p>7. Finance</p> <p>7.1 The Audit has been received back from BDO and is complete. The clerk queried the fee of £30.</p> <p>7.2 Payments were approved, cheque signing deferred to end of the meeting</p> <p>7.3 A backup was provided to the Chairman</p> <p>8. Highways</p> <p>A letter had been received from Herts Highways regarding the potholes on Quarry Road. This response has been copied to Rose Cheswright asking for assistance. Councillors must report the potholes please – clerk to email the link and put it in the newsletter. Clerk to re-report the Quarry Road and to enquire what is holding up the hedge cutting at Essex Cottage which overhangs the road.</p> <p>9. Broadband</p> <p>Stagestruck are looking at increasing their broadband through fibre optic with BT via Barkway. The chairman confirmed that a small number of residents (3) were interested in higher speed internet via a mobile radio broadband service. One resident offered to obtain more support. Costs were approximately £100 to be installed and £40/month for residents. Cllr Bagnall and the chairman to progress.</p> <p>Cllr Parker asked if a rural grant was available to assist the installation of a fibre optic cable – clerk to progress via Herts CC / East Herts. It would greatly benefit residents if it is brought in to a business.</p> <p>10. East Herts Grant Application Process</p> <p>A list of success grant applications had been circulated. It was agreed that this information should be shared with residents via the newsletter. Cllr Pledger wishes to apply for a grant for a Short Mat Indoor Bowls Club. It was agreed that the parish council supported this and the application would be from the Village Hall Committee.</p> <p>11. S106 Stagestruck – no update</p> <p>12. Playing Field Inspection</p> <p>The survey was well received with a few repairs needed. It was agreed that Cllr Wylie and the chairman would organise the repairs. It was unanimously agreed that an oak gate should be fitted to the entrance, the same as the kissing gates. Risk assessment needs doing.</p> <p>13. Anstey Chapel Grass Cutting – no update</p>	<p>clerk</p> <p>clerk</p> <p>AM/SB</p> <p>clerk</p> <p>AM/SW</p>	



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14. Correspondence

Herts Air Ambulance request for assisting their fund raising. The councillors agreed that they could only support local events in their own village and they were not in a position to support other charities, but happy to provide information to the newsletter and notice boards.

ACTION

clerk

15. AOB

Phone Box – David Oxley asked if there were any plans for the box. The chairman confirmed that it has a preservation order on it, BT owned it and that the parish council want to retain the feature in the village. Request has been made to BT to clean it, paint and replace the Perspex back to glass. Clerk to chase the cleaning plus other requests.

clerk

16. Next meetings 4th November

The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for 4th November and the January meeting will be 13th January 2014. Note; Cllr Bagnall sends his apologies for January.

The chairman thanked councillors for attendance and thanked David for joining the parish council. The meeting was duly closed at 8.35pm.

Signed _____

Date _____