



Anstey Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ANSTEY ON MONDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 2014 COMMENCING AT 7.30 PM

Councillors Present: Jan Pledger (JP) David Oxley (DO)
Amanda Parker (AP) Stephen Whyllie (SW)

Others Present:

Officers Present: Caroline Jones (clerk)

The vice chairman welcomed all to the September meeting and opened the meeting at 7.30pm.

ACTION

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Bagnall, Cllr Marchant, District Cllr Rose Cheswright and PCSO Amanda Higham.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Wylie declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 5.1 : Yew Cottage

3. Approval of Minutes 7th July 2014

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting had been previously circulated and were reviewed. These were amended to include Cllr Wylie present at the last meeting. **It was Resolved that with this amendment** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 7th July 2014 were duly signed as correct by the vice chairman.

4. Police /Public Adjournment

Since the date of the last meeting, there have been no recorded crimes in Anstey. The area remains quiet. Our main focus at the moment is around home heating oil tank security and OWL messages have already gone out with advice with regard to this. Other areas have also seen an increase in theft of pedal cycles so there have been a few bike marking events in Buntingford and, hopefully, these will be rolled out into the villages.

The clerk reported that a new Buntingford PCSO is looking to start up a youth cadets group; more information will be circulated if this is successful.

5. Planning

5.1 Planning Application 3/14/1263/FP New Boundary fence, gate and wall at Yew Cottage SG9 0DA. The plans had already been circulated and all councillors present had no objection. Councillors had viewed the plans and had no objections to the application, clerk to write to Mr Plummer.

✓ 8/9/14

Cllr Wylie gave some information that planning were insisting that the post and rail fence be the other side of the Yew Trees and he was in discussion with the department.

5.2 Decision Notice 3/14/1111/FP Moatside House, 3 Moatside SG9 0DD : Approved

6. Finance

6.1 To receive an update on finances together with the summary of funds available. A payment of £4008 for NHB is to be transferred to the Capital Account bringing it up £8458

6.2 To approve the payments list for Sept / October and cheques were signed by Mrs Parker at the end of meeting

6.3 To receive an updated Personal Details Form from Mrs Parker to complete the new signatory for Cllr Oxley on the Barclays Bank Mandate

6.4 There was no update on the Audit of Accounts 2013-14

6.5 The correspondence backup was complete – to be passed to the chairman in November

7. Playground Inspection

Following the playground inspection, it was noted that the swings need replacing. The parish council discussed replacing the cradle and swing seats this year, it was agreed to keep the swings the same formation and repair them. There will need to be a risk assessment completed for a mixture of cradle and flat swings on one unit. Clerk to arrange the ordering of swings at a cost of £467 from Park Leisure, the cheapest quote.

Action



Anstey Parish Council

The clerk had struggled to obtain prices for rope bridge repairs but TayPlay can supply the rope for fitting - this needs action. Clerk will ask TayPlay for more information with a view of ordering the rope and finding someone locally to fit them.

Mrs Pledger reported that it looked like a large vehicle had hit the picnic table during the summer holidays and it now needs removing. It will need a tractor to pull it out.

The parish council thanked Mrs Pledger who has removed all the broken pieces and turned over all the sharp broken parts. It was agreed to find out when the contractor last cut the grass regarding the damaged bench. The clerk will speak to the school office. It may need logging with police to get a crime number for insurance purposes. The clerk will speak to Amanda Higham to see if she will take a look at it when she's in the area.

8. New Piece of Play Equipment

The next Community Grants are open at East Herts DC, deadline is 16th December. The total price has updated to: £13,558 from Park Leisure plus approx. £200 for the base. It was agreed that the grant application should include the base.

The insurance increase is an extra £200 as the skateboard is 'high risk'

9. Ragwort

Cllr Pledger has surveyed the village and it has been removed from verges and banks. Councillors agreed to be vigilant and to dig it out from verges. Landowners should be removing it themselves.

10. Highways

All the major pot holes have been marked out ready for repair. Mrs Parker will speak with Rose Cheswright at the Rural Conference on Friday to see when they'll be done.

11. Correspondence Sent / Received

The list of correspondence sent and received was presented to council having already been circulated.

The vice reported that a response had been received from Planning. He reminded councillors that during the planning application process for Holly House, various parishioners had made comment but they weren't listed or available online. The parish council wrote to East Herts and confirmation has been received that the planning systems will be changed to one similar to North Herts Planning System. North Herts Planning lists all comments, although actual responses cannot be viewed, more information can be requested.

Clerk to reply to James Law to say thanks for his letter.

12. AOB

There was a discussion on Broadband and Cllr Wylie informed councillors on TV White Space that is targeted for roll out to rural areas in 2016. New devices will have a chip inserted for this frequency.

Cllr Pledger reported the overgrown hedge opposite Woodside Cottage. The clerk will report it and ascertain if it's highways or the homeowner's responsibility for cutting it.

13. Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be at 7.30pm on Monday, 3rd November at the Village Hall.

Councillors were thanked for their attendance and the meeting closed at 8.55pm.