

DRAFT MINUTES

2014/36

CUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held in Cuddington and Dinton School, Infant Site
Wednesday 3rd December 2014 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Ken Birkby (**KB**), Jim Hayward (**JH**). Jennifer Schram de Jong (**JSdJ**), Stephen Turner (**ST**), Venetia Davies (**Clerk**).

Parishioners: There were 6 Parishioners present including Cllr Paul Irwin (**PI**).

NB: Action points highlighted

Parishioners Question Time

- The Applicant of planning application 14/03339/APP (below) spoke of changes relating to the previously approved application. As a result of the steel structure being constructed differently, there has been an increase in the level of the new roof, at the ridge point, by 20cm. In order to meet Building Regulations, the height and design of the chimney has been changed. The Applicant informed Councillors that these changes are in line with planning regulations.
- Paul Irwin informed Councillors that works to Bridgeway (passed Cuddington Mill and before the bridge) would commence shortly. Concerns were expressed over the poor surface of this narrow road and the potential dangers involved in avoiding pot holes. KB also highlighted similar concerns on Aylesbury Road, near the Vehicle Activated Signs. **ACTION: CLERK to press for meeting between KB and Stuart Campbell, TfB.**

1. Apologies for Absence

Matthew Giorgi (**MG**), Doug Kennedy (**DK**), Michael Edmonds (**ME**), Michael Hawkett (**MH**)

2. Approval of Minutes – Wednesday 5th November 2014

Draft Minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by Chairman, KB.

3. Matters Arising

- **Reported hardcore and glass (Map Reference SP738115).** **ACTION: KB to forward photographs, map references and details of recent planning application to Enforcement Officer.**
- **Kings Cross Footway Feasibility Study.** Ongoing.
- **Children's Playground.** Basketball/Netball Hoop. Postponed at present.
- **TfB Activity.** **ACTION: KB to meet with Stuart Campbell to discuss granite sets in the village, including those in Spurt Street and proposed roads works which includes the pavement, opposite the Crown PH, in need of urgent repair.**
- **Nicholas Almond Charitable Trust.** Trustees report. **ACTION: Clerk to agenda for March 2015 meeting.**
- **Cuddington Parochial Church Council Grant.** **ACTION: Clerk to bring forward for February 2015 meeting.**
- **Diamond Jubilee – Final Account.** **ACTION: JSdJ to arrange for £300 to be transferred to the Parish Council account.** This to be held in the reserved funds until required

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4. Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

5. Planning:

- **14/03339/APP - Paddock Pass, Frog Lane, Cuddington, HP18 0AX**
Demolition of existing double detached garage and erection of a new detached double garage/greenhouse. Single storey extension and rear extension and rendering of existing bungalow externally (Amendment to planning permission 13/02842/APP) and (part retrospective). **Comment date:** 23rd December.
ACTION: Clerk to return the following comments to AVDC. *The Parish Council does object to the amended chimney proposal as it is considerably taller than the original proposal, is 'industrial' in its appearance and the stainless steel makes it very prominent. This is inappropriate in the conservation area. The PC has no objections, in principle, to the increase in height to the roof. With regard to the comments from the neighbour who objects, the impression given by the Design and Access Statement was that only the sedum roof would be visible from their property. This is not the case. We would recommend that the case officer makes a site visit to establish the impact of the changes from both aspects.*
- **Cuddington Planning Issues.** Councillors expressed concerns about the conversion of annexes into separate dwellings and agreed that some form of enforcement actions needs to be considered. Comments have been submitted to Susan Kitchen, Development Control at AVDC. **ACTION: Clerk to chase.**
- **14/02844/APP – Land to rear of Spicketts, Frog Lane, Cuddington, HP18 0AX**
Erection of one detached dwelling with new access – 31st October (deadline extended). **Permission Refused.**

6. Correspondence

- Letter from Helen Keeping, Editor, Village Voice requesting annual grant of £300 towards the cost of Village Voice. The annual donation was submitted in February 2014, and it was agreed to pay this again in February 2015. **ACTION: Clerk to inform Helen Keeping and bring forward in February 2015.**

7. Finance

- a. **Balance from Minutes of previous meeting (5th November 2014): BALANCE: £16,075.83**
 - Receipts: £0.00
 - Debits: £0.00
 - Plus unpresented cheques: £50.40 (Oxford IT), £55.00 (British Legion)
Balance of Bank Account: £16181.23 (as at 14th November 2014).
Available Funds: £16,075.83 (balance of bank account less unpresented cheques)
- b. **Orders for Payment: £396.35**
 - **Venetia Davies - £206.00** (November 20 hours)
 - **Venetia Davies - £10.35** (£6.36 - Postage and £3.99 - Paper)
 - **Carl Small - £30.00** (Children's Playground – 1 cut @ £30 per cut)
 - **Simon Brown - £110.00** (Grass cutting – 2 cuts @ £55 per cut)
 - **Cartridge World - £33.33** (VAT £6.67) **£40.00** (Christmas Card)

BALANCE: £15,679.48 - (Available Funds less Orders for Payment)

NOTE: ACTION: Clerk to request grass cutting now ceases until Spring 2015. Clerk to also thank Cartridge World for printing of Parish Council Christmas Card at reduced price.

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- c. **Budget 2015/16 and Precept 2015/16** (return due Friday 23rd January 2015)
Prior to discussions on the Budget and Precept for 2015/16, Councillors discussed the Devolution of Services by BCC. AVDC has reviewed prices from John O'Conner's Ground Maintenance Ltd (who previously provided BCC grass cutting services across the district from 2005 to 2012) and compared them to funds that BCC are proposing. It would appear that these costs will exceed the budgets that BCC have offered to devolve CPC. Whilst the Parish Council will look to make a decision about devolution in 2015/16, Councillors agreed that it would be prudent to account for the devolution of services in the Precept for 2015/16. **ACTION: KB and Clerk to produce a budget outline to include this and also Election costs for 2015 (Clerk awaiting email from the Democratic Services section giving an indication of the May 2015 election costs for the parish) and circulate to Councillors prior to January's meeting. Clerk to also confirm to AVDC that CPC will look to make a decision about devolution in 2015/16 (by 9th December).**

8. Website Membership Campaign, Cllr ST

Approximately 250 homes in Cuddington have access to the internet with 100 of these being members of the village website. An article in Village Voice to launch the campaign to increase website membership will commence in February 2014 to be possibly followed by a leaflet drop. **ACTION: ST to action.** Chris Long outlined the amendments to four aspects of the existing website functionality – a link to latest Village Voice edition on Home Page, a smartphone and tablet-friendly website version, a website browser compatibility and a calendar event download facility. As much of the budget remains unspent this year with a further £300 to be allocated for 2015/16, it was agreed the WWG should spend what is required to progress with these improvements now. Statistics remain encouraging - the website is currently receiving 1,750 visits a month with 58 visits a day. The option of a polling facility was also outlined which would be easy to set up and free. Special thanks were paid to Chris Long for his continuous commitment to the village website.

9. LAF meeting, 17th December 2014, Bernard Hall. **ACTION: KB to attend and provide refreshments.**

10. Play Around the Parishes 2015

Letter received from AVDC outlining Holiday Activities Programmes for 2015. Due to the reduction in AVDC's subsidy, costs of sessions have increased from £130 to £200 for a 2 hour event. The possibility of just one summer session was discussed as well as ways to offset the cost of the event. **ACTION: JSdJ to discuss with Tic Toc. Booking form to be returned by 2nd February 2015.**

11. Parish Christmas Card and Christmas Tree and Lights

The Parish Christmas Card has been printed and circulated in Village Voice. Thanks were paid to Sarah Dyckhoff and Chris Blumer for their input. The Christmas tree has been ordered.

12. Items for Information including update on Parish Devolution (discussed under Item 7c)

- **JSdJ.** The Poppy Appeal across the villages of Cuddington, Cheersley and Nether Winchendon raised £2,505.12. The Fireworks night was less successful than previous years, possibly because of its timing at the end of the half term Autumn holiday.
- **JH.** Requested a working party for help tidying the corner of Welford Way. Work to commence January/February 2015.

13. Date and Time of Next Meeting:

Wednesday 7th January 2015 at 7.30pm in Cuddington and Dinton School – Infant Site