

Cowley (& Birdlip) Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs. E. Lavington | 07542860226 | cowleypc@hotmail.co.uk

MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council & the Annual Public Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 25th April 2018 at St Marys Church Birdlip

Present: Cllrs. Julian Lavington (Chair), Liz Workman, Paul Vogel, David Metcalf, Eileen McKay, 11 residents of the Parish and District Councillor Nicholas Parsons.

1. **Apologies for absence** – Apologies were received from Tim Knox
2. **Minutes of the last meeting** – held on 21st March were agreed as a true record and signed.
3. **Declarations of Interest**
None
4. **Matters arising not included as an agenda item.**
Clerks Report – Cllr Lavington asked if the Report could be presented later in the evening as part of the Annual Public Parish Council Meeting.
5. **Bus Shelters and Defibrillators:**
The 3 bus shelters, defibrillators and kiosks have been inspected since the last meeting.
The Council would ask Cllr Knox at the next meeting if he had received a response from Amey regarding the surface water outside the Bus Shelter in Cowley was not draining appropriately.
6. **Election of GAPTC as Internal Auditor**
As previous years this was supported.
7. **Planning**
Ref. No: 18/01229/FUL 2 storey extension to dwelling - Barrow Wake House Shab Hill Birdlip
Supported without comment
Ref. No: 18/01154/FUL Extension of two storeys to create new kitchen with new third bedroom above -
Hunters Hill Cowley
Supported without comment

Finance

8. **Payment authorised and cheque issued to: PATA Payroll £22.50**
9. **Payment authorised and cheque issued to: the agreed Charitable Donations:**

Birdlip Playgroup - £1,914 Brimpsfield with Birdlip PCC - £400 Cowley PCC - £649
10. **Clerk's Salary Payment authorised and cheque issued**
11. **To take any questions from the public – As per Annual Public Parish Council Meeting below.**
12. **Items for the next agenda, Speeding Issues Cowley, Emergency Plan, Anti Social Behaviour, Village Signs, GDPR, Standing Orders, Risk assessment, Internal Audit Report.**
13. **Date of next meeting** The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 16th May 2018 at Deer Park Guide HQ Cowley

ANNUAL PUBLIC PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Grant cheques were issued and received by Representatives from Cowley PCC and Birdlip and Brimpsfield Playgroup. Clerk received cheque on behalf of Brimpsfield with Birdlip PCC. Photographs of the presentation were taken and recipients agreed for these to be used on the Parish Councils Website.

Reports

- Julian Lavington, Chairman of the Parish Council

Chairman Report

- Sadly 2016/17 had seen resignations from the Clerk Helen and Councillors, N Reed, D Ballinger, S Drysdale and S Bradley. The Chairman thanked them for their work on the Parish Council and wished them all the best for the Future.
- Elaine has now taken on the role of Clerk and Responsible Officer.
- The Council has co-opted 3 new Councillors E McKay, T Knox and P Vogel. Following no nominations for a new Councillor, Posters would be displayed and the Council will be free to Co-opt at the meeting to be held on Wednesday 13th June.
- The past year has seen planning applications totalling 12 which included an application for a Micro Brewery and license for same in Birdlip.
- Two dog bins have now been installed in Cowley.
- Barrow Wake Viewpoint – Signs to be erected asking anyone who sees anti social behaviour of a sexual nature to report to the police – awaiting approval from Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust.
- Village Signs – The Council has applied for 50/50 match funding for the Birdlip signs, with Cowley signs ongoing due to location issues.
- Thank you to Dawn and resident volunteers for organising a litter picking afternoon in Birdlip.
- Donation Policy had been updated and 3 organisations would receive a grant from the Parish Council.
- The Bad winter had seen far reaching problems with heavy snow fall. Thank you to residents who had helped to clear pathways and roads especially to members of the Hannis family who had taken time to clear the way from Birdlip to the A417.
- A417 – The Council had organised a residents meeting to gain data, information and concerns from residents – this was then used as the basis for the Councils response to Highways England on the two route options 12 & 30. The Council had been approached by a representative of Crickley Flyers, a not for profit organisation who would like to see the possible redundant road from Stockwell to Birdlip used as a Cotswold Cycling Centre.
- Looking forward to 2018/2019

A417 – interim measures – the Council would be communicating residents concerns regarding interim safety, speed and environmental measures needed to Highways England.

Emergency Plan – Council to prepare an Emergency plan for Cowley and Birdlip Villages

Council to look at the new GDPR and take necessary measures

The Council to continue to address the anti social behavior at Barrow Wake.

The Council hope to progress with the installation of the Village Gateway signs.

- **Cllr. Nicholas Parsons (Cotswold District Council)**

Cllr Parson Report - Please see separate report attached.

Clerks Report

Having now met with the new Local Highways Manager for the area the Clerk reported on the following:

- **Salt Bins** – Any additional or faulty salt bins are now the financial responsibility of the Parish Council. These can be costly but the new local Highways manager has agreed to send details of a supplier used by another Parish which could be a far cheaper option.
- **Snow** – The local Highways Manager has suggested the Parish Council prepare a Winter Plan, to include the provision of a plough. The Council to advertise for a plough operator. Gloucestershire Highways will provide plough and would pay for the services of the operator on production of their appropriate insurance.
- **Gateway signs** – Gloucestershire Highways would like to see two sets of gateway signs erected in Birdlip, one set from the A417 and another towards the top of Birdlip Hill. This should help reduce the issue of speeding traffic entering the village. Local Highways manager is happy to consider match funding for both and has also suggested another source for a grant for the additional gates – Parish Council to apply.
- **Interim Safety Measures A417**

The Clerk had discussed with the Highways Manager many concerns from residents – Including:

- Speed limit of 40mph at least 300m either side of B4070
- Warnings of possible tail-backs on the approach to Nettleton from Cirencester
- Signage to ward drivers they are entering an accident black spot
- Double white lines along the whole stretch of road between B4070 junction and the approach to Nettleton Bottom

All of the above would be the responsibility of Highways England – some would need a Traffic Regulation Order which can take up to 12 months to process.

- A Safer Crossing point for Cotswold Way and Gloucestershire Way Walkers away from the Air Balloon

Clerk has been informed that there are ongoing meetings in progress between Cotswold Way and GCC PROW team regarding this issue.

- Traffic Calming measures installed in local villages

Local Highways Manager would like to hear any solution ideas for consideration.

After a discussion and many questions from the public regarding these issues it was agreed that the Parish Council would write to Highways England regarding interim safety measure. The Council would also canvas residents for suggestions regarding traffic calming measures which would then be forwarded to the Highways Manager for consideration.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed..... Date.....

COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report by Cllr N J W Parsons

Spring 2018

1. **Finance**

Despite further reductions in Central Government funding, CDC has frozen Council Tax again for 2018-19, mainly as a result of continued efficiencies made in the operation of Council services and the establishment of the not for profit Company, Publica. Publica is owned by Cotswold, West Oxfordshire and Tewksbury District Councils and Cheltenham Borough Council. The following are also funded. The forecast Budget surplus will enable the Council to invest in/maintain:

Enhancements to Planning Services (£195,000) The New Waterloo Car Park (£260,000) Electric Car Charging (£300,000), while Green Waste charges remain **frozen and** "Free after 3" Parking will be **extended again**.

Cotswold District Council remains debt free with net assets of over £30 million.

2. **Planning**

The Draft new Local Plan has been examined in public. CDC have just finished consulting on the changes required by the Inspector. The present intention is to have the plan adopted during the summer. For **Cowley/Birdlip**, the proposed Local Plan includes a policy to enable small scale local development outside the main towns, provided that it can be accommodated without harm to the countryside and can be shown to be in the best interests of the particular settlement or village.

3. **Youth Projects**

The Council is still able to support youth projects for those aged between 11 - 17. Funding from the County Council has been withdrawn, but each District ward Councillor has an allocation of £1,000 available. Youth projects tend to be run during school holidays, but any project will be considered. In the past, in the Ermin Ward, the Council has managed to support diverse projects such as cricket coaching, theatre production, and the provision of play equipment. Again, the Council will support most projects which are endorsed by the Ward Councillor.

4. **Community Projects**

The Council has increased the capital allocation available and will continue to support local/community projects with the provision of match funding with other organisations, such as the Heritage Lottery Fund. Within the Cotswolds, this scheme has been particularly useful in the provision of, or repair of, village halls and other community facilities.

5. **1st World War**

The allocation announced last year remains available through Ward Councillors. The Fund is available to assist communities to commemorate the ending of the 1st World War. Please let me know if you may need support for a project.

6. **Defibrillators**

Funds remain available to support parishes with the installation of Defibrillators. Within Ermin Ward we have already used the initial allocation of £2,000, but I am able to extract funds from other Ward Councillors.

N J W Parsons

Ward Councillor, Ermin Ward