

AYNHO PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 3rd October 2011 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Present Chair – Colin Macklin

Councillors – Hoddinott, Parkes, Brook, Anderson, Mann and James

In Attendance: District Councillor John Townsend, Sadie Patamia (Clerk), Amby Hitchcox (RFO), and 2 members of the public

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Burge and Belcher.

2 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest. Planning applications S/2011/1199/FUL - Single storey rear extension to provide kitchen and extend existing garden room, 5 The Hill, Aynho and S/2011/1200/LBC - Single storey rear extension to provide kitchen and extend existing garden room. Internal alterations to bedroom, shower room and existing kitchen, 5 The Hill, Aynho relate to Cllr Burge's property but she was not at the meeting due to illness.

3 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 5th September 2011

It was proposed by Cllr James, seconded by Cllr Parkes, and agreed that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 5th September 2011 should be approved and signed.

4 Matters arising not on the Agenda

The Clerk confirmed had purchased the wheely bin but was not yet sure how to go about having the others removed.

She stated that she had discussed with NCALC about having the land owned by APC valued. They had agreed that it was a good idea and had sent documentation about this. The Clerk has contacted land valuers for a quote on having the land valued. The quotes varied and it was agreed that she should also contact Hamptons.

Action – Clerk to discuss land valuation with Hamptons

The Clerk stated she had researched the cost of a decent map of the village and it would cost £238 from e map but there did seem to be cheaper possibilities on the Planning Portal. It was decided the Clerk would speak to SNC re. This, to see if we could be provided with a map under the Ordinance Survey, Local Government Framework Agreement.

Action – Clerk to speak to SNC re. maps of the village

She reported that she had requested that planning was a major topic at the next Ward meeting and that Evenley had apparently already thought this themselves. She had also spoken to John Townsend about SNCs response to the planning consultation. He had stated that SNCs is replying to the Government's consultation on the National Planning Framework and it was debated at our Policy Review and Development Committee on 13th September. The report has been forwarded to APC.

The Clerk confirmed she had replied to the letters received re. Aynhoe Park and had e mailed John Townsend about the licensing application re. Munchies.

She also confirmed that she had forwarded the letters re. speeding to Ron Sawbridge.

The Clerk confirmed that she had spoken to NCALC about Councilors offering services to villagers. No Councilor is allowed to undertake paid work on behalf of the Council. This means that if Cllr Hoddinott is to offer the environmental survey to villagers, even at cost price it cannot be endorsed by the Council and they cannot request he does it.

She confirmed she had sent a letter out re. putting bins away and put it in the newsletter. She has also written to Hinton airfield.

The Clerk also confirmed that she had sent a response to the licensing team re. Aynhoe Park.

At this point the Chair suspended standing orders to allow Kay Anderson (KA) and Roger Bradford (RB) to update APC on the sports field and amenity track

10 Recreational Matters – to include update on Village of the Year, sports field, dogs on sports field, RoSPA report and A.S.R.A. (part 1)

KA stated chairs and benches to still go in, they need £180 worth of material to put in place. These will be set in concrete adjacent to the track.

There are two outstanding invoices to come from Mick Cook for work done.

The quote for capping the track is about £12000 and there is a grant application into the County Council to partly cover this. A quote has been given for outdoor gym equipment for £7.5K, and there is another grant in to Tesco about this. The Chair enquired if there were grants available from the National Lottery? KA stated that this may well be the case but that someone would need to fill in the forms and this would be very time consuming. If grants were not forthcoming we could specifically fund raise for it. Chair concerned that if we do not get it capped the work that was done last year will be undone. It was agreed that the capping work seems to be the most important outstanding project

Cllr Brook asked for clarification of APC's contribution. RFO stated we have £5K budgeted for the sports field plus ASRA have about £5K. RB stated that the original professional quote to have this done was £120,000. KA stated that she had visited Princes Risborough who have successfully undertaken a similar project.

KA stated that Brackley Town are interested in getting a child's smaller pitch up and running and fund raising for this. She reported that children's teams really good and hassle free so should be encouraged. It was agreed that this should be allowed and that KA should sell the old goal posts for scrap metal if possible.

KA confirmed that the fire officer had visited and that the back door that had been broken was not needed. It was therefore resolved to board this up permanently. It was agreed that further security measures should be explored with a possibility of have grilles fixed to the back windows. KA asked Cllr Parkes to forward the quotes to her. Cllr Anderson will investigate the purchase and installation of a cost-effective CCTV system that incorporates motion detection

*Action – Cllr Parkes to forward quotes for windows etc. to KA
Action - Cllr Anderson to investigate CCTV options*

KA stated that there was still a certain amount of confusion about dogs on the sports field. KA has been advised that the Health Walks that the CC run want to use the Pavilion as a base but that many participants bring their dogs. KA suggests we designate the FIELD as no dogs but allow them up the drive. A definitive border line will be marked to define the area where dogs will be allowed. She asked if access be made from the footpath behind the Pavilion in to the Pavilion. It was thought that the hedge belongs to John Belcher. KA agreed to speak to him. It was therefore resolved that dogs are now allowed on the drive but not the field. It was agreed that signs would be purchased to inform people of where they are and are not allowed.

Action – Cllr KA to talk to John Belcher

The Chair extended his thanks to KA and RB for all their work.

Cllr Parkes asked about the asked about age limit for gym equipment. It was stated that it was aimed at adults but would be suitable for most ages.

RB stated that he had been helping with the digital handover and that if anyone with spare Digi-Boxes should please send them his way.

At this point KA and RB left the meeting but Standing Orders remained suspended so District Cllr Townsend could speak.

Cllr Townsend stated that the joint working with Cherwell had now begun with a new team in place. He stated that Sue Smith, the chief was brand new which was positive. It is still unclear quite how the new team will operate on a practical level.

Cllr Townsend stated that he would chase up to find out why APC are not informed of decisions, conditions etc. when a licensing application has been decided. It was stated that APC feel that they do not know if their comments are taken into consideration at all. He would also find out why licensing does not consult with interested parties.

He stated that SNC can't move forward with local plans because of the planning legislation going through government. There are plans to put housing in Brackley and Towcester but there is a worry that if these sites don't come on board houses will have to be built on the edges of villages. Also this will be difficult to accommodate. Cllr Townsend feels local plans should be allowed to progress for two years after the legislation to allow Councils to retain appropriate control.

Cllr Townsend stated that Moat Lane's development was underway. SNC offices being moved into this development which will save .25m a year in running costs plus it will cost the council nothing. This is planning for people before they arrive, not trying to react to them when they come which is a positive way forward.

The Chair stated that the big issue facing Aynho is the housing planned for Bicester and Banbury as the traffic will impact Aynho a huge amount. Nobody seems interested in this issue. It could be a 50 – 60% increase in traffic through the village. How can we get this on their agenda? JT suggested sending a letter to Andrea Leadsom.

The Chair asked Cllr Townsend's opinion on the Government's offer of money to encourage Councils to collect bins on a weekly basis. He replied that he felt there was no problem with the current collection method. This was agreed. He stated that he felt rather suspicious of the offer of money as it only seems to ever last for a year. Unless this is an on-going subsidy it will not be taken up.

At this point the Chair thanked Cllr Townsend for attending. Cllr Townsend left and standing orders were resumed.

5 Finance, to include first look at budget for 2012/13

It was proposed by Cllr James, seconded by Cllr Anderson and agreed that cheques on the attached report (AH/10/11) should be approved and signed.

External audit have all the info they need but may have misplaced it.

The RFO distributed the first draft of the budget for 2012/13. It was agreed that this would be discussed next month. Cllr Anderson requested that we have a predicted year end column added.

Cllr Brook reminded everyone that the major question will be whether we increase the precept. He stated that he feels we should as a small increase each year is better than a big increase falling in one particular year.

Cllr Brooks stated that he would like to see the playing field figures laid out to identify the full project costs to-date and the additional costs that would need to be spent to complete the project? Cllr James stated he felt APC need to know how much the total expenditure will be of major projects before we start to support them. Cllr Anderson stated that this is very difficult to do with a project of this type.

6 Risk

The RFO asked for any Cllr Risk reports to be sent to her so that they could be consolidated into one report for the next meeting.

7 Planning, including feedback on Aynhoe Park application

S/2011/1160/LBC - Wooden garage door, 11 Blacksmith's Hill, Aynho

The Clerk read out Cllr Burge's report and it was agreed that it should be supported with a comment suggesting SNC asks to see samples of the wood and stains to be used.

S/2011/1199/FUL - Single storey rear extension to provide kitchen and extend existing garden room, 5 The Hill, Aynho

S/2011/1200/LBC - Single storey rear extension to provide kitchen and extend existing garden room. Internal alterations to bedroom, shower room and existing kitchen, 5 The Hill, Aynho

On the basis of Cllr Brook's report this application was supported in full.

The Chair asked if there is anything we should take away from Aynhoe Park application? Cllr Brook stated that he feels the planning restrictions that we (APC) had asked to be incorporated had the Application been granted by SNC, were incorporated as we had requested but that we had only got our way by being present at the Planning Committee and making the case . SNC added to the restrictions we drafted. He stated that he felt we put in a very strong response and that from now on responses should be drafted by the Clerk then checked and approved before submission.

Cllr James stated that the conditions are significant.

Cllr Brook has asked for the section 106 to be sent to us.

Cllr Anderson asked how the development should be monitored to ensure the restrictions were being abided by. It was agreed that any issues arising should be reported daily and that there could be a section on the website for this to happen. It was agreed that this regime should be implemented .

Action – clerk to investigate with Lawrence Wilkinson how reporting section could be incorporated into the website

It was agreed that a dialogue should be started with James Perkins to keep lines of communication open.

Action – Chair and Cllr Anderson to approach James Perkins

8 Highways and Transport to include update on parking, and speed limits

Cllr Anderson stated that he has issued the minutes of the parking meeting. He asked if we should do a village survey as it seems not enough people are engaged in the process.

Cllr James said he thought this was unnecessary. This was agreed.

Cllr Parkes stated that he believed APC should take a decision and move with a plan. It was agreed that the parking group should meet again and come up with list of priorities. It was suggested that Helen Howard be invited to this as she had previously said that NCC may part finance works in the Glebe.

Action – Clerk to set up parking meeting and invite Helen Howard.

9 HS2 update

There was nothing to report on this, although the Chair stated that the decision was due on this at the end of the month.

10 Recreational Matters – to include update on Village of the Year, sports field, dogs on sports field, RoSPA report and A.S.R.A.

The Clerk stated she had received the RoSPA safety report. As ever, there were no major issues but the age of the equipment was mentioned.

The Clerk confirmed that KA and she would be looking through the Village of the Year entry form from last year to ascertain the best way forward.

11 Farming and Footpaths, to include update on path to Aynho Wharf

There was nothing to report.

12 Maintenance to include provision of new dog bins

The Clerk confirmed she had received a quote for the new dog bins. It is 45ltr metal red dog bin with a rubber lid is £91 + vat plus the pole is £33 + vat and labour and parts are £30 + vat. AH will install the bin in concrete and bind the bin to a post and the cost per empty is £3.97. It was agreed that 2 bins, should be ordered but possibly smaller in size. It was also agreed that another be bought for the sports field drive.

Action – Clerk to order bins but to check if they could be smaller

Cllr Parkes reported that lots of weed killing and rains cleared by Council.

It was requested that the Clerk chase up quotes to have the large lime tree looked at. In addition it was noted that some of the smaller trees on Croughton Road also required attention.

Action – Clerk to get quotes for work on trees.

Cllr Parkes stated that the Street Doctor has been spoken to re. ivy on walls.

13 Meetings and Conferences

No meeting had been attended

14 Correspondence

The Clerk confirmed she had received

15 Any Other Business (at the discretion of the Chair)

The Chair requested that the Clerk should write to History society and thank for their effort with the walk. The Chair expressed his thanks to the Clerk for the large amount of work done in publishing, promoting and organising the History Walk

Action – Clerk to write to History society and thank for their effort with the walk.

The Chair stated that he wanted to open discussions with the Officer of Oxfordshire County Council who has responsibility for the Transport Impacts of the Bicester Expansion Plan and who had spoken at the last ward meeting.

Action – Clerk and Chair to draft letter to Oxfordshire County Council

The Clerk stated that she had put RB in touch with an elderly resident in the village and that she had been provided with equipment to upgrade her to digital tv. The Chair expressed his thanks to the Clerk.

It was agreed that the Council's profile was slipping in terms of the newsletter again. It was agreed that a front page spread should be sought in the next edition. It was also agreed that an e mail list should be set up and an SMS service should be looked into.

Action – Clerk to up the profile of APC and to investigate other means of communication.

16 Date of next meeting - Monday 7th November 2011

This was agreed.

The meeting closed at 10.00