

Minutes of a Meeting of Elkstone Parish Council

8.00 p.m., Wednesday 16th July 2014, in Elkstone Village Hall

Present: Mssrs. Hobbs (Chair) Collins, Cooch, Luck, Muschamp: Mrs. Eyre (Clerk)

1. Minutes of the last Meeting (21st May 2014) were accepted and signed.

2. Matters arising

2.1 re item 7.1 from 12.03.14 and item 3 from 21.05.14 - Clerk awaiting notification of absentee owners' home address before referring to Glos Highways. Mr. Hobbs and Mr. Cooch undertook to try to find this. Inter alia, Mr. Hobbs mentioned that Cowley Manor's hedge adjacent to the Churn bridge has not been dealt with; this to be re-referred to Glos. Highways.

2.2 re item 11 from 21.05.14 - noted surface growth on coffin path cleared in time for Gardens Open Day, and report of eroded tarmac edge acknowledged, with action promised. This latter has not yet happened, Clerk to re-refer.

3. Finance

3.1 Payment of Accounts - renewal of insurance policy with AON. Further to the discussion at the last meeting, and in view of the awkwardness of late-arriving information, councillors had agreed by e-mail to accept the lower quote, and renew with AON, the offer being a three year fixed term contract.

A cheque for £218.67 had therefore been written, signed and sent.

3.2 Proposed Section 137 donation to EVHMC to help defray cost of Newsletter production:

A donation of £100.00: proposed Mr. Cooch; seconded Mr. Collins, carried nem con.

A cheque for £100.00 was written, signed and will be hand-delivered.

3.3 R.F.O.'s Report on Year to Date Income & Expenditure against Budget was accepted with thanks.

4. Planning

4.1 Proposed replacement dwelling, the Bungalow, Butler's Farm - Councillors had no objection

4.2 Proposed amendment to second floor layout, The Old Rectory - Councillors had no objection, and noted, CDC have granted permission

4.3 Proposed alterations, conversions and new builds, Highgate Farm - There was some discussion on this. Mr. Luck expressed concern at the extent and character of these proposals; other Councillors had no objection. No further action.

5. Standing Orders - Clerk had circulated a draft based on the discussion at the last meeting. Several further clauses were discussed. Clerk to circulate a revised draft.

6. Correspondence from the Parish - there was none.

7. Other correspondence

7.1 Our Village Agent, Mike Bone, has retired, and Cynthia Laird has taken on this area.

She has asked to be invited to a meeting of EPC in order to meet councillors; agreed: to be invited to the November meeting.

7.2 Cotswold District Council has informed of a new electoral registration system; agreed; an indication of this to be put into the Newsletter.

7.3 Other correspondence was put into circulation.

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8. Meetings

8.1 PCSOs' Neighbourhood Co-ordination Meeting, 5th June – Mr. Muschamp was unable to attend, Mr. Collins attended instead. He reported that topics covered included the GCC "Meeting the Challenge" initiative (caring for an aging population in a period of financial austerity), Speedwatch, and the Police report, which touched on thefts from sheds and outbuildings, sheep-worrying and fly-tipping.

8.2 CDC's Meeting with Town and Parish Councils, 19th June – Mr. Cooch apologised that he had been unable to attend after being unavoidable detained. It is hoped that the Minutes of this meeting will be sent out shortly.

8.3 GCC Highways Information Meeting, Monday 21st July, 6.30 – 8.00, Council Chamber, Shire Hall – no-one could attend this.

9 A.O.B.

9Glos Highways pothole notification – Clerk pointed out that by following the Glos. Highways advice not to bother reporting potholes, (and recording the fact of reporting) as there is no need due to GH regular inspections, it is much harder for any motorist to succeed in a claim against GCC or GH for damage from hitting a pothole, since it will be argued that GCC/GH can't be shown to have been negligent.

9.2 Mr. Cooch asked about improved broadband speed. Mr. Collins reported that he has been told by a computer specialist that a better internet connection may be available via 4G mobile networks; he will advise as and when further details become known.

9.3 Pallets have been fly-tipped on the roundabout of the bus pull-in near The Highwayman junction, and a broken office chair on the verge of the 40864 adjacent to the north end of public bridleway BEL 2. Clerk to report.

10. Dates of next Meetings

Hall bookings for the year are confirmed for the dates agreed at May's Meeting;
Next Meeting: 24th September.

There being no other business, the Meeting closed at 8.52 p.m.

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