

# Sevenhampton Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2016

**Present:** Lynne Jackson (Chairman), Gordon Day, Harry Boyd, Matthew Cain, Tex Cook

**In Attendance:** Diana Cook (Clerk), Mr Mike Moseley (Parishioner)

1. **Apologies:** Cllr. Bill Jenkin, Cllr. Di Brown, County Cllr. Paul Hodgkinson

2. **Questions & Answers:**

- It was asked if Mr Mike Moseley could contribute to the discussions on Item 6 (Website) as he has an interest in part of the present Sevenhampton website and would wish to continue his input. This was accepted by the Councillors.
- The frequency of grass cutting was questioned and it was identified that very little had been done so far this year. It was declared that the bus shelter grass had not been cut at all and the green only cut once so far this year. Exact situation should be ascertained and the contractor contacted. **Action: Cllr. Jackson**
- It was noted that Gigaclear have had problems with severing water-pipes whilst laying telecommunication fibre optics, particularly in Sevenhampton. They have equipment on site for repairing modern plastic pipes but not metal ones.
- Waste collections are due to change in September, although exact dates and who will be affected are not yet known. Ubico are due to re-organise their zones for waste collections and will inform affected householders shortly.

3. **Declarations of Interest:** None

4. **Minutes of Previous meeting:** The Minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated & published, were approved (with slight amendment to a name) and signed as a true record of proceedings. **Matters arising:** Following the distribution of medals commemorating Queen Elisabeth's 90 years, two letters and an e-mail offering thanks had been received. An additional sticker for the dog waste bin has been requested and is in hand.

5. **Community Payback Scheme.** It was reported that work on the path at St Andrew's Churchyard started last week on Wednesday/Thursday & Saturday, although Thursday's work was interrupted by poor behaviour. Work seems slow at present but if there is time the laying of gravel will extend to the Church door. Whilst Council has already approved the cost of the labour, the cost of materials has not yet been apportioned. So far this amounts to £470. It was decided that the Council should ask the Parochial Church Council (PCC) to meet 50% of the net costs (as Council can claim back VAT) and the Council would pay the remaining 50% through their 'Wayforward fund'. A letter is to be sent to Jackie Jenkins (PCC). **Action: Clerk**

6. **Website Update.** Cllr Cook advised that training for the new website had been unavoidably delayed and will now take place in early August. Six responses to Cllr Cook's letters to clubs who have information on the existing website have been received. It is apparent that some information will need updating on a regular basis, eg Village Hall activities and Cllr Cook will liaise with Mr Mike Moseley on this matter. Although Cllr Cook is willing to do the preliminary work on this new website, it was thought that it should ultimately become the Clerk's responsibility. Although the new website will not be ready until the Autumn, when the existing licence runs out, it was

suggested that promotion of the new website should take place at the Produce Show (27<sup>th</sup> August), Coln Rivergroup Church magazine and Village Live newsletter. **Action: Cllr Cook**

7. **Complaint re unannounced fireworks.** A letter has been received by the Council re the use of fireworks in the vicinity of farmland where horses were kept. The use of fireworks was reported to be brief (about 3 mins) but nevertheless caused animals to bolt and badly damage themselves. Pictures were presented illustrating this damage. Research and legal advice has not been able to identify any legislative answer that the Council can take re this problem. In order to help the situation and ensure awareness of the dangers to animals caused by fireworks, a flyer will be devised for inclusion with the Village Live newsletter. It is hoped that images of the recent injuries can be used to illustrate potential harm. The flyer is to suggest contacting the Clerk of intended firework usage, with at least 14 days' notice, so that farmers and other interested people who register to receive pre-warnings can be forewarned. **Action: Clerk**

8. **Snow Warden / Plough operator / Salt stockpile.** Richard Jones at Hawling was snow plough operator in the past and he will be approached to see if he is able to do it this Winter. The stock pile of salt, which is held at Manor Farm, has not been used and is thought to be adequate. Clerk will inform Amey. **Action: Clerk**

9. **CDC's Local Plan 2011-2031, Submission Draft Consultation.** After consideration the Council had no comment to make towards this consultation.

10. **CDC's Community Charging Levy Consultation.** After consideration and identification that the levy would be £80/m<sup>2</sup> (not just for commercial housebuilders) the Council had no comment to make towards this consultation.

**11. Clerk's Report:**

- a. There are surplus commemorative medals (8) which could be offered to the Produce Show to accompany prizes for Section winners. Clerk to contact organisers. **Action: Clerk**
- b. There will be no additional insurance costs as a result of being bequeathed Elsdown Clump. Once Elsdown is successfully registered with the Land Registry then ownership and access points can be publicly identified.
- c. The contact names from the previous Emergency Plan have been identified and the Clerk will work with Cllr. Jackson to update the Plan's details. **Action: Clerk & Cllr Jackson**
- d. The Clerk reported that the inclusion of the Brockhampton footpath, known locally as 'The Alley and which runs past Spring Cottage, is likely be included on the definitive footpath map but is open to appeal until 28<sup>th</sup> July.
- e. Letter of thanks from Cllr Mike Hawthorne (Gloucestershire County Council) has been sent to the Council following a declaration of Council's disapproval of the proposed merger between Cotswold and W. Oxfordshire District Councils (Coxit). An email had also been received from G. Clifton-Brown MP offering his disapproval of the proposed merger.
- f. Council were informed that from 1<sup>st</sup> October new legislation requires Thames Water to be responsible for the servicing and maintenance of pumping stations. The Clerk asked if any were known in the Parish. It was identified that perhaps Brockhampton Park had one and the Clerk will follow up with an enquiry. **Action: Clerk**
- g. The latest police updates had been provided but offered no great cause for concern.

**12. Financial Matters.**

The Clerk advised Council that there was a National Pay award for Parish Clerks providing a pay rise of 1% from £9.029 to £9.12 per hour. Cllrs Jackson & Jenkin will carry out the Clerk's annual review before the next meeting.

The Auditors have yet to give final approval to the Council's finances but interim discussions suggest no problems.

To date there has been little financial activity over the last 2 months; £21.08 has been received from the Wayleave Registry, a regular payment of £21.60 has been given for the Village live newsletter and £56.82 has been spent on commemorative medals (most of which were fixed admin charges).

13. **Planning Matters.** The meeting was informed that the recent planning application for The Old Brewery, Brockhampton (16/02134/FUL) had been withdrawn. The application for the property 'La Jaonnet' (16/02587/FUL) in Brockhampton was examined and no objection to the proposal was given. The reduction in height of 4 silver birches at The Old Stables, Sevenhampton (16/02817/TCONR) was considered and no objection to the proposal was given.

14. **Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016

**The Chair closed the meeting at 8.45 pm**