

# Sevenhampton Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2016

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

**In Attendance:** Cllr. Paul Hodgkinson (County Councillor), 2 parishioners and later Cllrs. Robin Hughes (Ward Councillor) and Dr Paul Morrish (Councillor for Shipton Oliffe)

1. **Apologies:** Apologies were received from Cllr. Bill Jenkin and Di Cook (Clerk)
2. **Declarations of Interest:** No declarations were made
3. **Minutes of Previous meeting:** The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2016, having been circulated & published, were approved and signed as a true record of proceedings.

### Matters arising:

- a. Volunteers to ensure Grit bins near their homes remained filled in poor weather were identified as: Tex & Di Cook (Park Lane); Annie Van Rossem (near Brockhampton green); Lynne Jackson (Manor Farm); Jill Gardner (The Quarry); Vicky Lewis (The Quarry).
  - b. Cllr Jackson is re-working the emergency telephone cascade which operates in an emergency. It should be completed by next meeting. **Action: Cllr Lynne Jackson**
  - c. The Cotswold Wardens have cleared streams at Lower Sevenhampton and Donnywell together with surrounding undergrowth. They have also placed a step by the stile leading onto the road from the cross roads down to Brockhampton. In addition they have offered to mend a dry stone wall which has collapsed onto the Donnywell footpath and replace the 2 benches along Gassons Lane. Cllr Jackson asked if they could also be approached to mend the kissing gate by the school.  
**Action: Clerk**
4. The meeting was informed that police re-organisation had resulted in a new local Police Community Officer who is PCSO 9050 Adrian Palmer (Tel: 01242 247271 / [adrian.palmer@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:adrian.palmer@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk)). Local crime figures were discussed briefly. Cllr. Brown reported that there had been vehicles along the track by her home (Campden Lane) and that her neighbour was planning to lock the gate at night. Cllr Jackson questioned the legality of this as it is an access for farm vehicles. Cllr. Cook reported on joy riding and burnt-out vehicles on West Down and Police involvement in this.
  5. One grass cutting tender had been received from Mr Emtage for £385. There being no other tenders the council agreed to appoint Mr Emtage.  
Cllr Jackson thought that the grass at Donnywell should be 2m wide not 1m as on the present specifications. Although some residents cut the grass themselves, it was thought that these areas should nevertheless be checked to ensure the specifications were met. **Action: Clerk**
  6. After a little discussion of the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Commemorative Medals Cllr. Day proposed that a medal should be purchased for all residents in the parish who are over 90 years old. Cllr Cook seconded this. Gill Hyatt will be asked for a list of such residents. **Action: Cllr Jackson**

Once ascertained the Clerk will be asked to order the requisite number. Cllr Jackson suggested possible presentation of the medals at either the April or June celebrations (Queen's actual and official birthday dates).  
**Action: Clerk**

7. The letter from Dr Morrish (Cllr from Shipton Oliffe) suggesting collaboration between local parishes was discussed. Cllr Cain thought that there was little to gain, Cllr Cook thought it a good idea to at least talk. Generally the idea was not well received. Dr Morrish then arrived and addressed the council. He felt that a combination of small councils could provide a bigger input into matters and that it was a good idea to compare views on local issues like buses, ambulances and speeding. He wrote to 6 local Parish Councils; Andoversford and Whittington have both agreed to meet with him so far. Cllr Cook is willing to attend any joint meeting.
8. Cllr. Paul Hodgkinson was asked to expand on the Oxfordshire and Cotswolds devolution. He said it came "out of the blue" and that all present organisations are county based within Gloucestershire and taking out a section of this "muddies the waters". He was clearly opposed to the idea. Cllr. Robin Hughes then arrived and joined the discussion. Cllr Hughes felt it was too early to comment and that we should wait until August. He considered that the unification of Cotswold with West Oxfordshire was being done to improve services and save money. Both Cllr Cain and Cllr Day made the point that sharing services, as we do already with Oxfordshire, is not the same as political control. The consensus of the council was to stay in Gloucestershire and to say so now. Cllrs. Day and Cain were asked to word a response to the proposal to that effect and forward it to the Clerk for distribution.  
**Action: Cllrs Cain & Day**  
**Action: Clerk**

9. The **clerk's report** was read which included:

- a. Community Service Volunteers. The Council agreed there was sufficient work in litter picking and clearing the churchyard to warrant asking for Community Service Volunteers.  
**Action: Clerk**
- b. Road Surfaces. The road repairs already carried out were appreciated but councillors thought there were still a number of areas that needed to be done. These included School Road, the top of Webb's Lane (Brook Cottage Lane), the edge of Gassons Lane and the main road towards Syreford. Cllr Hodgkinson offered to enquire after the latter. Cllr Cook asked that the councillors should email the specifics to the Clerk so she could follow this up.  
**Action: ALL**

The signage on Gasson's Lane was mentioned as it was felt that wide vehicles were using the lane and damaging edges. It was thought that a width restriction could be applied.

**10. Financial Matters**

- a. The Produce Show treasurer was identified as Charles Fergusson-Wood
- b. The purchase of laptop & scanner was approved with discretion in case prices have changed slightly since the grant was awarded. Clerk to purchase.  
**Action: Clerk**  
It was agreed that Cllrs. Cook, Jenkin and the Clerk should meet to decide about the web site provider and report to next meeting in May. **Action: Cllr. Jenkin, Cllr Cook, Clerk**
- c. The payment for Data Protection was approved. **Action: Clerk**
- d. GAPTC membership and subsequent payment was approved. **Action: Clerk**
- e. Period 5 and Period 6 (to date) accounts were presented and examined. Cllr. Day requested that at the next meeting for 12 month figures to be provided with a comparison of the previous year. The previous clerk (in the public arena) suggested that the financial year ends 31<sup>st</sup> March not 4<sup>th</sup> April.
- f. Clerk's wages and expenses were approved.

**11. Planning Matters.** The Council's responses to the recent planning applications were noted as:  
*New House, Brockhampton (16/453/FUL)* : It was agreed that the plan for the house was acceptable but the garage was a "blot". Cllr. Jackson's previous written comment about the garage was thought apt and this was to be forwarded to Cotswold Planning dept. as an objection before 24<sup>th</sup> March. Cllr. Hughes took note of this objection and asked if the Parish Council would wish the matter to go to committee or delegated powers. The chair indicated that at the very least a site visit was needed and Cllr Hughes said this would happen regardless.

*Quarry Hill Cottage (16/00387/FUL)*: A response regarding this property had been circulated, approved and submitted to Cotswold District Council.

*("The Council are reluctant to see the loss of the listed 19<sup>th</sup> Century porches of Quarry Hill Cottage, Brockhampton. If the porches' state of repair makes them no longer functional, and their replacement is inevitable for this reason, then the Council would wish to see the existing distinctive architectural features echoed in their replacements. The Council has no further comment nor objection to this application.")*

**12. Date of Next Meeting,** which will be the **Annual Parish Council Meeting,** was confirmed as  
**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 7.30 pm.**

There being no other business to discuss the Chair closed the meeting at 8.20 pm.