

Sevenhampton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 16th November 2016

Present: Cllrs. Gordon Day, Harry Boyd, Matthew Cain & Tex Cook.

In Attendance: Diana Cook (Clerk), PC Jason Page, Sgt. Richard Knapp, 2 parishioners

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs. Lynne Jackson & Bill Jenkin, Ward Cllr. Robin Hughes, County Cllr. Paul Hodgkinson

As the Council's Chair and Vice Chair were not present at the meeting the Clerk called for a proposal for a temporary Chair for this meeting. Cllr. Day was proposed and accepted.

2. **Questions & Answers:**

- a. A query about the effectiveness of the Firework Register was raised. The Clerk reported that about a dozen households had registered; no-one had reported any proposed firework activity (particularly around 5th November). The meeting was not aware of any problems.
- b. Richard Jones, snow plough operator based in Charlton Abbots, had reported to Cllr. Day that he was still awaiting a bracket to couple his snow plough to his tractor. The Clerk was asked to clarify the situation – both with Richard Jones and the Highways dept. who had already been approached regarding this in the Summer. The Council would hope to be able to contribute to the purchase if necessary. **Action: Clerk**
- c. It was asked if Elsdown Clump had been officially registered. The Clerk advised that Cllr Jackson has the paperwork but will chase with a view to completion. **Action: Clerk**

3. **Declarations of Interest:**

Cllr. Cook declared an interest in Item 13 – discussion of Clerk's appraisal.

4. **Minutes of Previous meeting:** The Minutes of the previous meeting held on September 21st, having been circulated & published, were approved and signed as a true record of proceedings.

Matters arising:

- a. A number of eligible people had already declined the possible opportunity of being co-opted onto the Council. Councillors will approach other possible candidates and it is hoped that a person to co-opt will be identified at the next Council meeting. The Clerk advised the meeting that there was an obligation to fill the vacancy and have a full Council (of 7) as soon as possible.
- b. The Clerk had approached noticeboard key holders for their views. The consensus was to keep them locked, but display keyholder contact details inside should someone else wish to place a notice. **Action: Clerk**

5. **Introduction of local police and crime figures:**

PC Jason Page, Local Community Officer, and colleague Sgt Richard Knapp were introduced to the meeting. They explained the September Police figures (Addenda 1) and felt that they would be concerned if the number of burglaries rose to a higher level. The police response to burglar alarms was questioned but it was explained that it's dependant on the type of contract householders have. Recently farm gates had been damaged by 'joy riders' – the meeting was advised that if different landowners were involved, then statistically each affront should be counted separately.

It was reported that most local farmers get information from PC Ashley Weller (Rural Watch Scheme), based in Cirencester. A recent list of vehicles used in local crime has been circulated and the latest 3 will be forwarded to landowners. There has been a spate of quad bike thefts in the area and it was requested to alert owners to the need to keep them secure, difficult to access and to record their chassis numbers. It was also suggested that a newsletter article be written to encourage the reporting of suspicious vehicles and to remind people to keep property secure. The crime prevention team can advise householders (Tel. 101). Cleeve Common is a problem in so much that it is mid-boundary (Cheltenham, Tewkesbury and Cotswold) and offers an escape route to offenders. The police stressed that it was important for people to keep reporting incidents and to not feel awkward about the possibility of being a nuisance to the authorities. The greater awareness police have, the more leverage they have to increase their workforce. **Action: Clerk**

6. Web site launch:

Cllr Cook advised that the new website will be launched sometime before the next Council meeting in January. Cllr. Day warned that the 'Village Hall' information on the present website needs updating. He will forward new information to Cllr Cook and Clerk so it can be uploaded.

Action: Cllr. Day

7. Tree Warden:

Cllr. Cook advised that he was registered as 'Tree Warden' with the Tree Council. As such he would be interested, amongst other things, in the potential impact on trees by planning applications. He advised that ash dieback disease, which is rapidly spreading, could cause safety issues as well as killing the trees. Therefore, he would expect a number of trees to have to be felled. 150 native trees have been ordered (free of charge & to be delivered in March) which will help to replace lost ash trees with an appropriate alternative. It was requested that Cllr Cook write information on this for the newsletter and explain more about recognising the symptoms of ash dieback.

Action: Cllr. Cook

8. Retention/Purchase of Telephone Kiosk:

BT are consulting with Cotswold DC on the removal of kiosks throughout the area. The retention of the telephone kiosk on 'Kiosk Green', Brockhampton was thought by the Council to be essential, particularly as mobile phone signals are poor if not altogether non-existent in the area. It was agreed to contact Cotswold DC to register the Council's opinion. This is to be done before the deadline of 18th November. Discussions identified that the present phone only accepts phone cards or credit cards (& not cash) but 999 calls can be made.

Action: Clerk

9. Reduction in service of Bus 804:

Cllrs. were advised that this service has already been reduced (since 14th November) from one bus a day to once a week (Tuesday). Mr Jon Harris has been appointed by the County Council to try to alleviate the effects of cuts in this and other localities. Mr Harris has requested Council representatives at a planning meeting, yet to be convened, but meanwhile would like to hear of complaints from people affected by the service cuts. An article requesting affected parishioners' responses to be placed in the next newsletter.

Action: Clerk

10. Clerk's Report:

- a. A 'thank you' note has been received from the Lanfear family giving appreciation of the bus shelter erected by the Council some years ago. It was often used by their children whilst waiting for the school bus.
- b. Glass recycling banks will be removed from Northleach, Sherbourne, Temple Guiting and Withington (amongst others) as kerbside recycling is deemed adequate for this waste.

However, a 'tetrapak' recycling bank will be introduced at Andoversford Village Hall. The numbers of textile banks will also be increased throughout the county.

11. Financial Matters:

- a. The Council were advised that the mid-term auditor approved the Council's finances.
- b. The Council were advised that emango, the host originally approached for the new website, waived all charges (£345.60) when alternative hosting was decided upon.
- c. The chosen website hosts are Discount Domain and their charge for the next year is £119.99
- d. The Financial Update for Period 4 was presented (Addenda 2). Comparative figures for the next meeting were requested to enable councillors to estimate the budget for the forthcoming year.

12. Planning Matters:

There were no planning matters received or identified for consideration.

13. Clerk's Appraisal:

In the absence of the Chair and Vice-chair, who conducted the appraisal, a summary note was forwarded to the meeting. There was some confusion over the exact employment terms but it was resolved that the Clerk's salary, agreed to be at salary level SCP 17 (currently £9.12 /hour), be backdated to 1 April 2016. It was also agreed that further discussion of the Clerk's other employment terms would need to take place in the presence of the Chair and Vice-Chair.

14. Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 18th January 2017

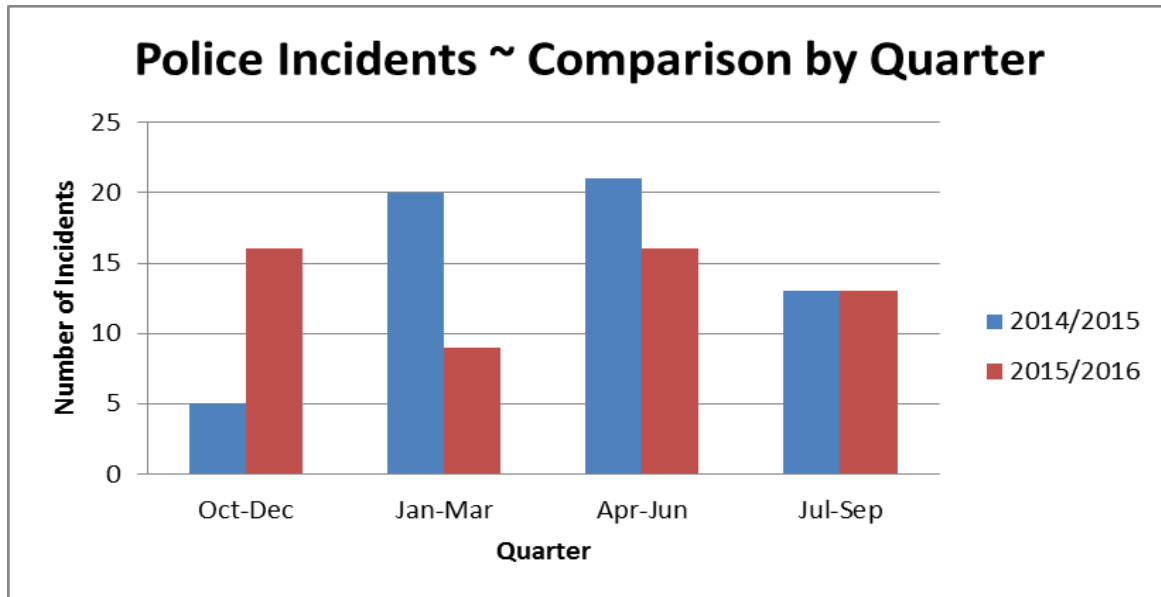
There being no further business, Cllr. Day, acting as Chair, closed the meeting at 9.15 pm

ADDENDA 1

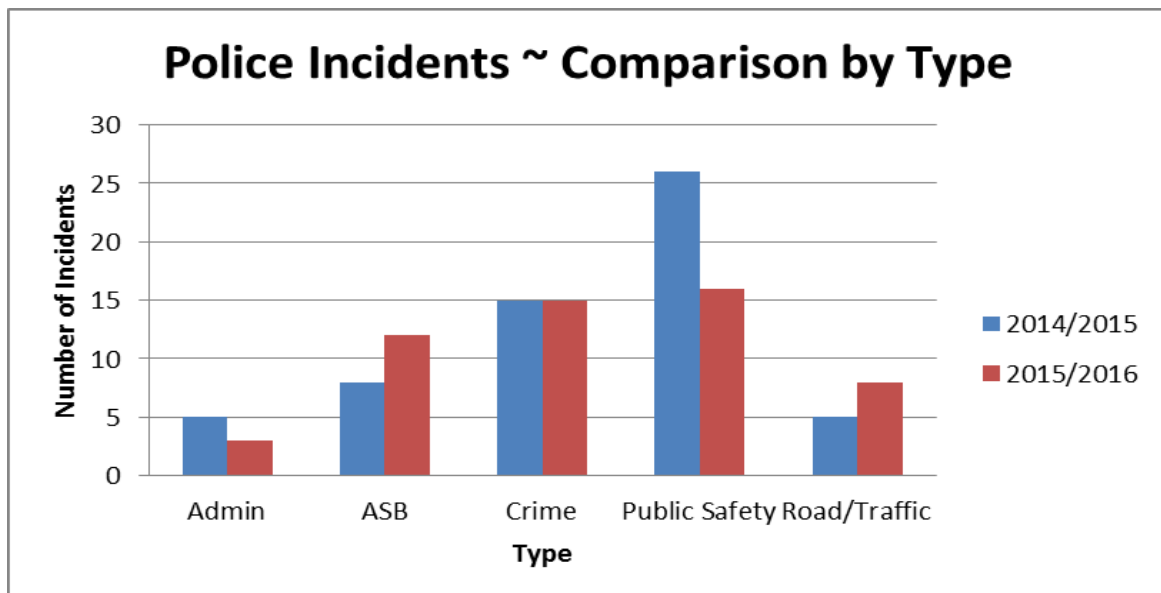
Local Police Report

Sevenhampton ~ Oct 2016

Number of incidents reported to police over a twelve-month period



Breakdown of incidents by type reported to police over a twelve month period



Breakdown of incidents related to crimes dealt with by police over a twelve-month period

Crime Related Incident	Oct 2014 - Sep 2015	Oct 2015 - Sep 2016
Burglary dwelling	1	3
Burglary non dwelling	3	0
Crime - other	1	3
Criminal damage	6	4
Fraud/forgery/deception	1	0
Theft - other	0	4
Theft of motor vehicle	0	1
Violence against the person	3	0
TOTAL	15	15

Admin @ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaint against police • Lost or found Property or animals • Messages inc press release • Police generated resource activity • Pre-planned event 	Public Safety * <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alarms ~ Personal, etc • Animals/Wildlife • Awol/abscond from hmp • Civil dispute-not btw neighbours • Concern for safety • Domestic incident - non crime • Missing Person • Susp. Circs./Insecure veh./prems. 	Road/Traffic # <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highway disruption • Road related offence • RTC Death / Injury • Rtc_damage only(inc animal rtc's)
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ADDENDA 2

SEVENHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

FINANCIAL UPDATE PERIOD 4 (OCT/NOV 2016)

Barclays Bank Account

Opening Balance £10,844.38

Receipts

£

Date

Payments

£

Date

11.10.16	Chair's Allowance	19.99
18.11.16	Discount Domain	119.99
18.11.16	SLCC	41.40
30.11.16	Jenkin Village Live	24.00

TOTAL

-

£ 205.38

Closing Balance £10,639.00

Leeds Building Society - Way Forward

Opening Balance £7,953.89

Receipts

£

Date

Payments

£

Date

TOTAL

-

-

Closing Balance £7,953.89

TOTAL BALANCES = £18,592.89