

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7.30pm**

**Feb 25 1**      **To consider any apologies for absence**

Mr Subramanian and Mr Bust – accepted by the Pc  
Cllrs Laughton and Rainbow

Present Mrs Blackburn, Mrs Denyer, Mr Paris, Mr Bust, Mr Bevans, Mr Wright

5 members of the public

**Feb 25 2**      **declarations of Councillors Interests and Dispensations**

None

**Feb25 3**      **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January and to receive updates from the previous meeting**

The minutes were signed as a true and correct record

A gov emails for the Parish Council – new email addresses have been set up – resend to Mr Paris – agreed to allow till the next meeting for personal emails to still be used

B Banking – sorting last details of mandate – mandate signed by the 3 Councillors for authorisation purposes

**Feb 25 4**      **To adjourn to allow public participation**

No comments

**Feb 25 5**      **To receive updates from County and District Councillors**

Report from Cllrs Harris and Roberts circulated

**Feb 25 7**      **Allotments**

Bought forward to allow allotment holders to speak

The Chair filled in the 4 allotment holders present on what we had been doing

The PC have looked into better access and carparking, applied to STWA for a grant, but they will not give us a grant as it will only benefit a few in the Village, we will continue to look for grants

Items discussed included – clearing the area inside the gate, where all the new trees are growing

Looking into cutting the roadside hedge, this will need to wait until the end of the year, as the cutting period is nearly over – bird nesting season

Asking Highways if they could cut the hedge on the opposite side of the lane, to widen the lane for parking, again the end of the year

Clear the overgrown areas and maybe split the allotments into 2 for people who would like a smaller one

Look into ways of making them more attractive

Title – Mr Croston informed us that this goes back to the Enclosure Act.

The Land Registry office requires some more information, including IDs for the Clerk as Proper Officer and the Chair. Mr Croston will send a list to the Clerk

**Feb 25 6**      **Village Hall**

Maintenance schedule – February activities – update on painting and repairing the external door – once the weather has dried up, they will be done - £300 -agreed to wait

Proposal to remove hallway curtains and tidy paintwork and cover exposed pipes – agreed to remove the curtains, cllrs to see to painting, clerk to look into making a door to cover the pipes to allow access to the stop tap

Village Hall wall – price for a new gate at the side of the Village Hall, clerk has had a new price of £300 for the new gate – agreed to go ahead. One price received - £7000 for repairing the wall, awaiting more prices

Overhead heater – price for repair – the clerk has repaired the broken heater, another one has gone out – agreed unanimous to get it repaired

WI cupboard – to sort which cupboard is theirs – agreed no further action, just leave things as they are, sharing locked cupboard with PC

A notice needs to be put up stating the max number of chairs in a stack, clerk to work out how many then if over stacked and someone gets hurt, the PC are covered

#### **Feb 25 8**

##### **Roads and hedges**

The PC were informed, that Highways had sent letters to households whose hedges overhung pavements, requesting they cut them back. Clerk to speak with the householders on School Lane, as it was reported that some were overhanging

The road sweeper had done Radley Road, but Mr Paris reported that the mud have been pushed into the kerb gulleys, clerk to contact Cllrs Laughton and Rainbow

Footpath 7, the clerk informed the PC that as the financial year is coming to an end, this would be done next year

#### **Feb 25 9**

##### **Annual Parish Meeting**

Proposal on how to further engage the members of the Village for input – advertise early in the Village News

After discussion it was agreed to hold the APM separate from the PC meeting and have it on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025 at 7.30pm

The Chair Mrs Blackburn will put an item in the Village News in March and April and Vice Chair Mrs Denyer will do a letter drop, advertising this, inviting people to come, have a cup of tea/coffee and biscuits, talk to the Cllrs and make suggestions for using the CIL money that we have left and these will then be discussed at the PC meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 7.30pm

#### **Feb 25 10**

##### **CIL money**

Proposal to spend money on planters and furniture for the Village

Agreed to put on the April agenda, so that ideas from the APM can be looked at

Clerk to look into the legality of attaching things to sign posts etc and erecting things on verges

#### **Feb 25 11**

##### **FLAG**

Can the PC support the flood group in receiving grant money, to receive flood response equipment and offer storage

Some more information is needed and will keep this on the agenda

Agreed in principle to store and purchase on confirmation of re-imbursement. Proposed Mr Wright, seconded Mr Paris and Mr Bevans unanimous

#### **Feb 25 12**

##### **Neighbourhood Watch**

To appoint a coordinator  
 Agreed to contact cllr Rainbow to see if she knows of anyone to help us, and to invite them to the APM

**Feb 25 13**      **HR Committee report from January 15<sup>th</sup> 2025**

Circulated to Cllrs  
 Accept as it stands, but Mrs Denyer will look into whether the Sexual Harassment Policy needs to be separate

**Feb 25 14**      **Handover of website and bookings from Mr Bevans to Mrs Blackburn and Mr Wright**

Handover has been completed, Clerk to send documents in PDF form to the website

**Feb 25 15**      **Correspondence**

VE Day Armed Forces event  
 An event will be held on May 8<sup>th</sup>, in a similar style to the D Day one last year, Village picnic, beacon etc. Final arrangements to be made at the April and May PC meetings  
 Agreed to move the PC meeting to Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May  
 NALC training – Employment Essentials 25<sup>th</sup> March Mr Wright to attend agreed unanimously

**Feb 25 16**      **Lengthsman Scheme**

Agreed to pursue funding next year  
 Mrs Denyer and the Clerk had read all the information and the clerk to sign the contract and send off to see if we will be eligible

**Feb25 17**      **Biodiversity**

Nothing to discuss

**Feb 25 18**      **Planning**

None

**Planning decisions**

None

**Feb 25 19**      **Finance**

FY26- proposed to agree 3-4 key objectives for the year to give clear focus for projects and spend throughout the year  
 Agreed to put on the next agenda

Agreed to pay	
NALC subs	142.11
NALC full council training	350.00
NALC 2x training RFO	90.00
Printer paper	19.89
Overhead heater repair	19.76
Deposit for new bank account (Unity)	500.00
Re-issue cheque for road salt	66.00

The Chair signed a letter of engagement for the internal auditor

**Feb 25 20**      **items for the next agenda**

**Feb 25 21**      **Date and time of next meeting**

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7.30pm

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 21.30