

North Cerney Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING on 10th February 2020 at 7.00 pm at The Memorial Hall, North Cerney

Present: Councillors Mark Tufnell, Adam Stoten, Nigel Wilkes, Cathy Martin, John Ewbank and Linda de Carles, RFO Barry Koch, Maureen Margrie (Cirencester Housing Association), Fran Robbins (for Village Hall Committee) and 6 other parishioners

Presiding: Councillor Mark Tufnell

Clerk: Valerie Hancock

Apologies: County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson and District Councillor Jenny Forde

1. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th November 2019

The Council **resolved** that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th November 2019 at The Memorial Hall North Cerney be approved and signed.

2. Matters Arising:

Defibrillator: Councillor Stoten reported that he had obtained a quotation, but was seeking a further quotation for a defibrillator designed for use in a telephone kiosk, and would circulate this to Councillors. Councillor Ewbank said he thought it important that its use did not depend on a mobile telephone call, as reception was poor in North Cerney.

Corner Cottage Woodmancote: Councillor Ewbank had contacted District Councillor Jenny Forde and understood that the District Council had written to the owner. He had no further information as yet.

3. District and County Issues:

In the absence of County Councillor Hodgkinson and District Councillor Jenny Forde there were no reports

4. Financial Matters:

4.1 Reconciliation Statement: The RFO presented the reconciliation statement. He anticipated that the balance at the end of the financial year would be approximately £3,300. It was **resolved** that the reconciliation statement be approved.

4.2 Authorisation of Expenditure: The following expenditure was approved:

Memorial Hall	Use of Hall – November	658	20.00
V Hancock	Clerk salary and PAYE – November to March		735.00
B Koch	RFO Annual payment		600.00
Ross Collins	Mowing playground & mower repair	659	800.00
Cotswold Diggers	playground repairs (corrected)	657	156.00
V Hancock	Clerk's admin expenses		116.00
Citizens Advice	Donation		250.00

Concerns were raised about the cost of mowing the playground, and whether it was mowed sufficiently often. Councillor Ewbank would seek an alternative quotation.

5. Highway and Public Footpath Issues:

5.1 The Clerk reported that the whole of Dark Lane and Chapel Lane up to Granny Mabbett's Corner was to be closed for patching on 21st and 24th February from 9.30 am until 3.30 pm.

5.2 The clerk had reported a number of potholes, and had just been notified that repairs had been carried out on the upper part of Chapel Lane. Drain blockages in and near to Hill View had been dealt with. The sign which had become detached from one of the "gates" had yet to be dealt with. Work had been carried out at the two junctions of the roads from Woodmancote to the A435. The Chairman reported that work had also been carried out on the flooding at the Calmsden/A435 junction.

5.3 Councillor Ewbank reported that the missing "Woodmancote" sign had been located and re-installed.

5.4 Councillor Martin asked if the kerb stones round the village green which had been displaced by vehicles could be replaced.

6. Neighbourhood Watch and Crime Prevention:

Councillor Wilkes reported that there had been a garage break-in in North Cerney. He was still seeking more volunteers for Community SpeedWatch.

Mrs Herdman reported that there had been a break-in at Woodmancote when garden tools had been stolen. The Chairman mentioned a theft of fuel at Fosse Cross.

7 Affordable Housing Update:

Maureen Margrie said that the Housing Association were now advertising the houses for rent and shared ownership. They were expected to be ready for occupation in mid-late April, the delay having been due to installation of the electricity supply. There would shortly be temporary closure of half of the A435 carriageway when the cables were laid.

The Housing Association were pleased with the quality and design of the new homes.

There would be very little garden space and it was intended to lay the area to grass with some planting, to comply with the landscaping scheme agreed under the planning conditions.

The road on the development would be adopted, and it was a requirement of the Highway Authority that standard street lighting was installed. She provided a plan showing the proposed position of the lights. The Housing Association would prefer not to have street lighting, and they would be providing security lights on all the entrance doors. They were also intending (if there was no street lighting) to install two low-level partially solar powered post lights at the entrance to the development. The Conservation Officer and Planning Officer could not override the Highway Authority's standard requirements, but the requirement for lighting could be waived if objection was made by the Parish Councils and Ward District Councillor. Councillor Forde and Bagendon Parish Council had already objected.

After discussion it was **resolved** by a majority vote (Councillor Ewbank dissenting) that the Council should lodge an objection on the grounds that street lighting would create unnecessary light pollution, and was inappropriate in the rural location.

8. North Cerney Memorial Hall:

Councillor Martin said that, as the Council's representative on the Village Hall Committee, she had made the committee aware that the Council would like to support the village hall, and help if necessary.

Fran Robbins reported that it was planned to upgrade the hall. Grant funds had been received for the new ceiling and lighting, and a scaffolding tower had been purchased.

This was cheaper than renting a tower, and it could be available to the village. The ceiling work would be dealt with by volunteers, and an electrician would deal with the lighting. A number of events were planned, including a Murder Mystery evening in March and a Comedy evening in April. The Committee was also organising the Open Gardens event on 6th June. Teas would be provided in the village hall, there would be a plant sale, and parking would be available in the field across the A435. They would like to involve the Church – perhaps with a flower display - and the village Historical Group. They were intending to improve publicity for the hall, and a resident had offered to assist. The Chairman thanked Fran for attending the meeting, and for her work for the village hall.

9. Woodmancote Playground:

Councillor Ewbank reported that moles were very active at the playground, and it was agreed that a mole-catcher should be asked to deal with them. The swings and other equipment needed a coat of paint. It was agreed a small working party would attend to this on Friday 3rd April, commencing at 10.30 am.

10. Planning Applications and Tree Preservation Orders

10.1 Planning Applications: The Council had been notified of the following:

Broadbridge North Cerney: erection of single storey pole barn

Downs Cottage North Cerney Downs: erection of a summerhouse

Long Paddock House, Hayes Lane, Woodmancote: erection of detached garden room to replace garage

59/60 Calmsden: re-roofing works (Listed Building application)

10.2 Decision Notices:

16 North Cerney: reduction of beech tree

8 Churnside North Cerney: construction of new vehicle access

Brooklyn House Perrotts Brook: replacement single storey rear extension and erection of double garage

South Barn Calmsden: non-material amendment to existing consent

Planning consent had also been granted for use of a field just outside the Parish boundary as a dog exercise area.

The Clerk had also been notified that Cotswold District Council were carrying out an enforcement investigation relating to the use of Rendcomb Airfield to ascertain whether the conditions in the planning consent were being complied with.

11. Co-option of Councillor:

It was **resolved** unanimously that Elisabeth Butler be co-opted as a Councillor to fill the remaining vacancy

12. Correspondence:

The following correspondence was reported by the Clerk:

12.1 From Cotswold District Council (CDC) reminding Councillors of the need to keep their declarations of Interest up to date

12.2 From CDC regarding the proposed Waterloo multi-storey car park. After the public consultation and a subsequent consultation with Waterloo residents and businesses, the Council had decided to proceed with the "Aluminium on Stone" design.

12.3 From CDC notifying that the Council was paying to provide 158 parking spaces at the Rugby Club. These would be available Monday to Friday to permit holders. The car park will be operated by CDC.

12.4 From CDC regarding the new re-cycling service to commence in March. Details had

been sent to all residents.

12.5 From CDC regarding their budget proposals. A public consultation had been held in January, and the majority of those expressing views appeared to be in favour of a £5 pa increase in Band D Council Tax and an increase in the charges for recycling of garden waste.

12.6 Notification of the NCG Meeting on 5 March. Councillor Ewbank said he expected to be able to attend.

12.7 From CDC saying they commissioning a feasibility study with a view to obtaining government funding to re-open the railway link to Cirencester.

12.8 From Gloucestershire County Council notifying that the Local Transport Plan will be subject to public consultation until 26th March, and requesting responses to their survey.

13. Any Other Business

13.1 There had been complaints about dog mess on the village green. The Clerk would put a reminder to dog owners in the next Churn News.

13.2 Councillor Stoten said he was organising a litter-pick at 11 am on Sunday 22nd March.

13.3 It was proposed that, once the affordable homes were occupied, a welcome event might be arranged for the new residents. It was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.

13.4 Peter Clegg (Bathurst Estates) was thanked for arranging for the new fence at the car park by Broad Close

14. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting would be held on 11 May 2020 at 7.15 pm, followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Signed