**Avening Parish Council Meeting**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 21st March 2019 7.30 pm**

**PRESENT:** Cllr D Bendall, Cllr C Howell, Cllr G Parsons Cllr, A Slater, Cllr D Conway, Cllr E Worsdell, Cllr S Hirst, Cllr R Morgan.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**: Mr J Collinson (Projects Manager), Mrs S Baker (Clerk)

**41/19 VISITORS:** Jennie South, Richard King.

**42/19 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Jennie South reported that litter picking was underway with three people currently participating. Part of Hampton Hill has been completed with three sacks of litter collected. It is looking much tidier. Mrs South said that they were finding the litter pickers sticks difficult to use and could the Parish Council locate equipment that is easier to use. The Clerk will contact CDC to ask. High vis vests are available on request.

**43/19 POLICE MONTHLY CRIME AND ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORT**

There were no reported crimes in the area during February.

**44/19 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

 Cllr C Forster – Work Commitments, Cllr C Mitchell– personal

**45/19 CODE OF CONDUCT**

 166.2.18 Updates to Members Register of Interests

 None

**46/19 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 21 February 2019**

There were no matters arising.

**47/19 MINUTES**

**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 21 February 2019**

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record and duly signed by the Chair.

**48/19 ACTION LOG**

The Action log was noted and updated.

**49/19 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT**

No significant matters to report.

**50.19 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT**

The County Council budget has been set at £429.6 Million. Council tax will increase by 4.9% including a 2% levy for adult social care.

2m extra to protect older people, 11m extra for children and young people, The 2nd year of the 150m road resurfacing project and 45m for Gloucestershire schools.

Demand in key areas continues to grow. The number of older people in Gloucestershire has increased by 28% since 2007. Projections show that the number of older people needing help with an illness or disability will increase by 41% in the next 11 years.

The budget also allows for every councillor £25,000 of local funding to invest in repairing and upgrading roads and footpath in their division.

The key route announcement for the A417 missing link is expected in March at a cost of £500m

A £950,000 investment from Government, the County Council is opening two new centres, one in Gloucester and one in Cheltenham to support homeless people. With specialised support for substance abuse and mental health.

The council has reduced carbon emissions by over 52% since 2008. The Government emission reduction pledge has been achieved early and is on track for the target of a 60% reduction by 2021.

£1.4m has been pledged from April to deliver fast broadband across the county. The County Council has allocated £25,000 to ensure that Gloucestershire is ready for 5G mobile internet helping to support county business and protect jobs.

**51/19 COMMUNITY ISSUES AND PROJECTS**

1. Launch of Villager of the Year. A few people have been nominated but more would be welcome.
2. Date of the annual village show is confirmed as 18th May. Following the meeting on the 11th March various activities are planned. Suggestions so far Hog-roast, Bouncy Castle, Tug-o-War, Avening’s got Talent. Prosecco and Pimm’s bar. It will run from 13.30 – 16.00.

Gazebos will be required. Cllr Slater understands that the Church intends to purchase new gazebos. He will enquire if they would be interested in sharing the cost of the purchase with the PC – this was agreed in principle by members.

1. Local Elections. Following the announcement that Cllr Worsdell would not be standing, there are now three vacancies for Parish Council. If more applications are received than vacancies an election will be held. The Clerk has distributed packs to all who have expressed an interest.

**Comments of Project Mangers Report.**

1. **Memorial Hall**

A quote to renewing the floor has be received. £7,500

Work on the cellar fire alarm will start April 8th.

Now all the radiators are working, the heating system controls needs to be updated to help keep the very high electricity bills down.

Quotes are being sought to repair the external water leak.

Initial quotes for the roof have been received. The southern slope and the lean-to only require minor repair at a cost of £380 +VAT. However, as expected the North slope requires replacement. The difference between costs for Cotswold stone tiles and reproduction tiles is £6,000. However, the Cotswold stone tiles have a life span of 100 years + as opposed to around 40 years for the reproduction. It was proposed by Cllr Slater to use Cotswold Stone as this would be a sound investment for the future. This was seconded by Cllr Bendall. The Council unanimously agreed.

Grants will now be sought based on detailed quotes.

1. **171/18.3 Playing Field**

Pip Morris and Doreen Pierce have agreed to give their time to produce a pictorial presentation of the proposed playing field project based on panoramic photos.

It was suggested that the north east site needs an enclosure and better seating should be provided.

The Clerk reported a complaint that there is dog fouling at the playground near the children’s area.

It is a priority to have the area fenced, and this will progress soon. Boisterous dogs have also been a nuisance. The Clerk contacted the CDC and was told there isn’t a dog warden, but that anyone witnessing out of control dogs should report it to the police on 101. It was agreed to install ‘Dog Control’ signs. Action Cllr Bendall.

1. **Additional Hanging Baskets.**

Jennie South provided the council with up to date quotes for the hanging baskets.

**OPTION 1**
4 Cup and Saucer baskets (41cm) and brackets to match the two purchased last year, including carriage £193 Ex VAT

Supplying plants and compost and planting up 6 baskets @£30 each - £180; Total £373
**OPTION 2**

Rented baskets (35cm) delivered already planted with begonias or training geraniums as used in Tetbury in Bloom: 6 x £32 = £192. 4 additional brackets £58 plus £15 carriage - £73: Total £265.

Option 1 was approved as it gives us ownership of the hardware and more flexibility to have a consistent design.
A copper pipe watering system will cost £500, plastic £150. Copper will last longer. It was suggested that a quote for micro bore be sought which could then be hidden in the guttering and avoid the cost of painting the pipe. If total cost is under £200 it was agreed to proceed.

**Community Issues**

**52/19** **Traffic and Highways**

It was agreed to commission traffic surveys at two key sites to enable a baseline of traffic volumes and speed. Clerk to make the arrangements with Richard Gray.

The clerk said she had received a complaint regarding the missing/rotten safety bollards at the entrance to the playground. Richard Gray has agreed to meet next month to inspect.

**53/19 FINANCE**

 **Finance Report up to 28 February 2019**

The report was noted.

**54/19 Approve Bills for Payment**

Schedule was circulated, and payments were approved.

**55/19 PLANNING AND TREE WORKS**

19/00725/OUT - Outline application for the construction of two dwellings at The Lair, Pound Hill.

The Council have no objections.

19/00277/LBC - Listed Building Consent for External alterations and conversion of Block G to 8 residential flats, Longford’s Mill

The Council have no objections.

**56/19 Planning Correspondence**

None

**57/19 Tree Works**

None

**58/19 Any other New Applications since publication of this agenda**

 None

**59/19 CORRESPONDENCE**

 **Emails**

1. Safety of Ash Trees near play group – This has been handed over to the Gatcombe Estate to investigate.

 ii Error on Google Maps at Tetbury Road/Pounds Hill. Clerk reported to Google.

 Iii. Air Ambulance asked for donations. It was agreed to donate £50.

6**0/19 COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Conway met with the CEO of Gigaclear, Gareth Williams, who was apologetic regarding the way the project had been dealt with. He acknowledged that Avening had not been planned well,

It was confirmed that the insurance burden was not the landowner’s responsibility and that new letters would be sent to landowners where access is needed.

Cllr Conway expressed concern that the work in the Cotswolds was not considering the springs and Cotswold stone walls and how fragile they are. Mr Williams conformed that all work has a 2-year guarantee.

**61/19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 18 April 2019 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm