Avening Parish Council Meeting

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

**PRESENT:** Cllr A Slater, Cllr S Hamilton, Cllr C Howell, Cllr G Parsons, Cllr D Bendall, Cllr R King,

Cllr P Mulligan, Cllr J Hetterly, Cllr C Forster, Cllr S Hirst,

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

**209/19 VISITORS:** Gerald South. Barbara Pond representing GRCC

**210/19 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Barbara Pond explained the grant application process and gave advice as to the best sources of income. If a public consultation has been carried out within the last five years, then there are various sources of funding that will consider applications for grants. It is important when making the application to concentrate on the wider public benefit. The consultation carried out on behalf of youth club by the door showed that the young people requested more sporting facilities and social space. We also consulted widely on the playing field. This is a good starting point when making applications. CDC has a community grant. Applications are a straightforward process and may provide a base for match funding when applying for other grants.

Cllr Slater has been approached by a villager regarding using some of the playing field as a community orchard. The Council liked the idea and will investigate further.

The Memorial Hall roof was discussed. Barbara explained that as the hall was in a war memorial, in a conservation area, the sustainability of the community was a good basis for making applications. Loans are available but a village referendum would need to be held to get support. The PC felt that this wasn’t a route they wished to take at this point.

Defra are currently giving grants for Village Hall improvements, but the deadlines are very close. It was agreed to get make an application as soon as possible.

Gerald South reported that his request to hold a husting in the village was not successful, due to some of the candidates being unavailable.

A reader at the Carol Service was requested. Cllr Hamilton agreed to carry out this role.

**211/19 POLICE MONTHLY CRIME AND ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORT**

There were four reported crimes during October. Two more than October 2018.

1 Burglary – Youths entering the Old Quarries

3 Violent Crimes – 2 verbal arguments and one malicious text fall into this category.

**212/19 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr R Morgan - **Election**

**213/19 CODE OF CONDUCT**

166.2.18 Updates to Members Register of Interests

Cllr Slater – For agenda item

**214/19 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 17 October 2019**

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

**215/19 Action Log**

The action log was noted and updated.

**216/19 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT**

Unavailable

**217/19 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT**

Cllr Hirst distributed his report.

The County need more foster parents.

It is Flu season and GCC are urging everyone to get a flu jab.

The new motorway junction has been confirmed and budget apportioned.

**218/19 COMMUNITY ISSUES AND PROJECTS**

Review of Current Projects: -

1. Cllr Bendall announced that he will be attending his first meeting of Governors of the School in December to observe.
2. Remembrance Day donation – It was agreed to donate £50. The Clerk will raise a cheque made payable to the Royal British Legion. Tree Lights switch on is at 6pm followed by the entertainer at 6.45, then a visit from Father Christmas.
3. A generous donation of £30 has been received from Marilyn Jones for the hall roof.

**219/19 Comments of Project Mangers Report.**

**Memorial Hall –** Nothing new to report. Grant funding will be progressed as a priority in tandem with requests for the playing field.

A quote for marking lines for a badminton court has been sought. It is not possible to have a full - sized court, but will be scaled to the available space.

**220/19 Playing Field**

1. The first phase is now complete – the new fence/gates around the play equipment and upgraded paths.
2. The remaining hand pruning of the hedge will be carried out in January at a cost of £1575. This was agreed.
3. The safety inspection was carried out. It was noted that the post of the toddler swing was buried under soil and needs clearing to avoid the wood rotting. The goal Posts need some of the rough surfaces removed, this will need an angle grinder. Cllr Mulligan will take on this task.

The inspection folder passed to Cllr Hetterly to carry out the next inspection.

1. It was reported that people have been seen inside the toddler fenced area with dogs. This is unacceptable. Mr Collinson will have “no dogs” signs installed.
2. It was agreed that a group be formed to make the grant applications for both the playing field and Memorial Hall. The Group will consist of Cllrs King, Hetterley, Bendall and Mr Collinson.

**Community Issues**

**221/19** **Traffic and Highways**

1. Gigaclear have agreed to attend a meeting with the Council on Tuesday 3rd December at the café to discuss the issues of installation.
2. Cllr Slater has met with Mr Gray of Highways and agreed that the dropped kerb which has caused so much controversy should be moved. Cllr Slater has spoken with one of the residents concerned to get agreement and is waiting to speak to the other before the work is carried out.
3. Chavenage crossroads to the power station wasn’t included in the recent works to Star Lane, and needs resurfacing. This will be added to the Highways issue log.
4. There has been disagreement over the right of access from Powis Lane to Hampton Hill – it is no longer a vehicular route, but Highways have no evidence of ownership/responsibility. It is thought the through road ceased during the 80’s. Rights of access is still to be proven.
5. It was felt that a traffic mirror opposite the junction of Old Hill onto Hampton Hill would make the area safer. Contact Avening Court to request siting it on the tree which is on their land.

**Footpaths Right of Way**.

The footpath gate needs replacing at the bottom of Plumb Patch.

**222/19 FINANCE**

**Finance Report up to 30 October 2019**

1. The report was noted.
2. Approve Bills for Payment - Schedule was circulated, and payments were approved.
3. It was agreed to hold a meeting with the finance sub-committee to prepare the draft budget for the coming financial year – to be approved at the December PC meeting.
4. Cllr Hetterly has reviewed the Financial regulations and amended to fit with Avening’s current practice. – The Council agreed to these changes and adopted the Financial Regulations 2019.

**223/19 PLANNING AND TREE WORKS**

**New Planning Applications**

19/03940/FUL - Herons Mead West End – Erection of Single-Story side extension, rear timber porch, replacement of windows and repointing external walls. – No objections

19/03687 – Land Parcel, Woodstock Lane – Variations of Conditions of permitted application 18/04211/FUL The Council strongly objects to this application. They cannot see the need for windows and a tiled roof on a barn. It would further visually spoil the AoNB

**224/19 Tree Works**

19/03968/TCONR - Sandford Barn High Street - Pollard - Sycamores / Elm / Hawthorn; Pollard - Field Maple and remove 3 limbs – Noted

**URGENT WORK –**

Woodstock Lane – Sycamore large column of decay **-** Approved

West Wing, Avening House – Beech Tree – Reduce height - Approved

**225/19 Planning Decision Notices & Correspondence**

19/03821/TCONR – The Old Bakery, Point Road – Reduce Height and spread of Holly Tree – Permitted.

19/03347/TPO - 13 Sandford Leaze – Fell Whitebeam – Permitted

19/03144/FUL – Longmans Barn – Conversion to dwelling – Permitted

19/01692/FUL – Old Quarries - One success has been the inclusion of a requirement regarding a Construction Method Statement prior to commencement. However, concerns regarding traffic and parking have essentially been ignored. The presumption appears to be that ALL traffic will use Rectory Lane and since the NW access is overgrown, and it is out-of-use.

**226/19 Any other New Applications since publication of this agenda**

None

**227/19 CORRESPONDENCE**

Rough Sleepers Participation

Flooding Information

GAPTC Subscription Rates

**228/19 COUNCILLORS –**

**229/19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 19 December 2019 at 7.30pm in the Jim Parsons Reading Room at the Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm