

## **Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7.00pm**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Bendall. Cllr King, Cllr Parsons, Cllr Hamilton, Cllr Hetterley.  
Cllr King will take the Chair in Cllr Mulligans absence.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** - Mrs S Baker (Clerk),

**VISITORS:-** None

**65/25 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME –** None

**66/25 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE –** Cllr Mulligan– Chair, Cllr Slater, Cllr Mills. Cllr Blackie

### **67/25 CODE OF CONDUCT**

166.1.18 Declaration of Interest in Items on the Agenda

Cllr Hetterley Expenses. Agenda Item 7 – Finance.

166.2.18 Updates to Members Register of Interests

None

### **68/25 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April 2025 were signed as a true record.

### **69/25 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 16<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

#### **70/25 COMMUNITY ISSUES AND PROJECTS**

##### Community Issues

##### Playing Fields Update

Mr Morris Avening under 18's football team, was informed that if the football team wished to use the playing field for games, to inform the Council what would be required to make this possible. Mr Morris acknowledged the request and said he would come back to the council if he wished to proceed.

Cllr King reported that the dog waste bags in the dispensing machines are being taken in large quantities with very little evidence that they are being used to pick up after dogs. It is suspected that this is possibly being taken by children.

Cllr Mills asked about CCTV. This is under consideration.

##### Memorial Hall

The Clerk said the school has reported a pothole outside the Chamberlain Room door. They have said it is a safety issue and asked for it to be repaired.

The Clerk said there is a Climate Change grant available, should the Parish Council wish to apply. Cllr Mills asked the Clerk to forward the information so he can assess if it is something that the Parish Council could use.

The WI and the Film Club are extremely pleased with the quality of the new sound system.

Cllr Bendall said that the WI donated £200 towards additional storage in the Chamberlain Room kitchen. The Clerk said that the agreed plan was to refurbish the kitchen once the roof has been completed, the next project will be to refit the kitchen. Although there is a quote for the roof, once it has been stripped, it may

uncover further issues that could increase the costs. Funds cannot be committed to the kitchen until the final bill for the roof is received.

### Defibrillator

Cllr Hetterley attended the defib class organised by the WI. It raised a number of issues in relation to the condition of the defib and the access.

- Rescue Ready Kit is missing – find/purchase replacement and Velcro to defib so anyone using equipment automatically takes kit bag as well.
- Rescue Ready Kit will contain facemask – consider replacing with face shield as facemask difficult to set up.
- Back of defib has 2 small grub screws missing – find/replace.
- Code to be in sight under glass at front of Defib (C159X) and/or disable lock so that defib easily accessed.
- Mark back of defib with code (if keeping locked) so unit can be easily put back after use.
- Notice in unit or on back of defib - “Ring Guardian (Tel no...) for replacement pads”
- Consider a “back-up” Guardian contact number.
- Regularly clean defib of spiders webs – avoids fear of accessing equipment.
- Also suggested that Hall Post Code and W3W be displayed in Hall for emergencies.

It was agreed that Cllr Mills will investigate the issues raised. The Clerk said Cllr Mulligan had a rescue ready kit, but didn't know if it was for the old defib.

It was agreed that keeping the box unlocked may lead to misuse or vandalism. The Clerk said some Parishes provide key rings to households with the code printed on it. This is relatively cheap to do. Cllr Mills will investigate this option.

### Phone Box Refurbishment

The phone box refurbishment is complete. There has been a number of residents comment on how good it looks.

It was agreed to write to Clare Bebbington to invite her to the next meeting to present her ideas for a library.

### Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 10 am in the Chamberlain Room. The Clerk said she had received confirmation that Stephan Fifield will give a talk on the devolution of councils. Cllr Hetterley will purchase refreshments.

### Parish Plan Update

No report available

## **71/25 TRAFFIC & HIGHWAYS**

He Clerk said she had followed up Avening Court Wall with the Highways Manager. She has been informed that the two letters have been written with no response. The Highways Manger is asking CDC to take further action.

Cllr King said the residents at Sandford House contacted him to say that following the letters received from the Parish Council requesting that the trees are cut back. They have had two tree inspections carried out and been informed the trees are healthy and no action needed.

## **72/25 FINANCE**

### Finance Report

<u>Total Bank Balance</u>	£132,056
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### Main activity in last month:

Receipts:	Precept 75%	£40,500
	CIL	£13,370

	VAT refund	£ 3,630
Spend:	Phone Box refurb	£ 5,800
	Hall cinema system	£ 4,572 (VATEX)
	Hall water heater	£ 600

#### Ringfenced items:

1. Additional CIL payment increases CIL sum to £17,556
2. Phone box Refurb spent, so remove £4,750
3. Revised Ringfenced sum now £57,506

Budgeted Reserves approx. £32,000 (allowing for budgeted items and ringfenced).

Hall fund: specific budgeted amount £29,278. PC should also consider use of CIL and partial Reserves for roof.

- i. The Parish Council approved bills for payment.
- ii. The Clerk reported that the Parish Council has received it's first notification of NI payment due. It was agreed that the Clerk make the payments as and when needed.

### **73/25 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

- i. Consider Annual Governance Statement – Consider Annual Governance Statement.  
- The Clerk presented the annual governance statement which was considered by the Parish Council
- ii. Approve the Annual Governance Statement –The Parish Council approved the annual governance statement, and the Chair signed the AGAR form.

### **74/25 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS**

- i. Consider Accounting Statement - The Clerk presented the annual accounting statement which was considered by the Parish Council
- ii. Approve the Accounting Statement - The Parish Council approved the annual governance statement, and the Chair signed the AGAR form.

### **75/25 POLICE REPORT – Unavailable.**

### **76/25 DISTRICT COUNILLORS REPORT – Appendix 1**

### **77/25 COUNCTY COUNCILLOR REPORT – Unavailable**

### **78/25 PLANNING AND TREE WORKS**

#### New Planning Applications

25/00350/FUL10 Sandford Leaze - Erection of two storey side extension – No Objections

25/00694/COMPLY - 51 Nags Head Lane Compliance with condition 4 (details) of permission 24/01179/FUL- Alterations and extensions to convert garage, erection of canopy and relocation of parking area and existing vehicular access and condition 3 (details) of consent 24/01180/LBC- Alterations and extensions to convert garage, erection of canopy and relocation of parking area and existing vehicular access. - No Objections.

25/00916/COMPLY - Old Quarries Rectory Lane

Partial compliance with conditions 3 (Sample materials), 7 (Timber boarding) and 25 (Artificial roosting nesting) of permission 22/03666/FUL in respect of the East Gate Dwellings and Lodge - Change of use of existing buildings from residential institution (C2 use) to residential (C3 use) to form a total of 11 no. dwellings, through demolition of modern extensions, internal alterations and extensions, demolition of modern institutional buildings and replacement with new dwellings, associated garaging, landscaping, construction of new wall in alignment of historic walled garden and associated works. - No Objections

### **79/25 Planning Correspondence and Decisions**

24/03783/FUL 12 Star Lane Erection of replacement garage with ancillary accommodation over - Permitted

24/03832/FUL1 Tetbury Hill Creation of new vehicular access and driveway and replacement boundary walling - Permitted

25/00018/LBC 31 Nags Head Lane Carry out essential maintenance to the property by repointing the front exterior wall to the right-hand side only. This will preserve the fabric of the building and prevent water ingress. The work will involve removing all the old cement and flaking lime mortar down to the bed joint and repointing with lime mortar, locally sourced sharp washed sand and stone grit throughout - Permitted

25/00063/FUL21 West End Erection of two-storey side extension, alteration to front porch and the re cladding of dwelling – Permitted

25/00509/TCONR Brook House Hampton Hill Large, mature poplar' Re-pollard below previous pollard leaving the new pollard at 6 meters in height – No Objection

## **80/25 CORRESPONDENCE**

GAPTC \_ Climate Change fund – deadline 9<sup>th</sup> June

Notice of Filming – Chavenage House

Sue Piling – CDC – Strengthening Communities – Multi Generational events across district

NALC Chief Exec Bulletin

Parish Online bulletin

## **81/25 COUNCILLORS**

Cllr King reported that Pheobe Carter is in discussions with GCC to access records they have on biodiversity in the area which may or may not include Avening. This will save any duplication of research.

Cllr King also said that there seemed to be a lot of tree felling in the area and suggested that the Parish Council review the trees locally and consider putting further TPO's on them. It was agreed to put this on the agenda for the next meeting.

## **82/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 11 June 2025 at 7.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

## **Actions**

72/25	Pay Bills	Clerk
78/25	Submit Planning response.	Clerk

## Appendix 1

**Election:** it's interesting (and rather frustrating) how much local elections are influenced by the state of the national government. Both Labour and Conservative candidates were comprehensively rejected in the recent Gloucestershire County Council (GCC). The beneficiaries in our area are predominantly the Lib-Dems and Greens, leaving one Labour, and a handful of Conservatives. Nationally, Reform UK did well, which has interesting connotations at the next general election.

I worked with Stephan Fifield, who was already a serving senior GCC councillor, but wanted to represent our area having recently moved to Avening. Unfortunately, he just missed out, so congratulations go to our new representative Ian Watson, who I am sure will make himself available to you in the coming term.

**Cotswold District Council (CDC):** There hasn't been a meeting this month, and unfortunately, I was away for the Overview and Scrutiny. The cabinet, however, seem to have made a bit of a hash with public toilets! At the turn of 2023/24 I chaired a sub-committee looking at the future of these essential facilities, and several recommendations were accepted by the cabinet – these involved a comprehensive refurbishment plan and increased security, with the costs offset by a modest standard charge being made at all units. Sadly, it looks as though these measures have been 'kicked into the long grass' so we will have to continue with ageing and sub-standard facilities for some time to come. What a contrast we now have in the Cotswolds compared to my recent visit to Australia, and even more so in New Zealand where almost every small town had excellent public toilets on offer – for free!

**Roads:** In their GCC election offerings the Lib-Dems highlighted local roads as something they would focus on improving – hopefully they will follow through with positive actions as soon as possible. In the meantime, do continue to report defects using the Fix My Street app.

### **Councillor Tony Slater**

Cotswold District Council, Representing Grumbolds Ash with Avening.

email: [Tony.slater@cotswold.gov.uk](mailto:Tony.slater@cotswold.gov.uk) Tel: 07793669930

### **Other updates and information for Parish Councils:**

#### **DEVOLUTION FOR GLOUCESTERSHIRE - UPDATE**

On 5 February it was announced that Gloucestershire was not included in the devolution priority programme so Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) elections will take place on 1 May 2025.

#### **UNSUNG HEROES**

The Unsung Heroes Awards is to acknowledge all the work being done across the district by volunteers who give up their time to help others. Residents and businesses have nominated people in their communities who they think have made a difference, from individuals who give up their time to help neighbours, to members of local groups who volunteer to deliver local projects.

This is a rolling scheme with winners announced at every Full Council meeting going forward. Please nominate your Unsung Hero here: [www.cotswold.gov.uk/unsungheroes](http://www.cotswold.gov.uk/unsungheroes)

#### **HOW TO REPORT POTHOLE**

I recommend using this link, especially if you have a smartphone and can take a photograph of the pothole and identify the exact position. It is more efficient than emailing the council as officers get a daily schedule of these alerts.

Gloucestershire County Council, report a pothole:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/highways/roads/your-highways-report-it/>

#### FIX MY STREET

Report, view, or discuss local problems like graffiti, fly tipping, broken paving slabs, or street lighting. This reports back to the appropriate Council: [LINK](#)

#### REPORT IT

<https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/report-it/>

New forms for reporting graffiti, overflowing bins, dog fouling and street cleaning are now live on the Cotswold District Council Website.

A map pin drop allowing for what3words location submissions can be used.