

## MINUTES OF WITHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015 AT THE JUBILEE HALL, WITHINGTON AT 7.30 PM

**PRESENT:** Councillors Glenys Webb (Chairman), Cllr Mavis Lady Dunrossil, Cllr Jeremy Theyer, Cllr Jane Bruce, Cllr Bruno Brenninkmeijer, District Councillor Robin Hughes, one member of the public and the Clerk/RFO.

The Chairman welcomed District Councillor Robin Hughes to his first meeting at Withington, this is as a result of Withington now being a part of the Sandywell District after the boundary changes CDC have recently undertaken.

### 1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from the following members:  
Cllr Nicky Lowe and County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson

### 2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:** None were received.

### 3. **MINUTES OF THE FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on the 13<sup>th</sup> May 2015. Adoption of the minutes were proposed and seconded they were signed as a true and correct record. Cllr Glenys Webb signed the minutes.

#### 3.1 **Progress report and comments on the meeting held:**

- Councillors update on Keepers Cottage Cllr Theyer has spoken to the owner and the site will be grassed and levelled now that the building works has come to an end. It was reported that the land has been grassed. **Update 20/07/2015** Cllr Webb has spoken to planning and they say it does not specify a colour in the application but that it was as timber finish. Cllr Hughes will makes some enquiries as the Cllr are still not happy that it is a timber colour and is not wood effect but a black plastic shiny coating which is very imposing. Also the grass has not been seeded but is weeded over. Cllr Theyer will speak to them about this and recommend that they use a Cotswold limestone mix.
- Bromford Housing has sent an e-mail response to our letter about the overgrown pathway, they say they will clear the pathway under the winter works. Cllr are not sure if this has been dealt with but will check. **Update 13/05/15** this has still not been done, the clerk to go back to them and ask when it will be done. **Update 20/07/2015** the Clerk will chase this.
- Thorndale planning - discussion about jockeys accommodation facility which was agreed but two mobile homes have not been taken away and could still be used. The action was to keep an eye on this and monitor as this was not a permanent facility and in planning application as such. **No Update 13/05/2015. Update 20/07/2015** there is definitely at least one mobile home still on site. Cllr Hughes will make enquires about this.
- 2000 trees festival - for Clerk to liaise with Michele Bignell about organising a meeting to discuss. **Update 20/07/2015** a meeting has taken place and the owners are anxious not to upset the village with this festival. They will monitor the noise although the consensus was that it was quieter this year but that may have something to do with the wind direction. Next year it was suggested that in April an open meeting will take place for any village that have concerns to attend and discuss with the organisers.
- Pot Holes Woodbridge Lane, mud has been cleared from the centre of this road, the Clerk will send the PC's thanks. More pot holes on the bends at Withington woods and Chedworth Hill which could be particularly dangerous to cyclists. Clerk to report to CC Hodgekinson

- Mobile Telephone infrastructure – This issue can be solved with an addition of a router which connects the mobile phone signal through the wifi.

## AGENDA ITEMS

### 4. Co-option of New Councillor

Cllr Armstrong has decided not to stand at the last elections as he is unable to give the time needed to be a councillor. The PC will now look at co-opting a new councillor onto the council.

**Action 1 13/05/2015** for the Clerk to put a notice up and put something on the Website asking for interested parties to express an interest. The Clerk has not had any response to her advert but a couple of councillors have spoken to interested parties and will e-mail them to ask them to put something in writing expressing an interest in the position. **Action 1 20/07/2015** for Cllr Bruce to send the Clerk the e-mail address of those people interested in becoming a councillor.

### 5. Planning – Update

**15/02729/FUL** Listed Building consent to repair and reinstatement of boundary wall to include pedestrian gate at Home Farm Foxcote.

The council went through the papers and have no objection they voted and unanimously in favour of the application.

**Action 2 20/07/2015** For the Clerk to send a response to the CDC website.

### 6. Playground Inspection report

The Council went through the report which was mostly a positive one thing that was highlighted was the bird droppings caused from overhanging trees and birds sitting on top of the equipment.

**Action 3 20/07/2015** for the Clerk to ask Mr Hicks if he has any suggestions for stopping the birds using the area. **Further Action** for Councillor Theyer to look at cutting back some of the trees.

### 7. Audit report

The Clerk had asked GAPTC to carry out this year's Audit and the report has come back in and is very comprehensive. The Council went through the report line by line and the Clerk will pick up actions from the report and go back to the auditor for clarification on some points and also action others which she can implement.

**Action 4 20/07/2015** for the Clerk to update policies and procedures highlighted in the audit report.

### 8. Winter Maintenance request for salt

The clerk has received an e-mail from GCC about the provision of salt and information about the Snow warden this was discussed.

**Action 5 20/07/2015** the Clerk will ring Philip King and ask him if Withington will need salt this year.

### 9. FINANCE - The Council were asked to agree expenditure for the following items.

Cheques were raised for the following:

**Clerks wages £186.81** – the Clerks hours were presented and the council agreed the amount these were signed by Cllr Webb and Cllr Dunrossil

**HMRC** Cheque for £54.21 + £46.71 – This relates to the last two payments of salary to the Clerk and were signed by Cllr Webb and Cllr Dunrossil.

**GAPTC a cheque was raised** for the recent Audit £80.00 – this had been agreed before the meeting and was agreed by the Council. Signed by Cllr Webb and Cllr Dunrossil.

**Shaw and Sons** the clerk has ordered a new Minute book which was requested at the last budget meeting and is in the minutes as agreed expenditure - £164.40 – signed by Cllr Webb and Cllr Bruce.

**Wickmedia** – This is an on-going cost for the hosting of Withington Parish Councils Website – signed by Cllr Webb and Cllr Bruce.

**John Hicks Playground Inspection** £68.40 – the Inspection was carried out in May. The invoice has now been received with a full report which the Parish Council discussed as an Agenda item. It was agreed to use John Hicks at a previous meeting recommended by Cllr Broad as the PC had issues with the last inspection picking up issues with brand new equipment. The cheque was signed by Cllr Webb and Cllr Bruce.

**Glebe Contractors** grass cutting £57.60 – this is for an additional cut which the Cricket Club requested. They will be asked for a donation to cover the additional cost of this. Cllr Webb will speak directly to the club for reimbursement. It was agreed at the January meeting that any additional cuts will be met by the Cricket Club. The cheque was signed by Cllr Webb and Cllr Bruce.

## **10. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED BY THE COUNCIL**

Frampton County show which the clerk asked to be put up on the notice board.

There was a poster advertising the Mobile Library times and dates this will also be put up on the notice board.

## **11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There has been an issue with large Lorries coming into Withington from the North of the village and they are finding it difficult to get around the corner of the Mill pub, which is very narrow. They therefore have to back up and there is very little room for them to turn around once they have come into the village from this way. The wall is suffering and as it is a conservation area members of the public have asked if this could be raised with GCC as there does not seem to be signs up on the main road information them of the difficulties of approaching the village from this direction.

**Action 6 20/07/2015** for the Clerk to bring this to GCC Hodgekinson's attention to see if anything can be done about signage. DC Hughes will also raise this with CDC.

Cllr Webb has been asked about some building works that has been undertaken at Riverside Cottage and if planning permission is needed. Enquiries will be made to the Planning department so that this information can be fed back to the persons asking.

The Playing field is overgrown and Cllr Webb asked if the edges could be strimmed. Cllr Theyer will look into this.

District Councillor Hughes was asked if he had any updates for the meeting. He said that the boundary changes have now taken place and 44 areas have been merged to 34 which is why we are now under the Sandywell Parish Boundary. He said he will now be responsible for 15-16 villages.

## **12. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The meetings for the rest of the year are as follows:

**1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 and the 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

**MEETING CLOSED: 09.30 pm**