

## **MINUTES OF WITHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MEETING Held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at the Village Hall Withington, at 19.00.**

1. **PRESENT:** Cllr David Craig, Cllr Glenys Webb, Cllr Catherine Boyce, Cllr Mike Viney, Cllr Alex Barrell, Cllr Nicky Lowe and District Councillor Jeremy Theyer Also, in attendance 4 members of the public and the Clerk/RFO.

2. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr Bruno Brenninkmeijer, County Cllr Paul Hodgkinson

3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**

Members were reminded to declare any interests that may arise during the meeting.

**MINUTES – TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024** were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

4. **Questions from members of the public that are not on the agenda.** None raised.

5. **River Coln – Update**

Harvey Sherwood and Margeret Wright attended the meeting and gave a verbal update on the Guardian for the rivers and the work that will be carried out. They have also chased OFWAT that Thames Water about the funding to Andoversford sewage work to improve and update the facilities. Andoversford was not included in the original funding for Thames Water to update the facility. They held a very positive meeting in the Pub, Cllr Hodgkinson has been interviewed on Channel 5, they are trying to raise awareness and community sampling will begin. Cllr Craig asked if the group has a clear mission statement about what the group is about.

Everyone was reminded of the Glos County Council environment select committee meeting which Cllr Hodgkinson updated them on at the last meeting. If anyone has any comments and thoughts, he is happy to raise them at that meeting.

- 6 **Planning updates and applications - including road closures-**

**24/02627/FUL** Application for rebuild stone retaining wall to Churchyard Boundary at Church of St Michael Withington. This was discussed and there were no objections.

**24/02963/FUL** To convert and extend agricultural equestrian building to 1 self-build dwelling and associated site and landscaping at Sandywell stable Sandywell park. No objections.

**24/03362/FUL** application to replace windows, doors, fascia's soffits and gutters on the front and side elevation with UPVC in Chartwell Green at 17 Brassington Gardens. No objections.

7. **2000 trees meeting – Update**

No update, Cllrs will get together to discuss a way forward with this.

**Action 1 18/09/2024** Cllr Brenninkmeijer and Cllr Viney to come up with bullet points on specific points to be raised with 2000 trees organiser and then on that basis, an e-mail will then be written to them offering them a specific date that they can join one of the Parish Councils meetings.

## **8. Play Area – Update on Swings**

Following the issues with the swings seats that need replacing, and some repair work needed, including metal struts it was updated that the swings will need to be replaced. It was agreed that we need to get a working group together to look at replacing them and looking at a way forward with the play area as a matter of urgency. To replace existing swings could costs up to £6000 for new and dismantled equipment. Cllr Viney will organise the company to do the next site survey.

## **9. Clerks Role**

Cllr Craig to set up a virtual Parish Council meeting to agree the JD and advert for the departing Clerk. The advert has been advertised on the Chedworth and Andoversford Parish Magazines. A candidate has been found to carry out the finance aspect for the Parish Council, but as yet no one has come forward for the Clerks role. Cllr will look to put up adverts locally.

## **10. Village hall committee update – 7<sup>th</sup> December meeting**

It was updated that there will be a Xmas event on the 7<sup>th</sup> December in the village hall with attendance from members of the Parish Council to look for ideas for the village and to publicise the village hall. This was discussed. It was agreed to have a suggestions box and an area at the back so that people could add their ideas on how to utilise the village hall and playing field.

There is still a lot of work to be done around the village hall including removing some trees at the back.

## **11. Clerks update – Discuss any outstanding actions on the table, (circulate ahead of meetings)**

Cllr Webb has some concerns around the pads for the defibrillator. She asked if this could be discussed at the village hall meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> as she does not want to carry on being the main contact when it is activated. This will be taken to the meeting for discussion.

Cllr Craig is still working on Castlethorpe homes over the fencing for the playing field. There has been no further engagement.

Signatories - Before the next meeting to agree 4 signatories for the Parish Council so that when Internet Banking is taken forward by the new clerk this is included. For Cllr to message Cllr Craig if they are willing to be additional signatories.

Cllr Boyce will chase up the speed camera action with CCllr Hodgkinson.

## **12. Finance – payment of invoices Cheques raised, Clerks hours August and September, £314.80, HMRC DD, Wickmedia Ltd £94.92. Withington Village Hall Flooring £7,016.45, Playing Fields Association £50.00, Hire of the Village Hall £72.00 A Cox £85.00.**

## **13. Update from District Councillor Jeremy Theyer**

Cllr Theyer updated on CDC closing the public toilets in Cirencester to save money. He reminded the Parish Council to look at Emergency planning, to include flood wardens and snow wardens this was discussed.

**14. County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson, Update:**

A417 Missing Link - the project continues to go to plan. It was reported that it is still on target for the road to fully open in February 2027.

Cllr Hodgkinson has chased up the GCC officers about the Foxcote A436 junction - as requested and has also received no response at all. He will continue to chase this. The main issue being that it is really unclear as to who is dealing with this now within GCC.

**15. Date and time of the next meeting – 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025.**

**Meeting Closed at 21.00**