

Minutes of the 'Budget Setting' Meeting of the Covington Parish Meeting held at the Village hall on Wednesday 25th October 2017 at 7.30pm.

Attended by; Linda Lockhart (Chairman), Jonathan Baker, Richard Brown, Mo Brown, Simon Luscombe, Graham Platt, Sylvia Platt, Sarah Schofield, and Shirley Mathews (Clerk) Sue Sewell joined before item 5.2.

1 Apologies for absence

These were received from; Michael & Josie Brown, Stephen and Gill Holmes, David Lockhart, Michael Mathews, Peter Schofield, Peter Sewell, Polly Sewell and John & Marilyn Turrell.

2 Declarations of interest in matters on the Agenda

There were none

3 Minutes of Parish Meeting 19th April 2016

They were circulated on 4th October, they were taken as read.

It was proposed by Richard Brown, seconded by Jonathan Baker an agreed that they be signed as a correct record

4 Matters Arising from Minutes

11.4 Defibrillator signage: proposed by Sarah Schofield, seconded by Jonathan Baker and agree to purchase 3 signs for the telephone box to be placed in panes at eye level if possible at £25. each plus delivery

11.4 B645 – email from Hargrave outlining the action to be taken by Northants and Cambridgeshire County Councils.

Cambridgeshire have recently undertaken the following works:

- 1. Removed all existing chevrons (leaving Northamptonshire) and replaced them with uniform ones*
- 2. Renewed all edge of carriageway markers*
- 3. Removed the derestricted speed limit repeater from the county boundary sign*

The following works remain to be carried out:

- 1. Put in an advisory 40mph between the two sets of bend warning signs (one in each county) – Northants Highways*
- 2. Renew the chevrons (leaving Cambridgeshire) so they are uniform – Northants Highways*
- 3. Clean the grips (Cambridgeshire)*

It has been agreed in principle that the two authorities would share the costs for re-texturing the road surface.

11.2 CMG voucher - The £80 voucher had been exchanged for over £160 worth of daffodil and narcissus bulbs for the village roadsides.

Various people took these to plant.

13.c Neighborhood watch signage – various prices and proposals were considered. It was agreed to purchase 25 plastic roadside signs at approx. £186. House signs were not necessary.

5 Finance

1. Report on Audit- The Clerk reported this had been approved and accepted by the national auditor

2. Retrospective Approval of payments

Proposed by Jonathan Baker, seconded by Richard Brown and agreed to approve the following payments

- | | |
|--|------------|
| a. CCC street lighting £95.16 | (16.02.17) |
| b. Balfour Beatty light maintenance £54.48 | (12.04.17) |
| c. Amenities Committee £420.00 | (26.04.17) |
| d. CAPALC – £89.36 | (26.04.17) |
| e. Zurich insurance £257.60 | (03.07.17) |

6. Budget 2017

Three additional items of expenditure were discussed

- a. Annual cost of Zen domain for village email and website – approx. £60 this should appear as a separate budget item
- b. 3x Defibrillator Signage for phone box – approx. £125
- c. 25x plastic Neighborhood watch street signs – approx. £186

It was proposed by Simon Luscombe, seconded by Sarah Schofield and agreed to include all three items in the budget

7. Precept 2017/8

It was proposed by Simon Luscombe, seconded by Sarah Schofield and agreed to leave the precept at £1300 per annum

8. Reports of Representatives / Officers

1. Footpaths- Jonathan Baker reported no problems with any of our footpaths. He was asked to contact Gordon Waldron about long rose branches overhanging the footpath alongside his property
2. Neighbourhood Watch – Michael Mathews continued to post any warnings or information received by him on the village email
3. Tree Warden - Mo Brown reported that the demise of the system meant no further free trees. She would continue to monitor the health of village trees. The Chairman will follow up an earlier enquiry about a dead tree on the roadside near overhead wires.
4. Amenities Committee- Jonathan Baker reported that bookings were holding up and they were maintaining a good financial situation. The Barn Dance had been a great success; £1,000 going to McMillan Nurses; £500 to the Air Ambulance and £250 to the Childs Hospice that received no funds from the village this year due to no carol singing.
Karen Barley wishes to stop being Parish Meeting representative on the Amenities Committee. Sarah Schofield would be happy to undertake this, her offer was gratefully accepted.

9. Report of Special General Planning meetings and Planning Committee

26 April Barbers Farm – amending layout of residential barn conversion – considered and approved by the planning sub-committee and HDC

8th August Windy Barn Farm – New building for housing dairy cattle – Approved by the village and HDC

15th August Windy Barn Farm – Erection of agricultural workers dwelling – Approved by the village and HDC

27th September 14 Keyston Road – ground floor extension and relocation

of oil tank – Considered at full village meeting and approved by the HDC

10 Correspondence

The Clerk reported that she would continue to share mail and email information over the village email system but asked if others would think to inform those residents not on the system. Those circulated since the previous meeting were:

- 1 Village Email Notification – A14 updates
- 2 Village Email notification – Community Chest Fund
- 3 Village Email notification - B645 action
- 4 Village Email notification – Flood /water warning 26/5/17
- 5 Village Email notification – Local plan to 2036
- 6 Village Email notification - Collective Switching
- 7 Village Email notification – HDC Parking Survey

11 Any Other Business

1. Village website and email - This had been covered under earlier items on the agenda with a full update from Simon Luscombe.
2. Sue Sewell raised the issue of the condition of Keyston Road after recent hedge trimming where large amounts of cuttings and branches remain in the road, particularly in the Pentelows area; also earlier from the movement of manure where large amounts remain on the Keyston Road between Cross Street and Cherry Hill which if left will prove dangerous in the winter. It was agreed the Clerk should write to J.O.Williams with a copy to Oliver Williams asking them to confirm that they were responsible in both cases and asking them to rectify the situation.

12 Date of next meeting

These were agreed as follows

Wednesday 18th April 2018

Wednesday 24th October 2018