**Avening Parish Council Meeting**

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

**PRESENT:** Cllr D Bendall, Cllr C Forster, Cllr C Howell, Cllr C Mitchell, Cllr G Parsons Cllr, A Slater, Cllr D Conway.

Cllr R Morgan, Cllr S Hirst

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

**21/19 VISITORS:** Rev’d Gerald & Jennie South, Derek Osbourn, John Hetterley, Richard King.

**22/19 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Mr Hetterley asked if the Council were aware that residents had received a letter from Gigaclear regarding the use their land to lay cables. The letter informed them that they had a statutory right to use the land, but the insurance costs were to be covered by the householder. They have been given 21 days to sign a waiver agreement. It was agreed that this was unreasonable, and that advice should be taken. A public meeting has been organised for March the 4th where a representative from Gigaclear and the surveyor will be present.

The Council remarked that communication has been very badly handled. As Avening is the first village in the Cotswolds to have fibre optic cables laid, it is hoped that communication from the company will improve.

Rev’d South reported that the youth club is going from strength to strength. Cllr Morgan remarked that there was £1,000 grant available that needed to be applied for before 4th March. He advised Rev’d South to apply for it on behalf of the Youth Club.

Rev’d South said that the burial ground was nearly full. If it closes the responsibility will pass to the Parish Council and then eventually the District Council along with the costs of upkeep.

There is a possibility of reusing existing burial plots. There are many that do not have a memorial. Special permission will need to be given by the Diocese. The Memorial Garden has plenty of space for ashes.

**23/19 POLICE MONTHLY CRIME AND ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORT**

There was 1 violent communication reported in Avening during January 2019.

Following the Clerk’s request for more detailed information in the report the Police Liaison Officer said this was unavailable at this time.

**24/19 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr E Worsdell– personal

**25/19 CODE OF CONDUCT**

166.1.18 Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda

David Bendell – Payment for a filing cabinet

166.2.18 Updates to Members Register of Interests

None

**26/19 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 20 December 2018**

There were no matters arising.

**27/19 MINUTES**

**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 17 January 2019**

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

**28/19 ACTION LOG**

The Action log was noted and updated.

**29/19 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT**

The budget for 2019/20 will be finalised on the 26th Feb. Following the review of the recycling and waste collection it has been agreed that black bins collections will remain the same. Every household will receive a larger food collection bin that will be collected weekly. Textiles, small electronics and tetra packs will now be part of the fortnightly roadside recycling. The green bin collections that some household pay for will be collected fortnightly from September and will be reviewed next year.

A multi storey carpark is to be erected in Cirencester. An additional level will be added as a temporary measure until the completion of a 3-storey carpark on the Waterloo site.

**30.19 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT**

The County Council budget will increase by 4.9%. 2.9 for the usual services and 2% for adult social care and children’s services.

The new highways contract has been awarded to 3 separate companies, in the hope of making it more efficient.

Cllr Hirst reported requested that all potholes and street lighting problems are reported to him directly.

**31/19 COMMUNITY ISSUES AND PROJECTS**

1. Launch of Villager of the Year. Cllr Slater requested nominations for the next meeting.
2. Date of the annual village show. It was agreed to pursue 18th May A meeting will be held on 11th March at 7.30 to progress arrangements.
3. Local Elections. At least two new councillors are needed. If more applications are received an election will be held. The Clerk has been in contact with Electoral Services and will distribute the packs when received.
4. **Comments of Project Mangers Report.**

Cllr Bendall donated a cupboard, and for a small cost of £15.00 a nearly new two drawer filing cabinet for the Chamberlain Room. Cllr Slater proposed accepting the donation and purchase of the filing cabinet. This was seconded by Cllr Mitchell. The Clerk was authorised to make the payment to Cllr Bendall.

Cllr Conway said he had a notice board that may be of use. The Clerk said the board outside the hall was very difficult to use. Mr Collinson said he would inspect the board to see if it can be of use.

1. **Memorial Hall**

**171/18.1 Review of Current Projects**

John Collinson presented his report and the roof project continues. He is liaising with the conservation officer as to the type of roof tile that can be used and seeking more detailed estimates to complete the work – it is hoped that only the North elevation will need to be replaced.

The hall floor is in a poor state of repair and has been skimmed back to the maximum. A quote for a new floor will be presented at the next meeting.

Fire detection in the cellar was quoted at £250. Cllr Bendall negotiated a £50 reduction.

1. **171/18.3 Playing Field**

A sub group meeting had been held a meeting on 21 Feb 2019 to discuss and agree proposals.

The case officer at CDC has been informed that the application has been withdrawn but could be resubmitted with no additional planning fee if a revised application is submitted before July 19.

It was agreed that the early works previously identified, should be implemented at the earliest opportunity:

a. Fencing with matching gates to the existing playground, with closure of the south east pedestrian entrance –

Quotations are being sought which will now include a timber alternative specification

b. Improvements to disabled access to the playing field from Sunground:

With installation of new drop kerbs – GCC have responded positively The order for these works has been placed with implementation scheduled before the end of March 2019.

Improving the connection of the footpath from Sunground into the playing field – a quotation has been received from the groundworks contractor for which a draft application is being prepared for submission to GCC in the sum of £2000 which will be reviewed with Cllr. Mitchell.

The other key priorities (in priority order) were:

* Improvement to the perimeter footpath around the playing field including widening such that it can be safely used for prams and pushchairs and by disability scooters to ensure proper access for all the community
* Upgrade the playground with additional equipment with attendant maintenance and management
* Level the main informal grass playing field to make it safe and fit for casual uses, as well as a variety of popular play and sports activities for the different seasons with the northerly border to provide better viewing for school sports days etc.
* Installation of a multi-use games area in the western area of the field which is currently in a neglected state
* Retention of the informal North West corner of the site to conserve its flora and fauna and retain the slope for sledging in snowy weather.

1. **Additional Hanging Baskets.**

Jennie South made a request that the Council supports the purchase of 4 additional hanging baskets for the Memorial Hall in addition to the baskets purchased last year. Based on last years prices it would cost approx. £550. This is to purchase 4 baskets which are stronger than domestic basket plus planting for 6 baskets. It will need a water system due to the height of the building.

It was agreed to in principle. More precise quotes will be presented at the next meeting.

**Community Issues**

**32/19**  **Traffic and Highways**

1. No new issues logged, but Cllr Slater will refresh the log.

It was requested of Cllr Hirst that a traffic survey is carried out. There have been 21 new propertied built in the last 5 years, Bromford are proposing 14 new properties, along with a further 14 dwellings at the Quarries. Although the Council supports the growth of the community, the infrastructure needs to be considered by district and county authorities.

The areas of concern are the bottom of Tetbury Hill, Nailsworth Road and the road to the golf course at Hampton Hill. Cllr Hirst said he would request this is carried out.

1. Review of Snow event - There is a shortage of grit at bottom of Westend Valley. A new grit bin has been requested at the top of Star Lane. The Clerk will get a price for a new bin.
2. Dog Fouling - A complaint has been received from a resident regarding dog fouling in the Nags Head area. The Clerk said it will cost £210 + VAT for CDC to supply and install a dog waste bin. It was agreed that the bin should be sited on the corner of the path at Dark Lane opposite the old phone box. The Clerk supplied Cllr Slater with stickers to put on posts in the area warning of fines for not clearing up after your dog. Cllr Slater will put them around the area.
3. Footpaths Right of Way - Mr Osbourne informed the Council that he has been appointed as Cotswold Warden for Avening. Cllr Slater told Mr Osbourne that the biggest complaint is blocked access.
4. Purchase of Defibrillator. It has been confirmed that there is an electricity supply to support a second defibrillator in the old phone box at Old Hill. This will be fitted as soon as possible.

The Clerk has received communication from GCC offering free first aid and defibrillator training to the public. Cllr Mitchell asked the Clerk to forward the email so as she could investigate further.

1. Litter Pick – It was suggested that instead of the usual litter pick an “Adopt a Street” was trialled. It was agreed to promote this at the AGM.

**33/19 FINANCE**

**Finance Report up to 31 January 2019**

The report was noted.

**34/19 Approve Bills for Payment**

Schedule was circulated, and payments were approved.

**35/19 PLANNING AND TREE WORKS**

i) 19/00309/FUL - Application for Gabion basket landscaping works to reinforce the north bank

of the stream on the boundary at Mill House Mill Lane.

The Council had no objections to this application

**36/19 Planning Correspondence**

**37/19 Tree Works**

1. 19/00309/FUl - Forestry Consultation for Felling Application

The Council had no objections to this application

**38/19 Any other New Applications since publication of this agenda**

None

**39/19 CORRESPONDENCE**

1. The Council has been invited to The Big Café Thank you 2nd April 2019. 10am.

ii Timetable for Elections.

**40/19 COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Parsons reported a dead deer on the footpath between Nags Head and Avening. It had been shot with a rifle. She was concerned that someone may be shooting near public footpaths. Cllr Slater said he would speak to the local game keeper to get advice.

Cllr Bendall said the Post office has asked if the postman could have access to the toilets at the village hall. Due to exclusive use by the school and the need for CRB checks this request was refused.

Cllr Conway expressed concern that the cable companies could shut down roads without giving notice. This will be discussed at the meeting on the 4th March.

**40/19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 21 March 2019 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm