

Avening Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 21 July 2021 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT: Cllr P Mulligan, Cllr A Slater, Cllr G Parsons, Cllr R King, Cllr D Bendall,
Cllr J Hetterly, Cllr C. Howell, Cllr Hamilton, Cllr Forster

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs S Baker (Clerk), Cllr Hirst - GCC, Cllr Morgan – CDC

VISITORS: Mr D. Conway, PCSO Sue Fellows and PCSO Kim Collins

89/21 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – Mr Conway stated that he was present to express his concerns regarding the planning application 21//02281/FUL – Land West of Avening House

90/21 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE – None

91/21 CODE OF CONDUCT

166.1.18 Declaration of Interest in Items on the Agenda

Cllr Parsons – agenda item 14.1 Planning 21/02281/FUL

166.2.18 Updates to Members Register of Interests

None

92/21 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 16 June 2021.

- None. The minutes of the meeting held 16th June 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

93/21 COMMUNITY ISSUES AND PROJECTS

Community Issues

- i. Memorial Hall - Cllr Mulligan reported that the Treasurer to the hall has resigned due to work commitments. They are still waiting for a formal response from the Charity Commission, who are currently undergoing a change of IT system which is causing delays in responding. In the meantime, the management committee intend to carry out some necessary maintenance outside. Bookings are starting to come through, but opening up is still dependant on future Covid restrictions.
- ii. Playing Fields Update – Cllr Hetterly reported that Zip wire fund target has been reached and now stands at £10,300. Tetbury Lions have pledged £500 which they have committed to pay. The erection of the zip wire is due to start this week. Two picnic benches have also been purchased in line with the request for additional seating. Cllr King said the consultation on playing field equipment has been extended until August 9th. But to date the requests for a zipwire has outweighed any other idea. The contractor has been asked to quote for a toddler slide that will use the location of the old zipwire incorporating the bank as a natural slope. Cllr Mulligan said that the two electrical poles that were placed in the wrong position in the village have been removed and donated to the parish for use as gate posts.
- iii. Low Water Flow- Cllr Slater contacted Sir Geoffrey regarding the lack of pace from the Environment Agency investigating the low flow to the stream and the environmental impact. He was then able to meet with the regional manager. It would appear that the issue is now progressing.

94/21 TRAFFIC & HIGHWAYS

Cllr Slater reported that he is meeting with Highways. Old Hill will be put on the resurfacing list but can not be done this financial year.

The workforce that missed the potholes on Point Road will return to repair them.

The path near Sunground garages has been put on the list for repair.

The drop kerb at The Sunground has now been removed. The resident at number 1 has complained that it is discriminatory.

Following Cllr Mulligan comments on the road closure times on the Nailsworth to Avening road not being adhered to by the workmen and starting work earlier than the signs stated causing more chaos in the area. was reported to Highways It was also requested that in future the signs will state where exactly the closure starts and finishes.

Concern was expressed regarding the speed of traffic on Hampton Hill. PCSO Sue Fellows, suggested the Parish Council organise a Community Speed Watch. It needs three members. It involves a speed camera being used at various points around the village. Anyone caught speeding will receive an advisory letter from the police, for educational purposes. PCSO Fellows said that Tetbury Town Council had purchased their own camera and could provide Avening with the contact details needed to purchase one. They can also be borrowed for the County Council.

Cllr Slater asked if it was possible to purchase a moveable Smiley Face sign. PCSO Fellows said it was but didn't have the details.

Cllr Bendall made the Council aware that the Pedestrian Crossing Officer has now retired, and a replacement is looking unlikely.

Some of the grit bins are damaged and need replacing. The one on The Sunground s missing.

The Clerk has been approached for confirmation of details of the Snow Warden. Cllr Mulligan agreed to continue as the Snow Warden for Avening.

95/21 POLICE REPORT

The Police report showed that there were four crimes committed in June this year, but two of them were the same incident. This is a reduction on the same period as last year.

Due to Covid and the lockdown, people spending more time at home has resulted in less burglaries, but Scams are on the increase, with people losing thousands of pounds as a result.

PCSO Fellows asked for the Parish Council to remind residents to stay alert. If they know a crime is in progress or suspect a crime is in progress then to ring 999, if the crime has already been committed you should ring 101 or report online.

96/21 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT- Cllr Hirst distributed his report(attached) prior to the meeting and invited questions.

Cllr King asked why GCC had withdrawn its bid to be County of Culture. Cllr Hirst said he would find out and report back.

Cllr Slate asked if the emergency services were using "What 3 Words? Cllr Hirst confirmed this was the case.

Cllr Hirst was asked if the Parish Council could apply for the Build Back Better fund. Cllr Hirst confirmed that exercise equipment for the playing field would be considered as part of the Health and Well Being in the Community theme.

97/21 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Morgan was pleased to report that he had received verbal confirmation that the new affordable housing at The Sunground would be fitted with Solar Panels and have electric charging points along with rain water harvesting.

He confirmed that resident expressing an interest in the new housing should register as soon as possible, by contacting Home Seekers which is operated by CDC. A form can also be found on CDC's website.

Cllr Morgan said that a number of Councillors asked for an amendment to the planning protocol to adopt the same procedures as SDC, but the change has been rejected.

98/21 FINANCE

Finance Report up to 30 June 2021

- i. The finance report was circulated in advance of the meeting.
- ii. Approve Bills for Payment - Schedule was circulated, and payments were approved.
- iii. Cllr Hetterly reported that all the items listed for the Zipwire in the Ring-Fenced section of the report will be moved to the projects section.

99/21 PLANNING AND TREE WORKS

New Planning Applications

21/02403/FUL – 20 Sandford Leaze – Erection of First Floor Extension – Agreed

21/02681/FUL – 27 Sandford Leaze – First Floor Side /Front Extension – The Council requested more information as the Before pictures were not on the application.

Ref 21/02281/FUL Land West of Avening House, Woodstock Close

Following a long discussion of this proposed plan and representation by a member of the public - Mr Conway the Parish Council agreed to object on the following grounds:

- Permission was given for the erection of a barn in 2014/15 The Parish Council raised concerns at the time.
- The structure was far in excess of the dimensions needed for a basic weather- proof secure building for farm machinery
- The materials used for the main structure was both expensive and of superior hard woods. The design included what should be called decorative gables providing light only, but which could be easily incorporated to form dormer windows to the second floor of a residential dwelling.
- Only last year an application was approved to change window and door layouts which contradict the current application that the storage facility is no longer useful and would be more useful in a residential status.
- The development is along farm tracks and a bridleway not suitable for a domestic traffic. A pillar has been installed that looks as though they are preparing to hang a gate and a concrete path laid.
- There are flower beds and a gravel path leading up to the property all out of keeping with an agricultural building.
- As a new build, the barn has not been unused for the requisite time required for conversion, and as far as we know no attempt has been made to sell it as a storage facility – it is not therefore a redundant building
- Had the developer requested to build a house in the original application it would have been refused outright as it is agricultural land outside of the residential envelope.
- In the view of the Parish Council these incremental changes and over engineered build indicate that the developer always intended to circumvent the planning rules to convert to a domestic residence.
- It will set a precedent and open up a swath of land for people to develop.

100/21 PLANNING DECISION NOTICES & CORRESPONDENCE

Decisions

20/00887/FUL – Brook House, Hampton Hill – Window/Door Opening & Repair Garden Wall– Permitted

20/00430/FUL – 48 High Street – Erection of Balcony with Storage underneath - Permitted

101/21 ANY OTHER NEW APPLICATIONS SINCE PUBLICATION OF THIS AGENDA

102/21 CORRESPONDENCE

Electricity Pole Complaints

Confirmation of the name of The Sunground

Complaint regarding the removal of drop kerb

Bromford – Request for help with gardens at 1 & 3 The Sunground

Complaint regarding Gritt an Avening Road

Public Sector Exec – Building Back greener – The road to Net Zero

NALC , Making rural housing more affordable.

GRCC Cotswold Community Wellbeing Service Newsletter

NALC Future Communities 2021

Glospsa training seminar 5th August £45

NALC Chief Exec Bulletin

GLCC Covid Update

Public Sector Exec -Legacy of digital transformation after the global crisis

NALC Online events

CDC Covid 19 Business matters

CDC Licensing Act review

SLCC News Bulletin

Summary of Speed responses received by Dr Paul Morrish

GAPTC – GCC Digital Innovation Fund

103/21 COUNILLORS

- i. Cllr King was asked if he could present a short report on the Nuclear Fusion Project that GCC has bid for.
- ii. Cllr Hamilton said that the fete was expected to proceed on 12 September. She will send more information before the August meeting
- iii. Cllr Hetterley reported that the Café had now reopened with Social Distancing remaining in place. Gill Adams has taken over from Jennie South as Chair of the Community Café.

104/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 18 August 2021 at 7.30pm In the Memorial Hall

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNCILLOR'S REPORT JULY 2021
AVENING PARISH COUNCIL

STAY VIGILANT TO STOP COVID IN ITS TRACKS.

The county council is encouraging people to go forward with caution, as Covid cases continue to rise.

Monday the 19th July was the next step in the corona virus summer 2021 roadmap, which will continue to play a key role in managing the virus and reducing the risk of it mutating and new variants developing. It's not the last step in overcoming Covid and with cases increasing, people must be encouraged to move forward with caution.

Getting both doses of the COVID – 19 vaccination remains our best chance of protecting ourselves from the most severe symptoms of COVID-19 and those people who are most at risk from the virus. Rapid testing will also help to stop Covid in its tracks whilst reassuring you that you are still doing everything you can to ensure you don't pass the virus onto those you care about.

Although no longer a legal requirement, face coverings, social distancing and regular hand washing remain effective ways to help the risk of spreading COVID.

£2 MILLION BUILD BACK BETTER FUND SET TO LAUNCH.

A £2 million Build Back Better Fund is set to be launched by the county later this month, subject to a Cabinet sign off on 21 July. The fund has been developed to help communities recover and rebuild from the impacts of Covid-19. The fund is set to be allocated evenly across the county's 53 divisions to allow each county councillor to support bids in their area and to ensure the benefits of the investment are shared across Gloucestershire. Each councillor will be allocated a total of £40,000 in grants to support their local area.

Recognising the diverse nature and needs of Gloucestershire's communities and neighbourhoods, criteria for bids is likely to consist of key themes including community health and well-being'

RECYCLING METAL REALLY MATTERS.

In a countywide social media campaign, residents are being encouraged to recycle their metal packaging to make every can count.

Metal can be recycled endlessly so the county and all six councils have teamed up with Metal Matters to highlight the benefits of recycling our metal packaging to inspire everyone to get involved and do their bit.

With more than 12 billion items of aluminium packaging alone sold every year in the UK, householders are being encouraged to recycle their cans, foil empty aerosols, trays, tubes, and metal screw tops. Every district in the county provides a frequent and convenient door-to-door recycling service so it's never been easier to recycle our metal packaging; and once recycled, it takes around 60 days for a drinks can to return to the supermarket shelf.

EFFICIENT AND GREENER SCHEME FOR FOOD WASTE

The County Council is to award a contract with Ubico to take Gloucestershire's food waste to a recycling plant in Bishops Cleeve. All six district councils in the county provide a weekly kerbside food waste collection service for their residents and it is the county councils job to recycle this waste. Currently four of the districts have their food waste taken to the plant by different providers but under new streamlined plans it would be collected by just one company.

STATE OF THE ART 999 SYSTEM IN PLACE AT GLOUCESTERSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE.

A new 999 system which uses the latest technology has been implemented at Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service (GFRS) enabling crews to continue providing the best possible service to the county.

The system called Vision 5 can locate where a member of the public is calling from without the need for any extra software. Mobile phone signals can be pinpointed within 50 metres of their location and landlines identified with their addresses when calling. GFRS is the only county-run fire and rescue service to have switched to Vision 5, the only others in the country using it are London, South Wales and Merseyside who are much larger services in comparison.

FIRE STATION TO BECOME SEARCH AND RESCUE CHARITY'S NEW COTSWOLD BASE.

A growing partnership between Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service (GFRS) and the Severn Area Rescue Association (SARA) has led to the search and rescue charity being given a new base. It has been offered the use of the premises at Cirencester Fire Station by GFRS to help SARA establish a base in the Cotswolds.

IT'S THE REAL DEAL – TRADING STANDARDS AND CIRENCESTER MARKET BACK SCHEME TO PROTECT CONSUMERS.

A national campaign to stop shoppers being duped into buying rip-off fakes of designer goods and other illicit items is being backed by Gloucestershire County Council's trading standards department, Cirencester Town Council and Cotswold Markets.

BE A 'WILD WORLD HERO' WITH GLOUCESTERSHIRE LIBRARIES

The national event led by the Reading Agency began on Saturday 10 July and runs until Friday 10 September, with the aim of encouraging children to enjoy reading and visiting their library. In 2019, when it last took place in Gloucestershire's libraries. As well as borrowing books, children can take away the popular makeaway packs which include crafty bits and pieces, plus instructions for families to make their own nature-inspired crafts at home. More information is available from your local library.

County Cllr Stephen Hirst