

Avening Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 18 Aug 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, (8pm)

VISITORS: Clare Bebbington, Lewis Dyer

104/21 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – Clare Bebbington & Lewis Dyer were in attendance to listen to the presentation on the Fusion Project by Cllr King.

105/21 Presentation on Fusion Energy –

Cllr King explained that Gloucestershire has been put on the shortlist for candidate of site status for the STEP project. This is a government funded project to create energy by nuclear fusion. If Gloucestershire is the chosen site, it will result in a lot of high paid employment for many years to come.

Fusion energy will create clean energy in a safe carbon free way. There are no safety issues connected to the process and the radiation produced is short lived unlike nuclear fission which creates radiation that lasts thousands of years and is extremely dangerous and dirty. Fusion has limitless resources as it is sourced in water. This is a major project that will hopefully provide energy for the future. Cllr King said the estimate for production is approx. 40 years ahead. Too far in the future to solve the immediate global warming problem, but it will be an energy source for our children.

Countries all over the world are trying to be ahead in Fusion Technology, but the UK has the chance to be a world leader.

106/21 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Morgan – CDC

107/21 CODE OF CONDUCT

166.1.18 Declaration of Interest in Items on the Agenda

None

166.2.18 Updates to Members Register of Interests

Cllr Slater requested the Clerk send him a change of interest form.

108/21 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 21st July 2021.

The minutes of the meeting held 21st July 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

109/21 COMMUNITY ISSUES AND PROJECTS

Community Issues

- i. Memorial Hall - Cllr Bendall reported that bookings have now reopened and that he has taken a booking for a party. He has also been approached by the Film Club. They are hoping to restart in September, but first need to access a license. This is expensive and the organisers are in talks with other Parishes to share the cost.

It was agreed to put the prices for hiring on the website and on the notice boards.

The Clerk said she had not received a response from the Charity Commission, so had also written to them outlining the issues and requesting a change to the Governing Document.

- ii. Playing Fields Update The zip wire is now installed and being used. Cllr King said he had received ideas from the consultation and the Playing Fields Committee will meet to discuss what to options were affordable.

They have received a quote for a slide that is being considered.

The Clerk will check the insurance policy and zip wire if necessary.

- iii. Environment Agency, Low Water Flow- The environment agency has confirmed that the geological survey showed the water extraction by the Golf Club is not responsible for the low flow of the stream. They are continuing to investigate the source of the problem.

110/21 TRAFFIC & HIGHWAYS

The Highways Report was noted.

Cllr Slater expressed concern for the lack of drain clearance vehicles. There are only two in the county. Not adequate for the amount of work needed to keep the county drains clear.

The Clerk was asked to report the footpath from Playing fields to The Sunground. It is damaged causing a trip hazard.

The new residents at Sandford House have confirmed that they are having a tree survey carried out in order to progress the necessary work.

Cllr Mulligan said he has instructed Quercus Trees and Piers Hansen to inspect and quote for the Ash trees around the Playing Field.

Bushes near the Bell Inn need cutting back. Cllr Slater will add it to the Highways Report.

111/21 POLICE REPORT

The Police report was unavailable.

112/21 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT- Cllr Hirst distributed his report(attached) prior to the meeting and invited questions. Cllr Hirst stated that Council is on summer break and the majority of council work this month was Covid related. There is a new dedicated team of Covid Response Officers to support local test and trace

GCC have opened their 2 million Build Back Better Fund, open to all parishes.

112/21 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Morgan was unavailable for this meeting.

113/21 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 the Parish finances were healthy, running at approx. £30K. £13k allocated to running costs and £17.5k to projects and community. £500 has been received from Tetbury Lions towards the playground project. It was agreed that the Council could afford to install a notice board in the playing field. Cllr Hamilton requested that the Parish Council donate toward children's activities at the Church Fete. It was agreed to donate £100.

114/21 PLANNING AND TREE WORKS

New Planning Applications

21/0320/Comply – Land at The Sunground – Variations of Conditions. – The PC are concerned the plans encroach onto land not owned by the Housing Association. A meeting will be requested to establish clarification of ownership.

115/21 PLANNING DECISION NOTICES & CORRESPONDENCE

Decisions

21/02014/Comply – Herons Mead - Compliance of conditions 3,4 & 5. – Approved

The Council received an email from Quenington Parish Council requesting that all parishes that supported their letter of protest to CDC regarding the new planning process, write to CDC requesting that they respond to the original complaint. CDC have failed to engage in discussion regarding this complaint to the point of ignoring all correspondence received from Parishes.

It was agreed that the Clerk write a letter of complaint to CDC asking them to respond in a democratic way to the letter signed by and sent on behalf of many parishes in the district.

116/21 ANY OTHER NEW APPLICATIONS SINCE PUBLICATION OF THIS AGENDA

21/03044/FUL – 18 Star Lane – Extension of existing garage and ancillary accommodation – No objections.

21/03047/TCONR – Bannut Tree, New Inn Lane – Work to Trees - Support

117/21 CORRESPONDENCE

Caring FOR Cotswold Grant

GRCC Newsbites

NALC Events

CDC Covid – Business matters

ARC thermal heating projects

NALC Chief Exec Bulletin

GCC Covid Update

Eco Green Communities Newsletter

118/21 COUNILLORS

- i. Cllr Hamilton said that the fete will proceed on 12 September. The Parish Council agreed to hold a table for the residents to discuss any issues and ask the council questions. The Councillors will take turns to man the stand.

119/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 15 September 2021 at 7.30pm In the Memorial Hall

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

