

WATTISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
URC CHAPEL, CHAPEL ROAD, WATTISFIELD
MONDAY 21 MARCH 2022
7.30 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor Geoff Wade (Chairman) (GW)
Councillor Sarah Goodchild (SG)
Councillor Michael Eiflain (ME)
Councillor Ian Dobson (ID)
Councillor Ann Telford (AT) from 22/037

IN ATTENDANCE:

Christopher Garman (Parish Clerk) (CG)

One member of the public present.

GW welcomed all to the meeting.

22/030 PUBLIC FORUM

There was discussion about the planning application in respect of The Cutting Cottage and The Stables, Bobby Hill, Wattisfield. CG confirmed that councillors will need to consider the application as it presented and will need to ignore any proposed changes.

22/031 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Reports from both County Councillor Jessica Fleming and District Councillor Richard Meyer had been previously circulated and were noted.

22/032 APOLOGIES

Councillor Richard Meyer (RM) and Councillor Cynthia Penn (CP) and the reasons were accepted. Also, County Councillor Jessica Fleming (JF) had offered her apologies.

22/033 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

SG declared an interest in respect of agenda item 12 (a).

22/034 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None.

22/035 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 21 February 2022 had been previously circulated.

It was resolved that these were an accurate record of the meeting.

22/036 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

22/037 VACANCY FOR PARISH COUNCILLOR

There was one application for the one vacancy and this was considered.

It was resolved to co-opt Ann Telford to the Parish Council.

22/038 VILLAGE HALL

A paper had been previously circulated in respect of the fee quotes for the proposed survey reports of the village hall. The various options were considered. CG was asked to seek a standalone drains survey.

It was resolved to instruct Whitworths to proceed with the structural survey report at a cost of £520.00 (excluding VAT), to instruct AC Environmental Services to proceed with the asbestos report at a cost of £595.00 (excluding VAT) and to instruct S P Lunn Electrical Ltd to proceed with a survey of the electrics at a cost of £300.00 (excluding VAT). It was also resolved to obtain a drains survey and a budget of £500 was allocated for this purpose.

22/039 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The following payments were considered for approval:

£22.80 to SALC - payroll

£994.24 to C Garman – Clerk's salary 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022

£248.60 to HMRC – PAYE/NI

It was resolved to approve these payments.

22/040 HIGHWAYS, TREES, CEMETERY AND CHURCHYARD

- a) It was reported that here had been responses to the request for a keeper of the church clock and these were being taken forward.
- b) The recent data from the speed indicative device was reviewed. It was noted that the two posts had not yet been replaced so for the time being the SID will be situated on the A143.
- c) The situation with overgrown hedges was considered and that no action was needed at the moment.
- d) A paper in respect of the costs and funding of the street lighting improvements had previously been circulated. It was noted that the figures were provisional and there were some known unknowns.

It was resolved to proceed with the upgrading of all the street lighting and to now seek a firm project plan and costings from SCC with a view to funding this with the £3,000 allocated in the 2022/2023 budget and a loan from the PWLB.

- e) It was reported that SCC had now done work to hopefully avoid the regular flooding by Limes Equestrian in Walsham Road, Wattisfield.
- f) It was reported that a tree was partly blocking Millers Way, Wattisfield. It was acknowledged that this was not a Parish Council responsibility but there would be investigations to try and resolve the issue.

22/041 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Planning application DC/22/00889 in respect of The Cutting Cottage and The Stables, Bobby Hill, Wattisfield, IP22 1NL was considered.

It was resolved to advise MSDC that there was no objection.

- b) Planning application DC/22/01083 in respect of Park Farm, The Street, Wattisfield, Suffolk IP22 1NT was considered.

It was resolved to advise MSDC that there was no objection.

22/042 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence had been previously circulated and noted. The email in respect of the right of way from Honeypot Lane to Pottery Hill, Wattisfield was reviewed and it was considered this was a matter for SCC Rights of Way and DEFRA.

22/043 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

- a) There were concerns again about the lack of response in respect of the poor state of the footpath on the A143 by Hinderclay Road, Wattisfield and CG was asked to report this directly to the Highways Enforcement Officer.
- b) Thanks were expressed to all those that took part in the annual village litter pick on Sunday 20 March 2022.
- c) It was noted that there appears to be a vehicle that is untaxed and with no MOT parked in the close part of Chapel Road, Wattisfield. CG was asked to report this to MSDC.

22/044 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 19 April 2022 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

Christopher Garman
Parish Clerk
23 March 2022