

SANDLEHEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of AGM of Sandleheath Parish Council held on Thursday 23rd May 2013 at St.Aldhelm's commencing at 7-30pm

Present: Chairman - Mr S.Daykin
Vice-Chairman - Mr R.Fenn
Councillors - Mr D.Dean, Mr B.Martin, Mr J.P.Stockton and
Mr D.Wright
Clerk to the Council - Mr B.Shemmings

Also in attendance was district councillor Ms Roxy Bellows ,parish councillor Graeme Maynard plus residents as detailed in the attendance book.

- 13.35 Apologies for absence
Received from county councillor Mr E.Heron & district councillor Ms Ann Sevier
- 13.36 Any declarations of interest by any councillor on any agenda item
There were no declarations of interest registered.
- 13.37 To elect a Chairman for the forthcoming year
It was proposed & seconded that Cllr Daykin be elected as Chairman for the forthcoming year. There were no further nominations & Cllr Daykin was elected unopposed
- 13.38 To elect a Vice-Chairman for the forth coming year
It was proposed & seconded that Cllr Fenn be elected as Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year. There were no further nominations & Cllr Fenn was elected unopposed.
- 13.39 To consider anendments to Standing Orders
No amendements were tabled to existing Standing Orders
- 13.40 To confirm responsibilities of Parish Councillors
It was agreed that parish councillors continue with their existing duties as under:
Planning - Cllrs Daykin, Dean & Martin
Highways/Transport - Cllr Fenn
The Common/Footpaths/Environment - Cllr Stockton
Police Liaison - Cllr Stockton
Web-site - Cllr Wright
Local business liaison - Cllr Maynard
Village Plan/Community PR - Cllr Maynard
- 13.41 Any matters arising from the Annual Parish Assembly
There were no matters arising from the Annual Parish Assembly
- 14.42 Minutes of Previous Parish Council Meeting (21st March 13)
These were read &, after the addition of Cllr Wright's name to the list of those attending, were signed as a correct record.
- 14.43 Matters Arising

- a) Community Speedwatch
Cllr Stockton said that the team had recently sited their equipment on traffic entering the village from the Damerham direction.. He said that there was a tendency to speed up once on the flat after climbing the hill from Damerham & several vehicles had been caught by the equipment.
Appropriate letters would be sent out to those drivers who had been caught.
Cllr Stockton said that there were a further 4 volunteers to man the equipment arising from the recent Annual Parish Assembly.

- b) Highways
Cllr Fenn said that now that the 2013 budgets were in place it was probable that work which had been put off because of lack of funding would be progressed. The Clerk said that the work at Scats Lane & Main Rd would be implemented sometime during the summer.

- b) Village Design Statement
The Clerk said he would contact the District Council about this.

- d) St.Aldhelm's
Following a report from the Clerk relating to the response from the Church Management it was agreed to respond to them & state that the Parish Council would be willing to enter into discussions based on the information we have. We would want to know if the playing field for all interested applicants is level. The Council are prepared to negotiate once the Quinquennial inspection has been completed but would stress that they think that the 5 year lease period is not realistic.

- e) The Common
It was confirmed that the cutting regime was now under way quite satisfactorily. The Clerk said that the Common would be cut during the week of the 17th June, just prior to the village fete.

- f) Parish Lengthsman
The Clerk said that due to his bout of sciatica since the last meeting it had not been possible for him to go to B & Q to purchase the metal post holders. He said he would take Cllr Fenn with him.

- g) Former MoD land
Cllr Stockton said that the For Sale sign had now been taken down from the site. What this meant we do not know. The Clerk had written to the estates surveyor of QineteQ asking if the land had been sold. No reply had been received.

- h) Letter to Rural Housing Enabler
The Clerk explained that he had written to the Rural Housing Enabler (Catherine Kirkham) explaining to her that on 2 previous occasions there had been housing surveys carried out & the village had made it clear that they would not oppose a small plot of affordable houses (maximum 6)
But there was a problem with the availability of land. A further email from Catherine Kirkham explained that she had visited Sandleheath last week & she had sent her initial findings to the District Council (Planning). She said that she will let the parish council know the response of Planning
The parish council said that they were surprised at Catherine Kirkham not letting the council (through the Clerk) know she was visiting the village. They felt that Catherine should meet with the parish council at a future meeting to explain her findings following her visit to the village.

- i) GIS Partnership
Following a report from the Clerk after his discussion with Sharon Elson, of

NFDC, it was agreed that Sandleheath Parish Council should withdraw from the current GIS Partnership because of the increasing costs.

14.44 Planning

There were no planning matters to be discussed

14.45 Finance

a) Current situation

Current account (inclusive of the new precept) £5521.19, Deposit account £1307.02 Treasurer rust account £449.31

b) To approve & sign the Audit Commissions Annual Return for the year to 31 Mar 13

The Audit Commission Annual Return for the year to 31 Mar 13 was approved & signed

c) Other financial matters (inc. any outstanding invoices)

The following invoices were approved & appropriate cheques drawn:

From the Clerk (B.Shemmings) an invoice to cover the first quarter's fee	£439.59
From HALC annual affiliation fee	£220.00
From LCR (NALC) annual subscription for LCR quarterly magazine	£ 16.00
From Came & Co renewal of insurance	£306.44

14.46 Developers' Contributions - Open Space Funds

It was confirmed that NFDC currently held the sum of £30,441 for Sandleheath PC of which £7114 needs to be spent by June 2014. The letter from NFDC listed several ideas for consideration including resurfacing woodland walks, improved church grounds for wider community use etc. The parish council felt that the Marl Lane path could be improved & Bishops Lane path requires further work again. Following a suggestion from Cllr Bellows it was agreed to contact the Fordingbridge Town Clerk to ascertain the name of their council representative regarding the possibility of a cycleway from Sandleheath to Fordingbridge schools. It was also agreed that Neil Williamson, of NFDC, be invited to meet with the parish council.

14.47 Correspondence

The Clerk said that he had circulated matters of correspondence to councillors via the internet.

14.48 Any other business

a) Travellers

It was confirmed that the NFDC had the traveller situation in hand, the travellers having bought the field off Marl Lane. So far no further travellers had entered the field. It is thought that a planning application has been submitted by the travellers to NFDC to allow them a more permanent site.

b) Village Fete on the 22nd June

It was agreed that the Parish Council should have a table at the Fete. The speedwatch team would be present and councillors could be present to answer any questions from parishioners.

14.49 Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council is on Thurs 27th June at 7-30pm in St.Aldhelm's

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8-25pm

The meeting then went into closed session to discuss the retirement of the Clerk & agree next steps

The Clerk confirmed that he would be leaving at the 12th September meeting of the council.

The council agreed that the closing date for applications would be the 6th June, the three people who have shown an interest to be informed accordingly.

It was agreed that the Clerks at Damerham, Rockbourne , Martin, Godshill & Woodgreen be informed by email that the council would seriously consider a sharing role eg the clerk at Rockbourne could take on the Sandleheath job as well as doing his own job for Rockbourne for example.

The meeting agreed that the successful candidate would commence his/her duties probably in July and would work in tandem with the existing Clerk until Brian Shemmings finished on the 12th September.

All interviews would be held in closed session of the Council.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8-55pm