

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on February 18th 2016 in the Cosby Community Church Rooms, Croft Road, Cosby.

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Present:

Mrs. J. Chapman. Chairman.
Mrs. E. Hutton, Mrs. D. Cooper.
Ms. C. Pharoah.
Mr. M. Howkins, Mr. I. Mullis.
Mr. L. Phillimore, Mr. A. Tanner.
Mr. P. Suffield.

Apologies:

Mr. S. Pepper, Mr. P. Cave, Mrs. N. Ashby.
Mr. D. Jennings. County Councillor.

Also Present:

Mrs. E. Wakelam.

Declarations of Interest:

Mr. Tanner and Mr. Phillimore made their usual Declarations of Interest with regard to the Planning applications that had been received.

In addition, the following members had Declarations of Interest recorded with regard to the letters of application that had been received for awards from the Recreation Ground Charity monies. Mr. Howkins, Mrs. Cooper, Mr. Tanner, Mrs Hutton, Mr. Suffield,. Mr. Mullis and Mrs Chapman. These were regarded as personal but not prejudicial in all cases.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

It was proposed by Mr. Mullis and seconded by Mrs Hutton that the Minutes of the previous meeting having been circulated be signed as a true and accurate record of that meeting with an amendment being made on the request of Ms. Pharoah that the words “would need to take place” replacing the words “had already taken place” in the final paragraph relating to the retirement of the Clerk.

This was agreed unanimously.

Matters Arising:

The Clerk outlined several matters arising from the previous minutes.

The training for the use of the defibrillator had taken place said the Clerk and had been a very useful exercise shared with the Golf Club staff.

Thanks were passed on to Mr. West said the Clerk for his extremely informative expertise.

The details of the Playground report had been circulated to members of the Playground Working Group, said the Clerk, and he had also requested a quote from Wicksteed Leisure for the remedial works required.

The Clerk said that he would also be seeking an alternative quote.

The Clerk said that he had received details from the District Council regarding the payment of the New Homes Bonus, which said the Clerk had in fact been made in the past but as part of the annual precept figure that was paid to the Council, and not as a separate payment.

The Clerk said that he had been able to make contact with the manager of the new Co-op in Main Street and had requested County Councillor Mr. Jennings to attempt to convene another site meeting regarding the parking issues and the siting of the bus stop outside the store.

On the subject of his impending retirement, said the Clerk, he had readily agreed to the request made by the Chairman that he should remain in post until the end of October 2016 and not just to the date of the meeting.

Replies Received.

The Clerk reported that the following replies had been received.

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| a) Blaby District Council: | Ref: New Homes Bonus payments. |
| b) Totally Trees. | Ref: Cemetery Tree Works. |
| c) Mr. H. Chapman. | Ref: Cosby Allotment Society. |
| d) David Graham Cosby Utd. | Ref: Annual Pitch Rents. |
| e) Broxap. | Ref: Litter Bin Order. |
| f) Blaby D.C. | Ref: Precept Figures 2016/2017 |
| g) Blaby D.C. | Ref: Registering Assets of Community Value. |
| h) James Whailing. | Ref: Site Meeting, Bus Stop Main Street. |
| i) The Art Department. | Ref: Quotation for a lectern at the Pinfold. |

The Clerk reported that the tree works in the Cemetery had already been completed and that the site meeting regarding the bus stop in Main Street had been fixed for Tuesday February 23rd at 10am.

There were still complications said the Clerk, regarding the registering of the Allotments as an Asset of Community value, but that he would continue to liaise with Mr. Chapman, the Secretary of the Allotment Society on this issue.

Correspondence.

The Clerk reported that the following items of correspondence had been received.

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| a) Debbie Barber. | Ref: Disused Railway Line. |
| b) Alan Barber. | Ref: Cemetery Attendant. Retirement. |
| c) Mr. Starsmore. | Ref: Cosby House. |
| d) L.& R. A. L.C. | Ref: Blaby Branch Meeting details. |
| e) Blaby D.C. | Ref: Register of Electors. Update. |
| f) Blackrock. | Ref: Charinco Investments Annual Report. |
| g) Lloyds Bank. | Ref: Account Balances. |
| h) Lloyds Bank. | Ref: Changes to the Business Account. |
| i) Malcolm Lane & Sons. | Ref: Order Confirmation. Benches. |
| j) Burnt Oak Developments. | Ref: Landscape & Maintenance works. |
| k) The Courier. | Ref: Magazine. |

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| l) Fields In Trust. | Ref: Membership Renewal. |
| m) Mr. Nick Henson. | Ref: Cemetery Enquiry. |
| n) Catherine Mumby (Bilfinger) | Ref: Jelson Homes Land Development |
| o) Mr. Mullis. | Ref: Defibrillator Training & telephone issues. |
| p) Blaby D.C. | Ref: Open Space Audit Report. |
| q) SLCC. | Ref: Legal Status changes. |
| r) Blaby D.C. | Ref: Section 106 Scrutiny review. |
| s) Blaby D.C. | Ref; Briefing Note Open Spaces. |
| t) Mrs. N. Smith. | Ref: Pathways around the Park. |

It was agreed that the Clerk should write back to the Manager of the Broughton Astley Parish Council to express an interest to be kept informed about the possibility of extending the disused railway line through from Broughton.

Mr. Howkins offered himself as the contact person for this matter.

Mr. Suffield said that he had had a previous involvement in the possible use of the disused railway line.

Mrs. Chapman and Mr. Howkins said that they would attend the Blaby Branch meeting of the L. & R. A, L.C.

Mr. Tanner and Mr. Phillimore arrived at this point at 8.05 pm.

The Clerk said that he had written to Mr. Barber to thank him for his work as the Cemetery Maintenance Officer since 2009

Report from the Wages & Salaries Working Group:

Report of the Wages and Salaries Working Group of Cosby Parish Council which met on Friday 12th February 2016

The working group recommends:

Clerk to the Parish Council

The Clerk's salary range is LC2 (SCP30-34).

Taking account of the NJC agreement for pay scales and awards for 2014-2016, the hourly rate to be set at £14.94 from April 2016 which represents a progression from SCP32 to SCP33. Any further agreements with NJC which may be made to be incorporated after that date.

Street Orderlies

In line with the Local Government pay awards, the salary to be increased by 1% to £8.41 per hour from April 1st 2016. (Currently £8.33)

Cemetery Maintenance Operative

In line with Local Government pay awards, the salary to be increased by 1% to £9.96 per hour from April 1st 2016. (Currently £9.86)

**Cheryl Pharoah
Jean Chapman
Michael Howkins
Les Phillimore**

It was proposed by Mr. Mullis, seconded by Mr. Suffield that the recommendations of the Wages and Salaries Working Group be accepted.
This was agreed unanimously.

Report from the Playground Working Group:

The committee met on Saturday 6th February at the children's playground to discuss the latest safety inspection report from Reids Playground Maintenance Ltd.

The Clerk has sent R.P.M.Ltd's list of recommendations of high risk, category 1 items, to Wicksteed Leisure, for a quotation from them to put right these items, as a matter of urgency. The majority of the playground equipment in place has been purchased and a lot has been installed by Wicksteed themselves. The Clerk is to obtain one more comparable quote, like for like repairs, from another playground maintenance company.

There are still concerns about the non satisfactory closing mechanisms on 2 of the entrance gates to the playground, these are longstanding and not considered to be high risk, but will need to be attended to at some stage.

The football kicking area is still a problem, as the grass is all churned up and muddy, near to the new recently laid area of tarmac, which is insufficient in size for its purpose. The recent heavy rains have not helped, hopefully the condition of the grass will improve over the year. The long term solution to this seems to be to extend the tarmac yet again!, but where do you stop with this.

Nicola Ashby

Jean Chapman

Paul Suffield

It was proposed by Ms. Pharoah, seconded by Mrs. Hutton that the report from the Playground Working Group be accepted and that the Working Group will look in the future to the possibility of extending the tarmac area in front of the goal post equipment.
This was agreed unanimously.

The Garner Cup.

The Clerk said that he had received two suggestions for the possible recipients of the Garner Cup.

Discussion took place on this matter, at the end of which it was agreed to defer a decision on who should receive the Garner Cup and whether indeed it should continue to be awarded, until a future meeting.

Cosby Recreation Ground Charity Awards.

The Clerk reported that the following requests had been received and that the sum of £ 995 would be available for distribution.

Lisa Carter	F.O.C.S. Friends of Cosby School.
Prof. A. Strang	Cosby Heritage Society.
Mrs. M. Dodd.	Cosby Breakaways.
Mr. N. Meredith.	Cosby Cricket Club.
Mrs. R. Jacob.	COPWA.
Gary Reeves.	Cosby Utd F.C.
Mrs. J.M. Franklin.	St. Michael & All Angels Church.
Mr. B. R. Sampson.	Cosby Methodist Church.
Mrs. Tracey Withers.	Cosby Primary School.
Pat Corby.	Cosby Youth & Junior F.C.
Mr. H. Chapman.	Cosby Allotment Society.

Figures were suggested by the Clerk as to the amounts that might be awarded to each request. It was suggested that there should be no award made to the Cosby Primary School, and that the suggestion made by the Clerk that a donation be made to the Cosby Heritage Society from Council funds rather than Recreation Ground Charity monies was agreed.

Ms. Pharoah proposed, Mrs. Cooper seconded that the figures put forward by the Clerk be agreed.

This was carried with Mr. Howkins abstaining.

Details of the awards are noted in the Recreation Ground Charity file and will be reported on at the Annual Parish Meeting in March.

Memorials.

The Clerk reported that the following memorial application had been received.

Fishers (Leicester) Ltd for a memorial to the late Mr. & Mrs. McNulty.

It was proposed by Mr. Howkins, seconded by Mr. Mullis that this be accepted. This was agreed unanimously.

Planning Applications.

The Clerk reported that the following Planning applications had been received.

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| a) Land to the rear of 3-5 Narborough Road. | Amendment: Addition of two parking Spaces for the use of 3, Narborough Road. |
| b) 67, Main Street. Cosby. | Amendment: Relocate staircase internally and Alterations to elevations and rear extension. |

There were no observations made on either of these two applications.

Planning Approvals:

The Clerk reported that the following Planning approval had been received.

Mr & Mrs. J. & A Magnor. 7, Starmer Close. Retention of 1.8m palisade metal fence.

Authorisation of the Accounts:

The Clerk reported that the following accounts had all been paid.

Street Orderly (1) January. + Sundries. £ 16.99	£ 377.95
Street Orderly (2) January.	£ 212.98
Cemetery Work. January.	£ 410.12
Clerk's Salary. January. £ 1,023.93 + £ 12.43 Phone. + £ 10.04 Postage + £ 26.66 Office.	£ 1,073.06
HMRC. PAYE & NI Costs.	£ 438.05
Mr. Attfield. Railway Rental.	£ 100.00
Mrs. J. Chapman. Chairman's Allowance.	£ 100.00
Mr. D. Forty. Cemetery Work 3hrs @ £8.33p	£ 24.99
Robert Acton Products Ltd. Litter Collection materials.	£ 180.00
ADT Fire & Security PLC. CCTV Maintenance.	£ 162.00
Totally Trees Ltd. Christmas Lights.	£ 1,530.00
Totally Trees Ltd. Village Walk Tree Works.	£ 1,620.00
Mr. D. Forty. Cemetery Work 6 hrs @ £8.33p	£ 49.98
Street Orderly (1) February.	£ 360.96
Street Orderly (2) February.	£ 213.18
Cemetery Work February.	£ 410.12
Clerk's Salary February. £ 1,024.13 + £ 12.43 Phone. + £ 15.30 Postage + £ 25.00 Engraving. + £ 87.48 Office Supplies + £ 44.68 Office Supplies.	£ 1,209.02
Mr. D. Forty. Cemetery Work 3 hrs @ £ 8.33p	£ 24.98

It was proposed by Mrs. Hutton, seconded by Mr. Phillimore that the foregoing accounts be adopted.

This was agreed unanimously.

Other Business:

Mrs. Hutton asked whether the Clerk had received any reply to his letters to the owners of properties on Countesthorpe Road regarding the state of the overhanging vegetation along the jitty way.

The Clerk replied that he had received no response to his letters and would therefore ask Mr. Forty to deal with this problem.

Mrs. Hutton asked whether the Clerk had received any notification of possible planning applications being submitted for development in the vicinity of Rose Close, as she said, a lot of trees had been removed in this area.

The Clerk replied he had no knowledge of any plans being submitted.

Mr. Howkins said that he understood that small businesses were being required to enrol for pension payments to employees and asked if the Council had already enrolled. The Clerk said that the initial paperwork was already in hand.

Mr. Howkins mentioned the state of the roadway at Pretty Corner stating that there was a gap between the tarmac surface and the wall at that location. This had already been reported to the County Council said the Clerk, but that he would bring this to the attention of Highways yet again.

Mr. Mullis asked what the large fencing was for around the former Coates buildings in Main Street.

The Clerk said that he had spoken with the District Council and the new owners of these buildings on this matter and had been told that a pre-planning meeting was due to take place soon for a change of use for these buildings.

Mr. Mullis said that his wife had written to the County Council on the subject of the state of the white lining in the Nook and had been told that somebody would be sent out soon to look at this situation.

This was the same, said the Clerk, as he had been told.

Mr. Mullis reported that there was a blocked drain on the Countesthorpe Road. Near to Mrs Freer's property.

This would be reported, said the Clerk.

Mr. Phillimore said that if this was brought to the attention of the Highways Forum then they would have to respond.

Mr. Mullis said that he understood that March 3rd/4th and 5th had been set aside as days when an initiative "Clean for the Queen" was due to take place. He said that he had seen nothing about this locally.

Mr. Mullis asked whether the Council had placed an advert for the Clerk's position anywhere.

Mrs. Chapman replied that nothing had been advertised as yet.

Ms. Pharoah stated that the Chairman had made the suggestion that the Wages & Salaries Working Group should produce everything that was required to start the process of finding a new Clerk and that an initial meeting had already taken place, and that the council would naturally be kept informed of progress in this regard.

Ms. Pharoah mentioned the recent Cemetery report and asked whether anything had been done about the blue pipe that was to be seen at the tap and at the cemetery building.

The Clerk said that he would find out whether this had ever been connected.

Ms. Pharoah mentioned the dangerous nature of the cobble stones in the Nook, which would be reported to the County Council said the Clerk.

Ms. Pharoah mentioned the state of the white railings, another subject replied the Clerk which had been reported to Highways but to date nothing had been done about repairing the broken ones.

Ms. Pharoah said that she had seen a parked car on the land next to the Pinfold and wondered whether this had been abandoned.

Mrs. Chapman said that part of the brook near to the bus stop on Chapel lane was in need of being cleaned out.

Mrs. Chapman wondered whether members of the Council wished to return to having a cup of tea during the meeting.

It was generally agreed that this would be a nice idea.

Mrs. Wakelam said that she had nothing upon which she wished to make an observation.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9pm.

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Mrs. J. Chapman.
Chairman.