

The joint PARISH COUNCIL of COVENHAM ST. BARTHOLOMEW & COVENHAM ST. MARY

Page 1 of 3

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 3rd October, 2019 in the Parish Rooms at Covenham St. Bartholomew at 7:00 pm.

Present: Cllrs. E Cooling; D. Wiltshire, A. Wiltshire and J. Firth.

Also Present: Cllr E Mossop (DC)

Apologies: Cllr T. Bridges (LCC)

Also present: 2 members of public

Clerk: P Plumridge

85.19 - Election of Chairperson

Cllr D. Wiltshire took the Chair as he was interim Chairperson and asked for nominations for Chairperson for the foreseeable future.

Cllr D Wiltshire proposed Cllr Cooling, Cllr Firth seconded the proposal, All in favour.

Cllr Cooling accepted.

86.19 Chairpersons Remarks

Cllr Cooling commented that she was happy to be Chair, going forward.

Cllr Cooling welcomed the new temporary Clerk who has stepped in to help.

87.19 Apologies for absence

Cllr Bridges has sent his apologies. Cllr D Wiltshire proposed that we accept his apologies, Cllr A Wiltshire seconded the proposal. All in favour.

88.19 Approval of previous minutes

The minutes from 31st July were proposed for approval by Cllr D. Wiltshire, this was seconded by Cllr Firth. All in favour. Minutes signed.

89.19 Declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest on any Agenda item in accordance with Localism Act and the Council's Code of Conduct and Standing Orders.

None

90.19 Open Forum

- An update was given on the COVCOM project and it was reported that crowd funding had been launched. To date this had reached 20% of the total required. It was envisaged to run this for 6 weeks. A consultation evening is being planned to try and get more support from the village and the vote will be allocated by one vote per share holder, regardless of amount invested.
- Cold Harbour Lane was discussed and it was stated that the resident was unhappy with the amount of time and number of excuses being given for it not being brought to a conclusion. Cllr D. Wiltshire reported that he had logged it on 'Fix my Street' and noticed that the second time he tried it did not give him a log in number, which he hoped indicated that it was already in the system. He would look into it again.

- Resident also questioned classification of village as medium sized, even though the Plough has been shut for a number of years. Cllr Cooling said she would speak more about this later in the meeting, which would be 'opened' again should the member of public wish to speak.

91.19 Report from Cllr Mossop, (ELDC)

Cllr. Mossop was concerned with the issues with 'Fix my Street' and reported that he has recently met with an officer from Eastern Division regarding roads and the road they were looking at was categorised priority 7 which means it is inspected every 3 years, he stated that it would be interesting to find out what priority Cold Harbour Junction is. The Parish Council need to follow up and keep reporting it and he would also follow it up. Cllr Firth also commented that there was no 'Stop' or 'Give Way' road sign which made it very hazardous, if you didn't know the area, when the white lines were flooded.

With regard to drainage, Cllr Mossop has met with a drainage engineer to look at a residents garden (not house) that was affected by the June flooding. This drain, Poulton Drain, is the responsibility of the Environment Agency and has capacity to hold more water if kept clear, although it is quite wiggly and needs to be regularly monitored and the gully's maintained by Highways. The other large drain in the village is kept clear by Lindsey Marsh Drainage Board.

There will be a full council meeting next week matters to be discussed included moving the Council HQ to a hub at Horncastle potentially sharing hub with police, Boston College and doctors surgery. This has been justified by the inability to recruit to Manby and the prospect that Horncastle would be better, however Cllr Mossop questioned this as there is a good gene pool in Grimsby. He was also curious to find out if other colleges had been approached other than Boston. The move will be decided, one way or the other, in principle, next week.

The commercial arm of the District Council, which owns a caravan park, is also looking to expand with an economic development company with a Board of Directors. Cllr Mossop feels the principle of this is a good idea.

92.19 Village Classification

Cllr Cooling met with Chris Panton in February regarding the classification of the village. In the 2018 Local Plan it is classed as a medium village scoring 24 points. Points are awarded for 2 pubs, hall, 2 churches, sports facility (reservoir), open cemetery and large employer (11 people). A medium village has development on frontage, infil and within existing boundary (not linear). A small village (up to 23 points) is similar criteria. It was questioned whether the Plough was still legitimately a pub, it is. Discussion took place regarding splitting into 2 hamlets but Cllr Mossop felt this was questionable as there was no definite boundary between the two villages.

(1 member of public left 8:10 pm)

93.19 Cheques

Approve payment to gardener; proposed by Cllr D. Wiltshire, seconded Cllr Firth. All in favour.

Approve payment to electrician, which was less than quote; proposed by Cllr D. Wiltshire, seconded by Cllr A Wiltshire, All in favour.

Approve payment to cleaner, proposed Cllr D. Wiltshire, seconded Cllr A Wiltshire, All in favour.

94.19 Correspondence

Provision booking of hall for Police Commissioner election next year.

95.19 Planning

None

96.19 Financial Report

Report agreed and signed, no bank statement.

Mandate needs to be sorted. Cllr Cooling will obtain forms.

Signatories be changed on accounts. Proposed by Cllr D Wiltshire, seconded by Cllr A Wiltshire, All in favour.

Cllr A Wiltshire to move money from current account to savings account and to claim back VAT. All agreed to this.

97.19 Approve De-Fib quote

Two quotes, both for the same amount of £135 have been received and it was discussed. Cllr D Wiltshire proposed that the quote from the same electrician who did the previous work, be accepted, Cllr Firth seconded, All in favour.

Cllr D Wiltshire to get the box and liaise with electrician. It should be in place before next meeting.

98.19 Approve Smart Meter and Tariff

The Clerk was asked to arrange for a Smart meter and change the tariff.

99.19 Christmas Tree

Cllr D Wiltshire proposed a Christmas tree be purchased up to £60, seconded by Cllr Firth, All in favour.

100.19 Extraordinary Items

None

101.19 Next Agenda

Discuss the Hire Agreement for the Hall.

102.19 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Thursday 5th December, 2019 at 7:00 pm

No further business, meeting closed at 8:20 pm

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5th December, 2019