

DRAFT MINUTES OF DRIFFIELD AND HARNHILL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING IN THE MARKET CANTEEN 7:00 PM TUESDAY 10th MARCH 2015

Present:	Chair	Cllr A. Whitaker
	Vice Chair	Cllr A. Norris
		Cllr B. J. Ford (John Ford)
		Cllr N. White
		Cllr Mrs A Lockhart
	GCC Councillor	Shaun Parsons (Briefly - to make his report)
	CDC Councillor	David Fowles

Two parish residents attended.

APOLOGIES

None

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 13th 2015

Cllrs confirmed the contents of the Draft Minutes as correct summation of proceedings.

RESOLUTION It was proposed by Cllr Whitaker, seconded by Cllr White that: the draft is precise account of the Parish Council Meeting of January 13th 2015.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Action: Cllr Whitaker signed the minutes, Clerk to file.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Cllr John Ford reminded the meeting that nothing had been done about road markings at the entrance/exit of the Agricultural Centre.

The Clerk informed the Meeting of Glos Highways' reply, which put the onus on Wiltshire.

GCC Cllr Parsons and CDC Cllr Fowles said they would make stringent enquiry as to the validity of that statement.

REPORTS

CLERK'S REPORT

There have been no supplementary duties or functions to attend since the Parish Council meeting of January 13th. It has been relatively quiet on the planning front, other than notice of CDC's decision to review their non-acceptance of the application submitted by the owners of Watershard. Space on the board at Driffield Church was over-occupied by ecclesiastical material relating to Easter services (5xA4 notices). In respect of recent increased liability for PC's to observe codes of practice regarding publication of information, and the extra capacity the forthcoming elections will necessitate, I ask if any member is willing to request the parties concerned to acknowledge the statutory, prior function the boards are there to fulfil. If that is not successful, I shall have to seriously consider getting locks fitted on the boards' doors.

A signed scan and a Microsoft Word copy of the Summons/Agenda for this PC Meeting were emailed on the evening of Wednesday March 4th to all councillors. A signed hard copy of the Summons/Agenda was put on display on both parishes' notice boards on the morning of Thursday March 5th in order to give obligatory notice of PC Meetings to the public. A copy of the agenda was also sent to the email list and GCC and CDC councillors.

The most recent bank statement for this Parish Council's sole account, issued January 27th, shows funds at £2,558.51 in credit, with receipts (£110 VAT refund) issued cheques, standing order and electronic payments accounted for, apart from the cheque number 182, to amount £284, payable to Ampney Crucis Youth Club. In accordance with the PC's affiliation with

Local Government Association and National Association of Local Council employment agreements, I have commenced payment of the allotted hourly increase designated to take effect as from January 1st 2015; the details of which were forwarded by email to all members on 29th November 2014.

GCC CLLR PARSONS' REPORT

Cllr Parsons said: GCC's approval of the 25yr lease for a waste incinerator at Javelin Park was influenced by the liability of £100m costs of its abandonment. GCC would be making no increases in council tax rates for the coming year. The county council is currently engaged in a consultation on a local transport strategy; and the proposed development of 2,500 houses in the Chesterton area is causing authorities great concern over commuter parking at Kemble.

CDC CLLR FOWLES' REPORT

CDC Cllr Fowles said: CDC has budgeted for a 5% reduction in council tax in the coming year, enabled by various structural changes, including the successful function of UBICO, reducing building control charges and returns from new housing bonuses. In the new electoral term there will be fewer councillors, a smaller cabinet. Each district councillor has been allocated £2,000 for use on environmental projects in their ward. On planning, activity at the new building at Harnhill Cottage have now been established as in compliance with application details and the permit at Watershard has created a matter of precedence in local planning.

AMENITIES – RESOLVE

Appoint Freeschool Foundation Trustee;

Cllr Mrs Lockhart said Nicholai Thomasin-Foster is willing to stand for the vacant position of trustee; there were no alternative suggestions or objections to this candidate.

RESOLUTION It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Lockhart, seconded by Cllr Norris that:

Council shall appoint Mr Nicholai Thomasin-Foster as trustee of the Driffield and Harnhill Freeschool Foundation.

Motion was carried unanimously.

FINANCE – RESOLVE

(i) Approve Subscription to Continue GAPTC and SLCC Membership;

All Cllrs were satisfied with the significance of membership to both associations.

RESOLUTION It was proposed by Cllr John Ford, seconded by Cllr Norris that:

Council renews membership to GAPTC and SLCC for the year 2015/2016.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Action: Clerk to present cheques for subscription in the new fiscal year.

(ii) Assess Budget for Neighbourhood Watch Funding.

In response to Cllr John Ford's request that caution was needed to avoid too many signs, general consensus settled on 4 warning notices being strategically placed in the parishes. When asked by the Chairman for a minimum requirement, a budget of £150 was suggested by the NW Coordinator, Mr Peter David.

RESOLUTION It was proposed by Cllr Whitaker, seconded by Cllr White that:

Council agrees that the sum of £150 is allocated for the purchase of Neighbourhood Watch publicity signs.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Action: Mr David to advise Clerk of procurement order details.

(iii) Clerk Expenses Outstanding; Cllrs reviewed claim for Clerk expenses to 10-03-15.

RESOLUTION It was proposed by Cllr Whitaker, seconded by Cllr White that:
Clerk's claim for £15.60 expenses to March 10th 2015 is accepted.
Motion was carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE Riperian Living Procedure pamphlets were offered to Cllrs; and Cllrs were all equipped with an Electoral Nomination Pack for their completion and submission to CDC before the forthcoming May elections.

REPORTS/ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Cllrs Whitaker and Norris signed a cheque pertaining to: Joint; Clerk salary, nett and expenses for period Dec/2014-Jan/2015.

Cllr Mrs Lockhart informed the Meeting about the road sign still awaiting replacement at the Harnhill junction; with Cllr White adding the need for replacement of a sign on the bend at the linking of the single-lane road with the two-lane single carriageway that constitutes the section approaching the Spine Road Roundabout from Driffield.

The Chair, Cllr Whitaker, thanked councillors for their contribution to the work of the council during the year past and all councillors joined him in thanks to Mr Peter David for taking on the role of Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator.

After confirming the PC's Annual General Meeting would be held at the Market Canteen at 6:00pm on May 12th, immediately followed by the Annual Parish Meeting, Chair closed the Meeting at 8:10pm.