



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD at CATSHILL VILLAGE HALL
GOLDEN CROSS LANE, CATSHILL, B61 0JZ
THURSDAY 28th NOVEMBER 2013, 7.30PM

Present : Parish Councillors A Kelly – Chairman, G Blackmoor, A Boyle, F Cook, S Haynes, P Masters, R Nicklin, M Shephard, G Witcomb, P Worthington

In attendance : District Councillor Dr Brian Cooper
1 Member of the public
Clerk - Gill Lungley

13/11-01 Chairman's Welcome

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

13/11-02 Apologies

Apologies from Cllrs P Baker, J Gray, G Miller were accepted

13/11-03 Open Forum/Members of the Public

13/11-04 Open Forum/Ward Member Reports

County Councillor Sheila Blagg had sent apologies; copies of her written report were circulated and additional comments related to .

District Councillor John Ruck had sent apologies and the following report

Ivy Cottage PH : Bromsgrove DC planning committee had approved the application for change of use to 14 one-bedroom flats.

Oak Road development: Coun Ruck is to visit bdht with a resident whose property backs on to this site.

Remembrance Day Parade, Bromsgrove: in his role as deputy civic head Coun Ruck laid a wreath on behalf of Bromsgrove District Council.

Free Trade Town: Bromsgrove town is now a free trade town, Coun Ruck received a certificate on behalf of the town which he presented to the district council.

Bewdley Mayor's Charity Civic Dinner : Coun Ruck attended this.

District Councillor Dr Brian Cooper commented as follows:

Pleased to see the development at Braces Lane is underway;

Braces Lane play area plans have not yet been agreed.

Regarding ward boundary issues not many residents realised the Marlbrook ward currently extends into Catshill along Golden Cross Lane, Barley Mow Lane and the Poets Estate which could explain why objectors to the change of use at the Ivy Cottage PH did not approach the Marlbrook ward members. The boundary situation will change in time for the district council elections in 2015.

District Councillor Helen Jones had sent apologies for absence.

Rubin Howdle – Catshill group Scout leader spoke to the funding application on behalf of V1th Bromsgrove Scout Group ie their wish to establish a Beaver colony and the specific equipment requirements of the younger age group

13/11-05 The Chairman thanked all for attending; the meeting was closed to public comment.

13/11-06 Declarations of Interest

Members were reminded of the 'good practice' requirement to declare an interest in matters relating to setting the precept and financial budget even though a block dispensation has been granted to May 2015.

13/11-07 Dispensations

No member had submitted a written request for dispensation; the dispensations granted in November 2012, minute ref 12/11-02, are current and allow all members with an interest when setting the financial budget and precept to stay in the meeting, speak and vote.

13/11-08 Approval of Minutes of Parish Council meeting held 31/10/2013

It was agreed to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 31/10/2013.

13/11-09 Members' questions

The subject of a 'preservation order' in relation to the Ivy Cottage PH was discussed; members were not aware of any listed status and the Clerk agreed to contact BDC's Conservation Officer.

13/11-10 Chairman's Report

The report was circulated; attached.

Discussion related to the recent Remembrance Sunday event.

13/11-11 Clerk's update and communications

- a) Sandbag storage shelter, Green Lane
3 x rubber mats have been purchased at a cost of £52.45.
- b) Identification labels for parish council property – this is ongoing.
- c) Bus shelter, Gibb Lane.
It was agreed to proceed with the removal of existing and installation of the new bus shelter; the cost to be negotiated with the supplier but to not exceed £3,720. £1,000 to be provided via County Councillor's discretionary fund.
- d) Catshill Village Hall notice board
Delivery is expected during first week of December.
- e) Liaison Group with Amey/Highways Agency regarding M5 junction 4 improvements
Details of who/when/where have yet to be agreed; the Clerk will keep members updated.
- f) Christmas tree and lights
The tree has been purchased and will be set up outside the village hall by members of the Village Hall committee; the tree lights are to be installed by a qualified electrician to ensure public safety.
- g) Online mapping tool
This has now been purchased and is ready for use for Neighbourhood Planning and asset mapping; access information via the Clerk.
- h) Councillor training for new members
Training is to be arranged for Wednesday evenings at Fairfield.

The following items of Correspondence were available to view:

- 2 x Vacancies on Chads Grove School Governing Body (County Councillor appointment)
- WCC Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan – to respond by 31/01/2014
- Safer Neighbourhoods Newsletter, November 2013
- Environment Agency – campaign urging homeowners to check heating oil tanks for leaks
- WorcsCALC updates for November

- District-wide planning lists; County-wide road-works updates
- Christmas waste collection dates
- Singletons Nurseries – recent bulb planting had been completed free of charge as a gesture of goodwill to the community.

13/11-12 Committee and Representative reports

- Planning Committee – meeting held 14/11/2013, next meeting to be on 12/12/2013.
- Finance & Staffing Committee – meeting held 14/11/13.
The meeting was updated regarding the Co-operative Bank deposit account.
With reference to the 2014/15 precept the committee recommends a 2.5% increase; members were advised to wait until Bromsgrove DC have provided full information relating to DCLG council tax grant before setting the precept demand at the meeting on 30/01/14.
The informal internal audit had been completed by Cllrs P Worthington and A Kelly on 25/11/13, with one query raised relating to the £50 deposit cheque for hire of Catshill Meadow.
- WorcsCALC Executive Committee on 6/11/2013, written report received from Cllr G Witcomb.
- Feedback on recent events:
 - **Catshill bonfire and fireworks 2/11/13** Positive comments had been received regarding the 20-minute firework display.
 - **Remembrance Sunday 10/11/13** Well received and well attended.
 - **Meeting with NWWA 22/11/13** Four parish councillors had met with representatives of NWWA to discuss the future of Catshill Fun Day and they reported to this meeting.
Following discussion a vote was taken and:
It was agreed with 7 members in favour that the Parish Council does not take charge of the annual Fun Day.

13/11-13 Requests for grant funding

6th Bromsgrove Scout Group has applied for funding of £1,000 to establish a Beaver Colony; a wish list of items required was provided.
It was agreed to purchase up to £500 worth of items (excluding VAT) to help the Scout Group establish a Beaver Colony, and assist with advertising via the parish council newsletter.

13/11-14 Bus Service Review

A number of bus services within the district are under review and possible withdrawal.
It was agreed that the Parish Council would not respond but that individual members would respond accordingly.

13/11-15 Revision of Standing Orders

It was agreed to adopt the new Standing Orders with the addition at paragraph 8 of the words at a) and b) as below :

- a Voting for the appointment of Parish Council Chairman and Vice-chairman shall be by show of hands unless at least 3 councillors request otherwise in which case a ballot shall be held in which councillors will cast their vote on papers provided by the Proper Officer.
The count to be conducted by the Proper Officer and one other to be decided at the meeting.
- b Where more than two persons have been nominated for a position to be filled by the council and none of those persons has received an absolute majority of votes in their favour, the name of the person having the least number of votes shall be struck off the list and a fresh vote taken. This process shall continue until a majority of votes is given in favour of one person. A tie in votes may be settled by the casting vote exercisable by the chairman of the meeting.

13/11-16 Budget for 2014/15

This item was covered above via minute no. 13/11-12 (Finance and Staffing Committee report).

13/11-17 Seasonal planting at Ivy Cottage gardens

The contractor who had planted out the summer bedding had provided a quote for winter bedding but members agreed to leave as it is for now and plant out in the Spring.

13/11-18 Financial Report

Information relating to the current financial status and bills for payment was circulated and agreed.

13/11-19 Items for the next meeting

None put forward.

13/11-20 Date, time and venue of next meeting

Thursday 30th January 2014, 7.30pm at Catshill Village Hall.

This meeting ended at 21:25hrs.

Signed Date.....
Chairman of Catshill & North Marlbrook Parish Council