

**LANGFORD BUDVILLE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL
MONDAY 11th March 2019**

Present

Cllr V. Pitman Vice-Chairperson (VP)
Cllr D. Faulkner (DF)
Cllr M. Perry (MP)
Cllr R. Poole (RP)

Also in attendance:

Carly Payne (CP)

10 minute discussion on matters affecting the Parish and Agenda

1 – Apologies

Cllr J. Middleton, Chairperson– (JM)

2 – Declaration of Interest

None

3 – Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting, which had previously been circulated were approved.

4 - Police Report

No criminal activity logged for the Parish although there were two reports of high value thefts in Bradford on Tone and Heathfield so it is recommended that everyone reviews their own security. In addition, PCSO Sharon Baker has taken a promotion so PCSO Vicky Henderson 7630 will be covering the area instead in due course.

5 - Finance & Legal

- a) Resignation of previous Clerk, Derek Sowden, was confirmed and the new Clerk, Carly Payne, was introduced.
- b) Councillors agreed to pay T.J. McCabe LTD the sum of £297.84 for fencing completed at 'White Post'. A quote from T. J. McCabe LTD for £530 + VAT, to remove old fencing from Reynolds car park and to supply and fix approximately 28m post and rail, was discussed and rejected. For the time-being, a repair job will be completed by Councillors DF and MP.
ACTION: CP to post cheque to Tim McCabe.
- c) An alternative quote from Chris Meale for £540, to remove old fencing from Reynolds car park and to supply and fix approximately 27m post and 2 rails, was discussed and also rejected .The decision for Councillors DF and MP to make repairs themselves remains. An additional quote

from Chris Meale, to replace the side panel on the slide for £50 and to take down and take away seating for £60 in the play area, was accepted due to it being a matter of safety.

ACTION: CP to contact Chris Meale to make arrangements for work on the slide's side panel and seating removal at a total cost of £110. This work can be completed as soon as the new side panel for the slide arrives.

- d) Due to there being an error on the quote sent for emptying the dog bins for 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020, no decision could be made. The quote given is for a twice weekly service at 3 locations. CP has made contact with Taunton Deane Borough Council (TDBC) to get the quote amended for a once a fortnight service at 2 locations.

ACTION: CP to continue to correspond with TDBC to obtain the correct quote.

- e) Quotes from Taunton Deane Borough Council for Grounds Maintenance for the Parish (£68.15 + VAT per cut) and Grass Cutting at the Village Green (£35.15 + VAT per cut, based on a cut once a fortnight) were compared with figures from last year (£62.82 + VAT and £32.40 + VAT respectively). DF noted a 10% price increase. Councillors agreed that this is an acceptable increase and feel that there is little alternative for a cheaper service provider. Therefore, they accept these new quotes. TDBC also quoted for the emptying of 2 litter bins on the common twice per month for the sum of £5.03 + VAT per visit per bin. This was compared to last year's cost of £3.59 + VAT per visit per bin. MP felt that this, almost 50%, increase in price was unrealistic, which was agreed by all other Councillors. Consequently, Councillors would like to query the large price increase in order to receive justification before agreeing to the cost and accepting the quote.

ACTION: CP to call TDBC to query the price for emptying the litter bins alongside accepting the quotes for Grounds Maintenance and Grass Cutting.

- f) Costs for 3 hours of training for CP in February (£33) and 8 hours for Christine Hake in February and March (£88) agreed by all Councillors.

ACTION: CP to send cheque to Christine Hake.

- g) VP read some information given by the internal auditor regarding monthly reporting of Accounts. It was made clear that everything must be transparent, which is most applicable to Councils with a large turnover.

Planning Applications

None

All applications can be viewed in full at:

<http://www1.tauntondeane.gov.uk/tdbcsites/plan/plapplookup.asp>

Approvals

None

Refusals

None

6 - Footpaths Report

None

7. Football Posts

DF informed everyone that, even though this issue has been ongoing since September, the FA has not made a final decision so this continues to be on hold for another month.

8. Litter Pick

DF confirmed the date of the next litter pick as Sunday 17th March, 10am at the Triangle. Following a request to Runnington for the village to take responsibility for the litter pick along the stretch of the B38 between Tone Bridge and the Malthouses, agreement has been given. JM will provide high visibility clothing.

9. Banks near the Primary School

RP explained that the house, on which the hedge is growing, is owned by a family member who informed him that the hedge was not being cut. Consequently, the family member has given instructions to a contractor, Tom Sellick, to cut the hedge in due course. DF mentioned that a risk assessment on the hedge may need to be carried out now due to being in the realm of non-hedge cutting season since birds may be nesting and other wildlife may be present.

10. Hedges by the Church

RP started the discussion about the leylandii hedge near the Church and mentioned that the hedge facing the School has been cut but noted that it has not been cut on the Milverton Road. VP was concerned that it will affect visibility as it continues to grow. Consequently, Councillors agreed that firstly, in the near future VP will have an informal chat with the owners of the property on which the leylandii is growing to ask them to trim the hedge. If nothing changes, a letter will be sent to the owners of the property to politely ask them to cut the hedge, as suggested by RP. Failing this, the highways agencies will be informed next month.

11. Land East of Stancombe Farm

Councillors were made aware that a copy of the grounds for the appeal against the Enforcement Order has been received. It was agreed that the response will focus on the unlawful development of a dwelling house on agricultural land. Everyone was made aware that there is a request from the Inspector for any interested parties to make their views known no later than 20th March via an email and postal address. The Councillors voted in favour of wishing to respond to the request for their views to be reported and a meeting to form the response will take place in due course.

Correspondence:

Councillors will amend the Parish Council's bank details in order to add JM and DF.

**The next meeting will be held on Monday 8th April 2019 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.
All welcome.**