

Woodchester Parish Council

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Minutes of the Meeting of Woodchester Parish Council held on 1st March, 2018 in the Village Hall, North Woodchester at 7pm

Present: Cllrs. Hamilton, Baldauf, Baynham-Honri, Dunbar, McNealey and Warnes

In attendance: The clerk and one member of the public.

2018/21 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr. Lead, County Councillor Steven Robinson and District Councillor Phillip McAsey.

2018/22 To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

2018/23 To receive questions from members of the public and those attending in an official capacity.

The issue of parking outside Frogmarsh Mill was raised. There are a number of drivers who obstruct the entrance despite polite signage asking drivers to avoid parking in certain places. Councillors agreed a letter be sent to businesses operating at the Mill to remind all their customers when parking not to cause obstruction on or adjacent to the site as access is required at all times for heavy goods vehicles. Cllr. Baynham-Honri agreed to draft wording for signs to be placed on windscreens of offending vehicles. The clerk will contact the Neighbourhood Warden to make him aware of the issue and ask that he intervenes when possible. The P.C.S.O. should be contacted when a vehicle is causing an obstruction.

2018/24 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 4th January, 2018.

These were agreed and signed as a true record by Cllr. Hamilton.

2018/25 To receive County and District Councillor reports.

Although not present at the meeting, County Councillor Steven Robinson sent through a report (attached). This was noted.

It was agreed that a report from District Councillor Phillip McAsey focussing on the disposal/recycling of plastic waste, an issue of known concern to local residents, and due to be discussed under Item 2018/33 (q.v.), be postponed until the Annual Parish Meeting on 10th May to allow more time for public participation.

2018/26 To receive the clerk's report.

This was received.

A meeting with the developers of The Rooksmoor Mills site is due to be held on the 3rd April. The clerk will email a proposed agenda to Councillors for comments.

2018/27 To note the latest financial statements.

These were noted.

2018/28 To note an internal financial check carried out on 4th January by Cllr. Baynham-Honri.

This was noted.

2018/29 To appoint an internal auditor.

Councillors resolved to appoint Iain Selkirk as internal auditor for 2017/18.

2018/30 To approve expenditure and approve cheques as per annex.

Expenditure was approved and cheques signed at the end of the meeting.

Initials.....

- 2018/31 To note planning applications, decisions and appeals from SDC as per annex.**
These were noted.
- 2018/32 To agree the format for the 2018 Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 10th May and to discuss and agree key issues to include in the Parish Council report.**
It was agreed that key issues for discussion at the meeting would include a summary of the results of the 2018 Road Safety Survey, and proposals for implementing local Traffic Control measures in conjunction with other agencies; an update on the Rooksmoor Mills development following the meeting on 3rd April, and a discussion on the potential for reducing plastic waste in the village.
Cllr. Dunbar will advertise the Annual Parish Meeting in the forthcoming edition of the Woodchester Word.
- 2018/33 To discuss possibilities for the reduction of plastic waste in the village following concern expressed by a resident.**
Councillors resolved to postpone this agenda item as the resident who raised the issue was unable to attend the meeting.
- 2018/34 To agree Terms of Reference for the recently formed Highways and Rights of Way Committee.**
These were agreed and signed by Cllr. Hamilton.
- 2018/35 To receive a report from the Highways and Rights of Way Committee.**
Traffic speed surveys and pedestrian counts had recently been undertaken in both Selsley Road and on the A46. Data from a Traffic Flow Monitor installed by GCC (Gloucestershire County Council) on the A46 will also be available shortly. The Highways and Rights of Way Committee will then meet to discuss all data and produce a report for the Full Council with suggestions of 'next steps'.
Concern was expressed by a resident over a new stile off Water Lane which was difficult to negotiate. The landowner has subsequently made improvements making the stile easier to cross.
The landowner has repaired the stile off Woodchester House Drive, which remains in-keeping with the locality.
The clerk will thank both landowners on behalf of the Parish Council for the work they've carried out.
The Committee considered a request from a resident to enable the footpath between North and South Woodchester to be accessed with a disabled buggy. Unfortunately limited space and a high cost mean that no viable solution could be found.
Cllr. McNealey and the clerk are meeting with the clerk of Nailsworth Town Council on the 7th March to discuss a shared vision for the 'cycle path'.
A gate was reported broken at the entrance to the 'cycle path' at Station Road. The clerk will report this to GCC.
- 2018/36 To receive an update from the Events Committee.**
The Produce Show will take place on the 8th September.
Events are being organised by St. Mary's Church to raise funds for renovation works. These will include a tea party in June, barn dance in July and quiz evenings.
- 2018/37 To discuss the Cotswolds AONB Management Plan 2018-2023 and agree a response.**
Councillors discussed the draft Management Plan and raised comments on how there has been a great shift in emphasis since 1966 (when designated as an AONB) from a focus of protecting the character of the landscape, to a more diverse approach where recreation is fully promoted. Cllr. McNealey agreed to draft a response for comment.
- 2018/38 To receive comments from members of the public on items discussed at this meeting.**
The sunken drain on Station Road has yet to be repaired by GCC. The clerk will chase up.

Initials.....

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Chair..... Date.....

S. Robinson, County Councillor's Report for February 2018

GCC Council Tax will rise by 2.49%. The maximum it could have risen by is 2.99%. There will be an additional 2% levied for Adult Social Care.

The administration has cut the money given to each councillor to spend on highways. This has been reduced to £20,000 per annum. The fund of £5,000 given to each councillor, to spend on children's activities has been withdrawn.

When the County Council withdrew funding for Universal Youth Work, it gave £50,000 to each district council area to spend on Youth Work Development. Sadly this vital funding has also been discontinued.

A new grant of £30,000 over 3 years to invest in local infrastructure projects has been given to each councillor to spend in their Division. I would welcome parishes to be highlighting any small highways project eg resurfacing a path, installing a street light or any small infrastructure schemes (needs that may be brought forward by the community).

I would again encourage residents to report potholes, street lighting faults, or blocked drains. This can be done by telephoning 08000 514514 or online at Gloucestershire Highways.

Initials.....