

QUENINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
10 JANUARY 2019 AT QUENINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr Michael Scott (Chairman), Cllr Don Downes, Cllr Michael Sayer, Cllr John Dooley & Cllr Janet Sallis.

In attendance: Nil

1. Apologies for absence: Penny Ibbotson (Clerk), Helen Richards (GRCC).

2. Open discussion: No items were raised.

3. Declaration of Interest on Items on the agenda: None declared.

4. Minutes: It was resolved to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8 November 2018 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

5. Helen Richards GRCC re Water Management Project. Ms Richards was unwell and unable to attend the meeting.

6. To receive report from County & District Cllr Ray Theodoulou: Councillor Theodoulou was unable to attend this meeting.

7. Planning:

7.1 To consider the following applications:

18/046/49/FUL. Erection of side extension at The Cottage, Victoria Road, Quenington. NO OBJECTION. The recently received revised plan for this application showed a considerably reduced construction more in keeping with its surrounds and known to be approved by immediate neighbours. The clerk was asked to contact CDC about the short notice given to consider this revision (note: the appropriate comment was made coincident with the no objection response to CDC on 11 January).

18/04966/TPO. Felling of beech tree at 16 Springfield Road, Quenington on the advice of the TPO. NO OBJECTION.

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7.2 To receive the January 2019 Planning Report. The report was reviewed. In the previous period:

- Four applications for work to trees had been approved with no comment.
- Two applications for extensions to dwellings had been approved with no comment.
- Excavation work was evident in front of the replacement buildings permitted at The Garden House Quenington. The clerk was asked to contact CDC to confirm this work fell within the original planning permission (17/04011/FUL).

8. Clerks Report: The clerk had submitted the following report for consideration in her absence:

- The cemetery wall is complete and all bills paid – there is a separate finance report regarding this. The majority of the tree work has also been completed, there still needs to be some crown lifting of lower branches to make it easier for people to walk

into the extension area. The gate into the field is locked and the landowner is planning to erect a 'no access' sign to discourage public from entering the field.

- The Ernest Cook Trust has advised verbally that the Parish Council can include the permitted footpath to Fairford on the walks leaflet. Confirmation in writing is to be sent. (*Note: written confirmation has now been received from ECT together with a welcome offer to make a small contribution to the printing costs*).
- The visit to Xylem took place on 23rd November 2018 and 7 residents took up the offer, there are plans to offer another resident visit after Easter.
- A note was placed on the windscreen of the van regularly parking on the Green and the owner has respected the Council's wishes and now parks elsewhere.
- CDC has been asked to carry out a street clean (leaves): this was completed on the day of the meeting.
- I will now be working in the Village Hall on Thursday mornings as I am now working at Hatherop Primary School on Monday and Tuesdays.

9. Finance:

9.1 To review and accept the January 2019 accounts. The accounts were approved. It was agreed that an estimated £1000 of an unallocated £1426.50 (cemetery income) should be used for further tree work in the cemetery extension area.

9.2 To agree the 2019/2020 budget and precept. The clerk had prepared a 9 month review of the 2018/2019 budget which showed expenditure to be well on target. In view of that, and assuming the same precept of £19,000 in 2019/2020, the draft budget was approved with the following suggested amendments:

Grass cutting: no change to proposed £6025 (see item 12.4).

Training: increase to £500 to cover likely cost of training two new councillors.

Cemetery extension: £600 to cover future repairs to current wall and change line name to Cemetery Repairs. MSc was in touch with Poulton PC on financing cemetery works.

Defibrillator Maintenance and Training: line possibly not required as there a suggestion that this was included by equipment provider (Clerk to confirm).

Repairs to Green: nil as to be funded by CDC.

Footpath Leaflet: £750. Cost estimated at £1250 but contributions anticipated from ECT and The Keepers.

Allotments: Nil there being no current progress on this topic.

Pavement to Bus Stop: £750 towards survey costs but desirability, permission of landowner and routeing all yet to be confirmed.

Playground Equipment: £500 for new goal posts.

Total: £3100

9.3 To agree an internal auditor for the 2018/2019 accounts. It was agreed that the Council should approach GAPTC to provide an audit service at an estimated cost of £190 this year.

10. Cemetery.

10.1 To review work and costs to date for extension and agree next stage. The completed work and associated costs were reviewed and considered most satisfactory. It was agreed that the next stage (eg layout planning) could be deferred to the next meeting.

10.2 To review the Memorial Inspection Report. The Council congratulated the clerk on her work in producing a very thorough illustrated memorial report and initiating a search for surviving relatives who would be responsible for repairs. It was suggested that a copy might go to Lucy Abel Smith whose personal knowledge and village archives might help. JS agreed to brief the clerk separately on those families she knows: JS also took the report home for further study.

11. To agree format of Emergency Plan. It was agreed to keep the village plan in its present format rather than adopt the more complex CDC template. It was also agreed that JS should replace MD as No. 1 Key Point of Contact.

12. Highways Matters.

12.1 Winter Action Plan. Discussion of the road clearance plan with local providers was ongoing. Blue barrels for road grit, evident in other areas, cannot be sourced. An alternative must be sought.

12.2 Snake Drive Street Lighting. JS had carried out a further doorstep survey on the effect of the current (modified) light on nearby residences and had found that there was indeed a problem, exacerbated it was thought by winter leaf drop which removed the shielding provided by summer foliage. She understood that there had been complaints elsewhere in the county and that there was a diffuser fix which might apply here – she would investigate this with County Highways.

12.3 Speed of Traffic near Village Hall. Raised in the parish plan survey, speeding was an issue across the parish but speed bumps, as suggested by one respondent, were not felt to be the solution in a rural situation (and increasingly countryside). The Community Speed Watch scheme, backed by Gloucestershire Constabulary, was proving quite effective in identifying and warning offenders.

12.4. Maintenance of Verges on Approaches to Village. A resident had suggested increasing the extent of mowing along the grass verges approaching the village to emphasise the need to slow down on approaching a built up area. It was considered by the council that there might be environmental implications in this scheme and that the village boundaries were adequately marked already. However, a further survey would be undertaken in the summer once the grass had grown.

12.5. Use of the Green for Hunt Meets. As the custodians of the Green on behalf of the landowner, the Parish Council of this rural village would welcome the Hunt on to its land in principle. However, experience has shown that, while any damage done by the horses would be minimal, and the Hunt were careful to park boxes and trailers well away from the village, supporters and followers would inevitably want to park on the Green. Considerable damage has already been done to the surface this winter by unauthorised and careless parking: this will be expensive to remedy. Controlled use of the Green in suitable weather (by Fresh Air, the Car Boot and the Fun Fair for example) is perfectly acceptable provided application is made in good time to the Parish Council.

13. Bird Barriers for Swings. JS had identified a suitable product on line, comprising lightweight coils which would deter but not injure any bird looking for a perch above the swings (note, purchase of 5 metres for £17 subsequently approved by the Chairman).

14. Any Other Business.

14.1 Vacancies on the Parish Council and Elections in May 2019. A recruitment drive is needed to fill the 2 vacancies on the Council. Although word of mouth suggestions are welcome, some form of advertisement (CHEQS and posters) is needed.

Post meeting note: The required advertising for the current vacancies has already taken place on the notice board and website (following advice from CDC) and QPC can now co-opt people to join the Parish Council. This co-option will only last until the May elections where all Councillors will have to step down and then be nominated and re-elected. The clerk will send out further information regarding the May elections in the near future.

15. Open Discussion.

15.1 To Agree a Date for Spring Clean 2019. Saturday 16 March was the preferred date for the Parish Spring Clean. The date will be advertised in CHEQS to encourage participation by villagers.

15.2 To Agree a Date for a Meeting to review the Parish Plan Results and Agree an Action Plan. Tuesday 5 March was suggested but tbc to suit all.

16. Date of Next Parish Council Meeting. Thursday 14 March 2019.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9. 30pm.

_____Chairman

_____Date

ACTIONS:

The following actions were identified in the meeting. These do not form part of the minutes of the meeting and are only included here as a reminder of actions arising in the meeting. Related sub-sections from the meeting minutes, the action and the responsible councillor(s) are shown below:

Sub-section	Action	Responsibility
9.3	Investigate GAPTC as Internal Auditor	PI
10.1	Review memorial inspection report	JS/PI
12.1	Finish Winter Action Plan Locate source of blue grit barrels	MSc/PI
12.2	Contact GCC re light shield for Snake Drive light	JS
13.0	Purchase bird barrier for swings	PI
14.1	Circulate info on May elections	PI