

CAVERSWALL PARISH COUNCIL

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Chair of the Council: Cllr Paul Roberts

Parish Clerk: Mrs Lynn Cantlay

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6th MARCH 2017 AT CAVERSWALL VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllrs P. Roberts, E. Durose, A. Marshall, R. Ward, M Clayton, M Dean

Apologies: C Cllr Day

Members of the Public: Six members of the Public were in attendance

Subject	Description	Action
APOLOGIES	None	
PUBLIC QUESTIONS	<p>New stile has been put in off Roughcote Lane onto Footpath 3 – very high (steps 14” off ground 26” off ground 42” off ground) location is at corner of J Holding opposite Newton Roughcote Lane no assess to take dogs through. Clerk to contact Dawn Plant at SCC Rights of Way about this. Ramblers Association have put it in.</p> <p>Mrs Shingler asked what is happening/any progress on bus shelter Cllr Roberts advised that we are still waiting on SMDC on who is responsible for it the person dealing with it previously has left and therefore a new person is now considering this, SMDC to be chased on this. Also, pavements on Caverswall Road from house with lions to the bridge are still not repaired, this to be reported. Clerk stated that the soil by the gas works which had fallen onto the footpath had been removed making the footpath wider.</p> <p>Mrs Shingler also asked what the situation was regarding the Auctioneers Arms, Cllr Ward advised that there was a meeting this Thursday to sort out certain matters and hopefully to set up a society as a registered charity.</p> <p>Louise Baxter spoke on behalf of Caverswall Castle and her Partner Robin MacDonald and stated that they want to get the Retreat up and running but with the enforcement conditions attached to the permission this is preventing this happening. There was a closed Planning meeting at SMDC in Leek last week when the Retreat application conditions for Caverswall Castle were discussed but they are still awaiting notification of the outcome of this meeting. Mr MacDonald has asked for the conditions to be lifted.</p> <p>A petition has been started and to date it has 1041 signatures. They have no funds to maintain the Castle they can’t sell it can’t run a business from it. The whole situation is making Robin extremely ill. Louise believes in the Wellbeing Centre/Retreat and wants it to go ahead and is here to ask what the Parish Council can</p>	PR

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Signed

Date 3rd April 2017

Subject	Description	Action
	<p>do to get this going forward.</p> <p>Cllr Marshall stated that we have had many conversations with Robin over last 12 months and had supported the current application. Robin stated that the Parish Council had objected to it. The Clerk read out part of our letter which stated that the Parish Council had no objection to the application subject to neighbour's approval. For clarification, the Clerk advised that It is the Parish Councils policy when there is no objection to a planning application to include "subject to neighbour's approval", both Louise and Robin seemed unhappy with the Parish Council comments "subject to neighbours approval" on the letter as it is their neighbours who are the main objectors.</p> <p>C Cllr Day told Louise and Robin that they should put in an official application to get the conditions removed. He also suggested that they hold a public meeting to fully advise residents of what is happening to the Castle.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts stated that he could make no comments on the meeting last week as the process had been discussed under exempt matters therefore a closed meeting, all communications will be done between both sides solicitors.</p> <p>Louise said that they were unable to let anything take place at the Castle i.e. school children's visits, Retreat guests taking photographs or going for a run for fear of Robin getting prosecuted. Cllr Roberts said that he doesn't think they will be prosecuted for having school children to visit but advised Robin to write to Ben Heywood at SMDC stating what they would like to do that and to check that he won't prosecute. Need to get full clarity on what an "event" is, Cllr Roberts will speak to Mark Trillo on Wednesday night. ask SMDC for this also suggested Robin writes to SMDC as well for clarify.</p> <p>Robin been asking SMDC to amend or fully remove the conditions on the approval and to make some conditions i.e. that no weddings are stated.</p> <p>Cllr Marshall asked if PC could write to SMDC to ask what the actual enforcements are and whether they can be removed and to clarify exactly what can be done at the Castle. All Cllrs agreed, Clerk to send letter.</p> <p>Mr Pratheesh from the Post Office advised that he had sent the 6 months' termination notice to Post Office to resign as Post Master this means that the Post Office will close on 28th August 2017, the lease on the premises ends on 1st August. He asked what the PC want to do now i.e. save the post office and possibly run it as a Community Post Office. No comments were made.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts said that the Parish Council would like to thank him for all he's done for the village and understand his position.</p> <p>Clerk to put details on website and Facebook page advising of the Post Office closure.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
MINUTES	It was resolved that the minutes of the previous month's meeting were to be signed as a true and correct record.	

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Date 3rd April 2017

Subject	Description	Action
DECLARATION OF INTEREST	Cllr Roberts re Caverswall Castle and Planning matters	
REPORTS COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS	<p>26/17 County Councillor – nothing to report Cllr Durose advised that the grids up The Hollow had still not been done, C Cllr Day will chase up this up.</p> <p>27/17 District Councillor – nothing to report.</p>	WD
HANDYMAN/ LENGTHSMAN	Lengthsman to be asked if he'd clean soil back from verges/ kerb edging along School Lane it is especially bad at Vicarage Crescent junction.	Clerk
MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS	<p>HIGHWAYS ISSUES –</p> <p>28/17 – Grids and Drains Sorted In public questions.</p> <p>29/17 – Footpaths Clerk has spoken to Enforcement re new gateway entrance to Little Intake Farm, she was advised that as this is onto a lane – classified as a “D” road – then no planning permission is required.</p> <p>30/17 – Bus Shelter by Scout Hut (18/17, 05/17, 151/16, 138/16, 120/16, 103/16)</p> <p>31/17 – Fencing along The Dams (19/17, 06/17, 152/16, 139/16, 104/16, 67/16, 41/16, 26/16, 15/16) Ward Fencing have quoted for 150m post and rail fencing 5x3 posts 1.8m centre, 3.6 rails 3 high nailed on - £2850.00 plus VAT. This is based on the hedge being cut back to make it easier to put post in. Concerns were raised about this and suggestions were made to put fence further forward, Words to be asked to come back out to relook at whether this could be done. Working party to be arranged to remove the old post and rails from the hedge, Clerk to put request for helpers on Facebook page. Clerk to ask Lengthsman to quote for trimming back hedge and ask if he would give us a quote for the fencing.</p> <p>32/17 – Car Park Access Barriers (20/17, 08/17, 153/16, 141/16, 126/16, 113/16) These are now in-situ. Warning signs needed re height restriction and also security padlocks required. Cllr Roberts has ordered two security locks there will be put on the gated with the gate locks put on the barriers – this is because keys to the existing padlocks have gone missing.</p> <p>33/17 – St Peters Church – Condition of the church yard (21/17, 09/17, 154/16) Ongoing</p> <p>34/17 – Trees along The Dams (22/17, 10/17) Waiting on response form N & J Trees. Chase them</p> <p>35/17 - Access to bus stop in The Square Clerk still to contact SCC</p> <p>36/17 - Potters Bar FC – Use of pitch for season 2017/18</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>PR</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

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Date 3rd April 2017

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	<p>To be ask them to come to April meeting as they have a few items they wish to discuss. Agreement for 2017/18 season still to be signed.</p> <p>Unresolved Items: None</p>							
CORRESPONDENCE	TSB Bank Statement							
FINANCE	<p>37/17 - Accounts</p> <p>Payments:</p> <p>The following accounts were approved for payment: -</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Mrs L Cantlay – Clerk Salary and Expenses - March</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£430.99 *</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr R Nicholls – Handyman – Jan/Feb</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 97.28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kel Construction – Car Park Height Barriers</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£3840.00 **</td> </tr> </table> <p>TOTAL PAYMENTS THIS MONTH - £4168.27</p> <p>* - indicates payments to be made via Internet Banking Faster Payment, approved at meeting.</p> <p>** - this was paid prior to meeting on 1/3/17 all Councillors approved this payment via email, copies attached to the invoice</p> <p>Transfer: £3840.00 + £400.00 = 4240.00</p> <p>Receipts:</p> <p>Bank Interest – both accounts - £0.84</p> <p>Accounts (after any payment or receipts made):</p> <p>Current Account - £220.72</p> <p>Instant Access Account - £10,108.95</p> <p>Contingency Account - £ 8,819.76</p> <p>It was agreed to transfer £2000.00 from the Instant Access Account into the Contingency account.</p> <p>Cllr Marshall had considered various bank interest rates and reported that as rates were so low now it would not be worth moving to a different bank, all Councillors were in agreement but situation to be monitored if the current situation changes.</p> <p>Clerks Extra Hours during 2016/17:</p> <p>It was agreed by all Cllrs that Clerk should be paid the extra 20 hours allocated for 2016/17.</p> <p>Clerk asked Councillors for permission to pay for new security padlocks for the height barriers prior to the next meeting in order that this would come out of the 2016/17 budget – all agreed.</p> <p>Year-end accounts</p> <p>Clerk will produce year end accounts and send to all Councillors when completed.</p>	Mrs L Cantlay – Clerk Salary and Expenses - March	£430.99 *	Mr R Nicholls – Handyman – Jan/Feb	£ 97.28	Kel Construction – Car Park Height Barriers	£3840.00 **	Clerk
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PLANNING MATTERS	<p>38/17</p> <p>Applications:</p> <p>DET/2017/0005 – Intakes Handley Banks – Proposed Agricultural building – In principal PC don't object but have major concerns with it being located in what is open field why not put where exiting "range of mainly dilapidated and unused buildings" are -brown field location.</p> <p>Decisions:</p>	Clerk						

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Subject	Description	Action
	<p>SMD/2016/0800 – 1 Renfield Nathan Close – Side Lounge Extension – APPROVED</p> <p>Appeals: Church Terrace - vehicular access – decision upheld</p> <p>Enforcement Matters: Cllr Roberts has spoken to Dorothy Peak and she had advised him that building work was taking place at Sycamore Farm – no knowledge of an application for this was known – Clerk to contact Enforcement to request investigation.</p>	Clerk
NEW BUSINESS	<p>39/17 - Caverswall Castle Petition re Enforcement issues Clerk has been approached by Mr MacDonald to publish a link to the petition page, she was unsure about doing this as the Parish Council must be seen to be impartial whether or not they agree with something, she therefore asked the Councillors for their opinion. She had informed Mr MacDonald of the position and would get back to him after the meeting. All Cllrs agreed that no link should be placed on the Facebook page.</p> <p>40/17 - Playing Fields/Village Hall Bollards Quote for these now to be obtained. Clerk to supply Cllr Marshall with copy of plan as specified in the Land Lease agreement.</p> <p>41/17 - Village Hall Trustee Cllr Roberts advised that he had been asked to become a Trustee for the Village Hall he doesn't know whether he has been asked personally or on behalf of the PC. Trustee is not financially liable. He will clarify who is being asked i.e. as Chair of the PC or as Paul Roberts personally.</p>	Clerk PR
DATE OF NEXT MEETING	Monday 3rd April 2017 at 7.30pm	
MEETING CLOSED	9.05pm	

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