

Atworth Parish Council Meeting

Held on

Wednesday, 16 January, 2013

Village Hall, at 7pm

Minutes

Attending – Cllrs, Effie Gale-Sides (Chairman), William Cooke (Vice Chairman), William Bird, Alan Bagnell, Robert Hole.

Mitch Roberts, (Parish Clerk), Mark Stansby, (Wiltshire Council), Maggie Ledbury, (Wiltshire Police).

1 **Apologies** – Cllrs Maureen Weston, Robert Floyd, Arnold Snowball, Mark Griffiths, John Lambert

2 **Minutes**

To approve and sign the minutes, of the November 2012, Atworth Parish Council Meeting. **Resolution** to approve the minutes.

Proposed and seconded by William Bird and Alan Bagnell

3 **Declarations of Interest** – There were none

4 **Public Question Time**

A list of elected member representation, on outside bodies, will be added to the Parish Council website **ACTION PARISH CLERK**

5 **Police Report**

Maggie Ledbury provided the following update,

On the morning of 11th December, 2012, cold callers were operating in Atworth and Shaw, trying to push sales of resurfacing and driveways on residents. Thankfully, this was reported to the police straight away and the residents actions has likely deterred these kind of sellers, on this occasion, in the area.

Please take care when dealing with door to door sellers and report any that are suspicious, to the police.

Shed burglaries are also on the increase.

6 **ATAG Report**

Ken Spencer presented his report.

Attached at appendix 1 is the report

A discussion followed and the following points made,

- Mark Stansby stated that he was convinced that the proposed enhancements, as proposed by Wiltshire Council, would make a difference. The wide hatchings are not recognised within the regulations, but the DfT are open to experiment and Wiltshire Council are keen to try them at this location.
- Mark Stansby also added that the scheme would not be as expensive as first expected, with a total saving of £600. The cost to Atworth Parish Council would be £1800.
- William Cooke wished it to be recorded, that should the spend be approved, residents could expect to see an increase in the precept, but this could be justified, on the basis that traffic issues featured highly on the consultation for the Parish Plan.
- Mark Stansby explained that Highways would be paying for the road markings and signage. Neston Estate would be paying for the tourism signs, associated with their farm shop and the Parish Council would be paying for the gates and their installation.
- Mark Stansby also advised that the gates could be moved, if such action was required, at any time in the future.

Resolution - To approve option 2, (the large gates, wide hatching and hidden dip signs) proposed and seconded by William Bird and Alan Bagnell. All in favour.

7 **Matters Arising**

- Dowty site – Effie gale-Sides, the Parish Clerk and John Polhill, met with Dr Rod Timbrell Whittle, the site owner. It was a good meeting, with the following observations recorded,
The letting of industrial units remains high, with new tenants currently moving in.

There is a requirement, to offer tenants the opportunity to increase the size of their industrial unit, by 20% and this would require a planning application, to use some of the 2 acre space that is currently unoccupied, i.e. on the unused recreation space. This expansion option forms part of any new lease, based upon the fact that if the business is successful, it is more economical to continue to trade on the same site, whilst increasing the size of the unit. If this option was not provided for tenants, they would be disadvantaged and could seek business accommodation elsewhere.

The site owner would encourage comment from the parish members and residents, regarding their opinions for the best use of the remainder of the site.

A small housing development would be considered and access to it agreeable, over the site owners land.

Some green space could also be on offer, as part of any mixed use development.

In essence, Dr Rod Timbrell-Whittle, is quite willing to engage with third parties. He sees the business park as a long term investment and is open minded regarding its future development.

Resolution – It was proposed and seconded By William Bird and Alan Bagnell, that consideration be given to allocating the site as suitable for some affordable housing, to form part of any forthcoming mixed use development. This proposal should also be included in the review of the Atworth Parish Plan.

- Youth Club Lease Renewal – confirmed by Sylvester Mackett, that the draft lease is in progress. **ACTION** – Clerk to hasten
- Queens Diamond Jubilee – Time capsule.

ACTION – Clerk to purchase capsule and plaque

- Civil Emergency Response Plan – ongoing update, linked to a new coordinated approach by Wiltshire Council – **ACTION** - Clerk
- Road Safety – Narrow Pavements – School Travel Plan to be reviewed, with the assistance of the Churchfields Village School Head, Wiltshire Council and ATAG. **ACTION** - Clerck
- Parish Plan Review – feedback requested from original steering group **ACTION** -Clerk to chase individuals in early March

8 Agenda Items

- Clock tower door and key control – Arnold Snowball is pursuing these issues. William Bird advised that from his perspective no repairs were required and the issue should be removed from the agenda.
- Village gateways **Resolution required to select the preferred design and approve the funding** – the only feedback has been received from Bill Cooke and ATAG. Indications from Mark Stansby also suggest that the total cost of the installation will be less than originally forecast. Once they are in place, the NPT will be tasked with focusing upon speeding motorists. **ACTION CLERK**
- Purlpit Junction Damaged Highway Sign – Highways have noted the requirement and will schedule the necessary works.
- Speed Watch Constraints – these issues will be addressed by the next NPT meeting **ACTION CLERK**
- Area Board Grant for Village Hall Chairs – awaiting next area board meeting for grant approval. **ACTION CLERK**
- Precept 2013/14 **Resolution required to approve** . The precept will be discussed at an extraordinary meeting, scheduled for Jan 23, 2013. **ACTION CLERK**
- Copse of Pines – **2013/14 issue for new elected members**
- Village Hall Security – keys issue – is the village hall committee happy to permit so many individuals to have a key, to simplify access. This issue has been resolved by the village hall committee.
- Flooding Issue – Hayes Close – Wiltshire Council is unable to assist, as the issue is located upon unadopted land. It was raised as an area board issue. **ACTION CLERK** to advise the residents concerned.

- Over 55's Tea Party Funding – Alan Bagnell would like to propose funding to support this regular activity. Deferred until the next meeting.

ACTION CLERK

- Recreation ground play equipment – Following a ROSPA inspection, some equipment is in need of restoration.

Cllr Robert Hole left the meeting at 8.30pm

9 Correspondence

- Parish Steward Programme – Clerk has the programme
- Health & Social Care Meeting – Posters displayed in the village
- 20's Plenty – Cllr Terry Chivers. ATAG are supporting this initiative.
- BANES Lorry Issue. Clerk has the document.
- Paul Tyler – Recreation facilities. Paul has asked the Clerk for assistance in finding appropriate funding streams. **ACTION CLERK**

10 Planning Applications

Reference

Application details

W/12/02073/LBC

Replace windows with French doors on East elevation. New opening windows on West elevation.

The Loose Box, Bradford Rd, Atworth

Application supported by Atworth Members

11 Authorisation of Cheques

000873	Grass cutting	95.70
000874	Grass cutting	143.55
000875	SLCC	78.00
000876	Clock service	130.00
000877	WI Caretaking	19.20
000878	RBS software	124.80
000879	HMRC	340.08
000880	Parish Clerk	1838.18

Resolution required to approve these cheques, Proposed and seconded by William Cooke and Alan Bagnell

12 Financial Statement – January 2013.

Bank Balances

Current Account – Barclays	2827.82
Deposit Account – Santander	8021.38

Add monies owed to Council

VAT Refund Due	121.24
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(not yet claimed)

Deduct monies owed by Council

Cheques not yet cashed.

000876	Clock Repair	130.00
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000879	HMRC	340.08
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Total Current Net Cash Assets £10500.36

Fixed Assets

5 Bus Shelters	13261
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7 Wooden Seats	2483
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Funeral Bier	1707
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Youth Club Premises	268421
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War Memorial	43000
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Resolution required to approve the financial statement – deferred until the precept setting meeting 23/1/13

14 Any Other Business

- **Bus stop sign and bus waiting points** ACTION CHAIRMAN
- **173A Purlpit – Highways issue** ACTION CLERK
- **Village Pump at Purlpit – History Group request** ACTION CLERK
- **Pedestrian crossing issues** – The issues of safety were discussed and Mark Stansby offered to look into the options available.

15 Date of Next Meeting Wednesday, March 20, 2013, at 7pm.

Date 29 Jan, 2013

Signed. *Mitch Roberts* Parish Clerk

APPENDIX 1- ATAG REPORT

ATAG Response to Atworth Parish Council Request for views on Village Gateway Project

On 22nd November 2012 a request was received from the Parish Council for ATAG's comments on the Options Papers for the proposed Village Gates. This is ATAG Organising Committee's (OC) response.

The ATAG OC has discussed the options at two of its meetings, and has also had discussions with members and officials at the January Community Area Transport Group (CATG).

In the context of the Village Gates ATAG takes its brief from its three Public and Residents meetings. The relevant issues arising from these meetings are:

- the speed of traffic approaching and leaving the village, especially on the western outskirts;
- the very high incidence of reckless and dangerous overtaking between the region of the Clock Tower and the bends approaching the Keeper's Cottage, where visibility is poor anyway;
- fast moving vehicles within the village cause serious distress and hazards to mothers with children on Atworth's narrow pavements, especially during school travel times.

Some details of various past minor and serious incidents on the western A365 are available at: http://atag.99k.org/20120625_foi_summaryreport.pdf. The most recent injury was on 6th November 2012.

1. Gate Design Option

ATAG favours Gate Design Option 2, because it provides the clearest signal to drivers entering the village.

2. Position of the Gates

ATAG is of the opinion that placing the gates in the indicated position does not make the best possible use of their impact. The Metrocount study at Denley Farm Cottage, just yards from the 30mph limit, showed that 15% of vehicles exceeded 59.3mph. We consider therefore that the DfT Circular "*Setting Local Speed Limits*" offers applicable guidance in the provision of an additional 40mph limit to aid the transition to a speed of 30mph on approach to the village. The best use of the Gates would then be achieved if the Gates were to be placed beyond the Farm Shop entrance, and the 30mph limit moved accordingly.

3 The Associated Road Markings

On 8th December, four ATAG OC members used a trundle wheel & measuring stick to check the vertical visibility along the western A365 against the DfT *Road Signing Manual*, chapter 5, which advises on double-white lines. We found that the vertical visibility does not meet even the minimum requirements, and that excludes the impact of the Metrocount study quoted above. Furthermore, road marking along the A365 to Box Fiveways is exceedingly worn and due for renewal.

We believe that it would be foolish to miss the opportunity to implement proper road marking at this time - in short "*let's do the job properly*". The proposed hatching should be replaced by double-white lines so as to discourage reckless drivers. ATAG is convinced that all costs of a necessary survey, and of the work, would be recouped within five years even if the rate of accidents and incidents is reduced only by 50%.

4. Finally

ATAG would respectfully like to ask the Parish Council to recall their decisions of July 2012 when they supported unanimously the four proposals which ATAG placed before them, and which were endorsed accordingly. These proposals included the re-organisation of the speed limits, the provision of double-white lines and steps to reduce the hazards to mothers with children and the elderly walking along Atworth's narrow pavements, especially during school travel times.