

<http://atworth.org>  
**Atworth Parish Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, 17 September, 2014**  
**7pm at the Village Hall**

**Attending:** Cllrs Effie Gale-Sides (Chairman), Maureen Weston (Vice Chair), Alan Bagnell, Ros Cooper, Ruth Griffin, Arnold Snowball  
**Apologies:** Cllrs Juliette de Malpas-Player, Charles Boyle, William Bird

**1 Welcome and Apologies**

**2 Minutes**

To approve and sign the minutes, of the July 2014, Atworth Parish Council Meeting.

**Resolution** to approve the minutes MW AS

**3 Declarations of Interest** None

**4 Formal closure of the meeting**

**5 Public Question Time** Community Speed Watch was discussed and the need for more volunteers. Members offered to help Alan Lee, the coordinator, to distribute a letter asking for volunteers. Alan was also encouraged to use the local media, village magazine, etc Alan was thanked for the contribution of Speedwatch to the safety of the Bath Road.

Terry Chivers advised that Area Board grant applications were being encouraged, as existing funds available exceed application sums being submitted.

**6 Reconvene the meeting**

**7 Police Report**

**Between 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> Aug - Someone made an attempt to steal or remove the 5 bar gate from Snapdragons nursery on Bath Road. The attempt to fully remove was thwarted by the secure padlock.**

**On 12<sup>th</sup> September during the day we had a report of a bungalow in Fleetwood Rise being burgled. Offender has forced entry to the downstairs window on the side of the property and has made a tidy search inside the address stealing only gold items. Within the last month we have also had similar styled burglaries when the occupants have been away in both Shaw and Whitley with only Gold items or cash being stolen.**

On 14<sup>th</sup> September in the early hours of the morning Lowden Garden centre was also burgled with the offenders breaking in to the farm shop and stealing cash. The offenders were disturbed by local keyholders and they made off in a vehicle towards Melksham. There have been a few reports of farm shops across Wiltshire being targeted like this as Neston Farm Shop was recently targeted where the offenders made their way across the field from Atworth Lane to then break in to the farm shop.

Finally we had some reports of Nottingham knockers / door to door sellers across the Melksham area with some calling at addresses in Atworth. Concerns were raised by the tactics of selling made by these callers and I would suggest residents to call the police to report incidents like this.

## **8 Atworth Parish Plan Report – John Polhill**

Members were asked to contact John Polhill if they wished to be involved in the finalisation of the Plan's review. They were also advised that the steering group will be completing the revised Plan, following receipt of the Rural Housing Needs Survey, which is in progress.

## **9 Rural Housing Needs Survey – Parish Clerk**

The survey documents are in the process of being delivered to each household. At the end of October, Wiltshire Council will embark upon the analysis stage, with a view to preparing a report for the Parish Council's consideration in the New Year.

## **10 ATAG Report – nothing to report**

**11 Village Hall and Rec Report –** Richard Clark provided a brief update and explained that tree inspections were required on the Rec.

**ACTION CHAIRMAN**

## **12 Matters Arising**

- Clock tower refurbishment – Contractor selection required.  
**Resolution** to appoint Bloomfield Masons, subject to references being seen AS, RG **ACTION PARISH CLERK**
- Defibrillator update – training has now been successfully carried out. Further training will be made available. The site is now registered with SW Ambulance services. A press release will be arranged.  
**ACTION PARISH CLERK**  
Weekly checks of the defibrillator will be carried out by the Parish Clerk, to ensure that it is in situ and that the battery is serviceable.
- Flags – following the recent theft of our flag and lanyard, there is a requirement to purchase replacements. **Resolution** to purchase a new flag (Union Jack) and lanyard AS, RG at a sum not to exceed £100. Also to purchase one fixing kit for the new flag poles, that were donated by Persimmon, at a sum not to exceed £40.

**ACTION PARISH CLERK**

- A365 white line survey – Mark Stansby advises that the survey is earmarked for this financial year, with any changes on the ground more likely in 2015/16
- External audit – now complete
- Dog fouling – we now have the spray which can be used on the footpath as well as grass. We also have a poster template. A volunteer is required to focus on Bradford Rd as a trial area
- Insurance review- response indicates a 15% saving (£500)
- Asset register additions, new village hall chairs and benches on the Rec

**13 Agenda Items**

- Twinning proposals – This was discussed and a request was made for more information. **ACTION PARISH CLERK**
- Parliament Week Nov 14<sup>th</sup> till 20<sup>th</sup> – Chairman will lead on this event, with support being pledged by Ruth Griffin.
- Recent flooding – Bath Rd – resident provided with support contacts.
- Funeral Bier – straps now repaired and one tyre requires a small repair which the parish clerk will sort out – test run to follow. **ACTION PARISH CLERK**

**14 Correspondence**

- Wiltshire Fire and Rescue consultation – briefings invitation **ACTION** - Parish Clerk to attend and ask all members if they wish to join him
- Area Board Health Fair – October 15<sup>th</sup>, 4.30 till 8.30pm – Assembly Hall, Melksham

**15 Planning Applications**

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Application details</u>
W14/06322/FUL	Two storey side extension 15 Nursery Close Atworth
W14/07188/FUL	Extensive refurbishment and upgrading 2 Hayes Close Atworth

**15 Authorisation of Cheques**

- |          |                                    |        |
|----------|------------------------------------|--------|
| • 000963 | SLCC Subs                          | 116.00 |
| • 000964 | AON Insurance                      | 2.12   |
| • 000965 | Turtle engineering - defib cabinet | 636.00 |
| • 000966 | Petty cash reimbursement           | 199.80 |

- 000967 Timber Tack – 6<sup>th</sup> bench 140.00
- 000968 External audit 120.00

**Resolution** required to approve these cheques MW, AS

## 16 Financial Statement – Jul 31, 2014

### Bank Balances

Current Account – Lloyds	7318	(30/07/2014)
Deposit Account – Santander	4531	(06/08/2014)

### Add monies owed to Council

VAT Refund Due	129	
Monies banked but not shown	557	<b>12535</b>

### Deduct monies owed by Council

Cheques not yet cashed

000963	SLCC SUBS	116
000966	Petty cash	200
000967	Rec - 6 <sup>th</sup> bench	140
000968	External audit fee	120

**Total Current Net Cash Assets 11959**

### Fixed Assets

5 Bus Shelters	13261
7 Wooden Seats	2483
Funeral Bier	1707
Youth Club Premises	268421
War Memorial	43000
6 new chairs in the village hall	744
6 new benches on the Rec	700

**Earmark requirement** – The defibrillator monies need to be set aside, for future revenue cost requirement –**ACTION PARISH CLERK**

**Resolution** to accept the financial statement MW, RC

## 17 Any Other Business

- **CAB associate membership request** – Accepted, **ACTION** parish Clerk to acknowledge

- **Settlement boundary consultation** – Chairman and Parish Clerk had attended. There were virtually no changes for Atworth.
- **Litter bin installation at the Bear Garage lay-by** – The WI had made a request for one, but Wiltshire Council would not provide a waste transfer service for it.
- **Village hall title consideration** – It was agreed to ask the Village Hall committee to consider removing the large sign which was not in keeping with the building.
- **Telephone box** – Arnold Snowball was thanked for painting the Telephone Box.
- **Bus pass restrictions for seniors** – Ruth Griffin wished to contest as an individual.
- **Area coordinator meeting 10<sup>th</sup> September**– Discussed were blocked drains, public bins, weeding, grass flailing, etc Stuart Renfrew has arranged for a programme of work.
- **Parish Council Lights Out WW1 Ceremony** – very well received – 75 attended – Lynne Spencer and Rodney Price assisted the Chairman.
- **Atworth on Show** - raised almost £850 and was very well attended .Effie Gale-Sides would write a congratulation letter for the event's organisers.
- **Steve Whittaker and his wife Mary, have moved in near the hall.** He is the new Independent Church pastor
- **Proposed changes to education transport for post 16 students** – briefly discussed and all were encouraged to see the proposals.
- **Little Chalfield Solar Farm Planning Application** – If and when approved, a community meeting will take place to discuss funds made available.
- **Cheese and Wine Event** – To be organised by the Village Hall Committee to raise funds for improvements. Date to be confirmed.
- **Time capsule** - sealed by Arnold Snowball, but not all the agreed items had been included.

## 18 Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting, is scheduled to take place at the Village hall, on Wed, Nov 19, 2014

The next Councillor Surgery will take place at the Village Hall, on Oct 22nd