



www.atworth.org

Atworth Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 4th
October 2017 at 7.00pm in Atworth Village Hall, Atworth

Present:

Cllrs. Effie Gale-Sides (EGS) (Chairman), Richard Clark (RC), Sarah Horrell (SH), Kate Hartley (KH),
Arnold Snowball (AS)
Plus Maggie Ledbury (Police)

Ref. Agenda items

059/17

1. Welcome

The Chairman warmly welcomed Councillors and visitors to the meeting.

060/17

2. Apologies for absence

The Clerk reported that apologies had been received from Cllrs. Alan Lee and Philippa Gray, and Cllr. Philip Alford (Wiltshire Council)

061/17

3. Declarations of interest

RC is a trustee of the Atworth Village Hall Charity. SH is vice-Chair of the Youth Club.

Closure of meeting for public participation

There were no members of the public at the meeting this evening.

Reconvene meeting

The meeting was reconvened.

062/17

4. Co-Option of New Councillors

The Clerk reported that there were no applications received for consideration at this meeting.

063/17

5. Planning Applications

Councillors to consider planning application 17/09115/FUL - Proposed Single Story Side Extension at 19 Nursery Close, Atworth, SN12 8HX

Councillors decided to make NO COMMENT in respect of this application by a majority vote.

An action was placed on the Clerk to write and inform the Planning Authority. *(PMN: Action completed 051017)*

6. Reports from our partner organisations

6.1 Police report

PCSO Maggie Ledbury reported:

The month of September saw 51 crimes reported across Melksham Rural and Villages which is higher than predicted for that month, and the total number has been classed as an exception. Despite this, no one crime type in its own right has been high enough to class itself as a crime exception, albeit Theft and Criminal Damage have both been higher than predicted.

In September, 9 out of the 51 reported crimes were classed as Domestic Abuse.

Crimes reported for August and September of 2017 for Atworth.

23/08/17	A drink driver was arrested in Bath Road
28/09/17	Theft of a Catalytic Converter from a vehicle in Bath Road.

Maggie Ledbury observed that the owner of the Smart car abandoned near the Bear Garage has been refusing to move the vehicle, which requires a replacement engine. Unfortunately while it is Taxed and insured, there is very little anyone can do about it.

Over the next three or four months Maggie will also be responsible for villages east of Melksham (Bulkington, Keevil etc.) until newly appointed PCSOs have completed training.

RC reported that the wall in the Recreation Ground had been vandalised, and a seat broken. It was recommended that the incidents be reported to the 101 service.

The Clerk reported that he had, as directed at the September meeting, written to the PCC expressing concern over the age and inefficiency of the police IT equipment particularly with regard to reporting issues.

The following response had been received on 04/10/17:

Dear Mr McMullen

Thank you for contacting the Commissioner with your concerns following your recent visit to Police HQ. I am glad that John Flynn, the Head of Contact Management, was able to meet you and explain the work his team undertakes. Can I firstly thank you and your fellow councillors for your suggestions to improve call handling.

I received a detailed improvement plan for the CCC in the summer that outlines a range of improvements from procedures, staffing, resourcing, leadership and opportunities to introduce technical improvements when it is cost effective. There is also regional and national work to move all police forces onto the same infrastructure which will increase resilience and provide mutual support during periods of high demand.

Alongside this Wiltshire Police are launching a new website in the coming months, which I hope in the medium term will have capacity for some reporting of incidents online. Online crime report work is being completed as part of the national Police ICT improvement programme which is looking to introduce this facility across all police forces.

I have to balance the financial demands and priorities of Wiltshire Police against the opportunities technology brings. The amount of investment required will be on the back of the CCC improvement plan and regional / national work to continue to make policing more efficient and effective. As you know, the budget is under intense pressure, with Wiltshire being the 4th lowest centrally funded force which has to find £4 million of additional savings on top of the £19 million already made since 2010. I am working tirelessly with the Chief Constable to protect front line policing and ensure all of Wiltshire is protected and kept safe.

Regards
Angus Macpherson

6.2 CATG report

The Clerk explained that the CATG (Community Area Transport Group) next meets on 16th October. Cllr. Alan Lee will be attending. The Clerk confirmed that Albion House parking would be on the agenda.

6.3 Community Speedwatch report

There was no Community Speedwatch report submitted to the meeting on this occasion.

064/17 7. Minutes for approval

7.1 To consider, approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council held on 20th September 2017

[Download link to copy of draft minutes](#)

The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 20th September 2017 were proposed by RC, Seconded by AS and unanimously approved as a true record.

065/17 8. Outstanding Actions

Updates on the following actions arising from previous minutes:

8.1 Grass cutting update

Recreation Ground grass cutting. The Clerk reported that the contractor informed us he had cut the grass on 3rd October.

The Clerk reported that he had received an invitation from Steve Ayliffe, Area Manager (West) at idVerde to meet and discuss requirements. EGS would convene a meeting of those interested and meet with Mr Ayliffe.

8.2 Clock tower clock repairs

The Council made a decision based on advice received to establish a cost of a new stone roof for the Clocktower. Councillors to advise the Clerk if they are aware of roofers.

Action on Clerk c/f to next meeting.

8.3 Repairs to Recreation Ground benches

RC reported that the quote had now been paid and the wood was now ready for collection.

Effie pointed out that the benches adjacent to the Clock Tower would also need repairs in due course.

8.4 Bollards in Pavement at Albion House

The Clerk had raised an issue with Wiltshire Council and this would be discussed at the next CATG meeting in order to establish a way forward.

8.5 Update on the No Trespassing on the Verge sign

Carried forward to the next meeting.

8.6 Parish Steward update. The Clerk reported that he had held a meeting with the Parish Steward on 8th September.

The Steward had undertaken some work clearing gulleys and potential flooding spots during week commencing 2nd October. A follow-up meeting would be taking place on 6th October.

8.7 New Noticeboards

Councillors to consider a preferred noticeboard for the village.

[PDF is available by clicking this link](#)

Action c/f to next meeting.

8.8 Raising awareness on the problem of illegal fly tipping, following the recent death of a calf at Church Farm through deliberate disposal of garden waste over the garden waste.

[Link to draft flyer](#)

Action on Clerk c/f to next meeting.

The Clerk requested permission to purchase a small memory stick on which to save the artwork. Permission was given by EGS to progress this.

8.9 Repairs to benches. AS offered to contact Mr. Hazelwood regarding the repairs.

8.10 Hedge cutting update - RC

Cllr. Effie Gale Sides will speak to the contractor regarding payment of funds due, and meet separately with Cllr. Richard Clark.

8.11 Gateways on to Recreation Ground update

Carried forward to the next meeting. The Clerk has received correspondence which he will forward.

8.12 Dry stone wall repairs on Recreation Ground

The Clerk reported that he had spoken with Jim Macfarlane (dry stone waller) who had promised to look at the issue and report back.

8.13 Mini bollards that have appeared along Bradford Road

The Clerk reported that he had raised an issue with Wiltshire Council regarding this (issue # 1531665) and had been informed:

I am aware of these posts which were originally supported by a line of boulders. I have written to the property and personally removed the boulders. They have been in contact and are returning a 142 licence which will allow them to place these posts 300mm into the verge from the carriageway edge. They are also considering 'soft' planting of the verge in an effort to educate the inconsiderate school parking which is steadily eroding the highway bank.

8.14 To consider updates to draft Social Media policy

Action on Clerk c/f to next meeting.

8.15 To consider updates to draft Data Protection policy

Action on Clerk c/f to next meeting.

8.16 To consider revision of Fly Posting Policy

Action on Clerk c/f to next meeting.

066/17 **9. Finance:**

9.1 Approval of Clerk's Salary for September 2017

[Click to download copy of payslip](#)

RH proposed and KH seconded and all were in favour.

9.2 Approval of Payment Schedule and authorisation of cheques

[Click to download Approvals Schedule](#)

Approvals for the meeting taking place in October 2017							
Date	Payee Name	DD/Chq No	Net £	VAT £	Gross £	Payment Details	Approved By
	Philip McMullen	DD	305.89	-	305.89	Salary and office allowance Sept 17	
	HMRC	DD	76.47	-	76.47	HMRC income tax for wages	
	Gary Gale-Sides/WORDPRESS	DD	9.58	-	9.58	Website domain renewal	
	Philip McMullen/AMAZON VAT No 226659933	DD	5.99	-	5.99	Ream of white copier paper	

Approval of the Payment Schedule was Proposed by RC, seconded by KH and all were in favour.

9.3 Approval to accept Budget Monitoring Statement to end of August 2017

[Click to download Budget Monitor](#)

	Annual Budget	Spent to date	Balance Remaining
Expenditure			
CLERKS SALARY	5,000	2,162	2,838
CLERK'S OFFICE EXPENSES	500	216	284
WY VILLAGE CLEAN & TIDY	516	288	288
VILLAGE MAINTENANCE	2,920	1,019	1,901
GENERAL ADMIN	1,000	44	956
VILLAGE HALL	6,000	6,000	0
VILLAGE HALL RATES	120	66	54
REC RATES	160	87	73
WATER RATES	150	68	82
INSURANCE	3,700	3,776	(76)
AUDIT FEES	275	75	200
PRESENTATIONS	100	83	17
YOUTH CLUB RENT	30	-	30
GRASS CUTTING	2,000	-	2,000
ARMISTICE WREATH (S.137*)	20	-	20
COMMUNITY RESILIENCE EQUIPMENT	500	-	500
NOTICE BOARDS	1,500	-	1,500
CLOCK TOWER SITE IMPROVEMENTS	1,000	-	1,000
BENCHES	800	423	377
SID DEPLOYMENT	400	100	300
ADJUSTMENT	0	0	0
WALC	420	-	420
SLECC	50	38	12
CLOCK REPAIRS	-	940	(940)
VAT	-	284	(284)
Total Expenditure	29,221	19,649	29,221
Income			
PRECEPT	28,221	28,221	-
Grants	-	-	-
Interest	-	1	(1)
Total Income	28,221	28,222	1
Net Expenditure	-	(12,573)	29,222
Balance Brought Forward	17,660		
Current Balance (Cashbook)	39,263		
Current Balance (Deposit Ac)	39,263		
Current Balance (Bank)	39,263		
Unapportioned Cheques			
Rings Fenced Funds TBA			
Defibrillator	554		

Clock Tower	-
QUEENS LONGEST REIGN PLAQUE	1,000
VILLAGE ENHANCEMENT; GATEWAY ETC	500
Parish Bier	50
Notice Boards	500
	2,050

Approval of the budget monitor was Proposed by RC, seconded by AS and all were in favour.

068/17 **10. Agenda items**

10.1 20 mph limit on Bradford road

SH would speak to the Head of Churchfields School explaining that through the Travel Plan, they are able to request a 20 MPH zone on Bradford Road. EGS has copies of relevant correspondence.

10.2 School sign on Bradford road

SH to write and request the Parish Steward via the Clerk to arrange for the vegetation to be cut back in order to reveal the sign.

It was also proposed by SH that a second, additional school sign would be beneficial on the junction with Coronation Road. The proposal was seconded by AS. All those present were in favour. The Clerk was asked to raise an issue via CATG.

10.3 Bus shelter mural

The mural from the bus shelter is currently with the contractor who refurbished the bus shelter. SH has organised three young artists representing the youth club to refurbish it. They are keen to produce an aerial view of the village, and will be producing some sketches to consider.

10.4 Bradford Road crossing point.

AL to confirm whether this has been raised as an issue with CATG.

10.5 Atworth Time Capsule

EGS confirmed that the floor of the Clock Tower is solid brick. The Time Capsule could be boxed in. AS confirmed this would be acceptable. All present were in favour of the proposal.

EGS proposed that the Councillors view the contents at the next meeting. SH voted against opening the box.

10.6 Parking on Bradford Road.

There is an ongoing issue with careless driving. Clerk to write to parents asking them to bear in mind that there is a school on Bradford Road, and to take care when approaching the village.

069/17 **11. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence received in time for the Agenda.

070/17 **12. Any Other Business**

AS asked about the map of the Parish Footpaths, which it was confirmed was beyond economic repair and had been disposed of.

071/17 **13. Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 15th November 2017 in Atworth Village Hall.

There will be a meeting on 20th December to agree the Precept for the following year. AS to check availability of the White Hart skittle alley.

Meeting closed at 21:00

Signed.....

Date