



Atworth Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 26th
February 2020 at 6.45pm in Atworth Village Hall

www.atworth.org

Present:

Cllrs. Effie Gale-Sides (EGS) (Chairman), Richard Clark (RC) (vice-chair), Arnold Snowball (AS), Heather Chaplin (HC), Andrew Gooding (AG), Cllr K. Hartley (KH)

Clerk: Philip McMullen

Plus two members of the public

Ref. Agenda items

115/20 1. **Welcome**

EGS welcomed those present to the meeting this evening.

116/20 2. **Apologies for absence**

The Clerk reported that apologies had been received from PCSO Janet Gould this evening.

117/20 3. **Declarations of interest**

To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 17th September 2017

It was noted that RC and AS are trustees of the Atworth Village Hall Committee.

EGS declared an interest under the agenda item regarding the Website. AS declared an interest on any discussion regarding the Film Club.

118/20 4. **Questions to the Chair of the Council by Members of the Public**

Public speaking time is restricted to 15 minutes in total

Public Participation

There were two members of the public present.

One wished to address the issue of traffic speeding through the village.

The other wished to address Planning Ref. 20/00306/FUL

Reconvene meeting

The meeting was reconvened.

119/20 5. **To Receive Reports from our partner organisations**

5.1 Police report

The Clerk reported that PCSO Adam Almond had been replaced by PCSO Janet Gould. He was familiar with Janet's previous work in Melksham and extended a warm welcome to the rural district.

5.2 Wiltshire Councillor

Cllr Phil Alford was not present this evening and no report was received.

5.3 Village Hall committee

RC reported that some new chairs have been received on approval. Councillors reported that the red ones seemed to be most comfortable.

5.4 CATG report

The Clerk reported that the next CATG meeting: 23rd March 2020 at Melksham Fire Station has been cancelled.

RC reported that the revised yellow line proposals had been received from Wiltshire Council. Councillors considered these and it was **resolved** to accept to all four revised proposals (including the second revision to the Bath Road proposal which took the yellow lines through to the bus stop beyond the garage)

Proposals approved were for Clocktower View, Mead Park, Bath Road (garage) and Fleetwood Rise.

5.5 Footpaths Warden

The Clerk reported that Brian Flynn the Footpaths Warden had been seeking answers to several questions, including path ATWO19 where it joins the lane down to Studley Farm, which is shown on GPS, and on the Wilts Council map (paper and online) as being on the right-hand side of a hedge, whereas on the ground a stile has been installed on the left.

Clerk to share the footpaths report with councillors.

120/20

6. Planning Applications

Application Ref: 20/00306/FUL

Application for **Full Planning**

Proposal:- Retrospective fence to rear and side of property.

At: 6 Godwins Close, Atworth, Melksham, Wilts, SN12 8LD

Councillors took a vote on the proposals following a brief debate. Three were in favour, three objected, and the Chair's casting vote was to record an objection.

It was resolved to submit a response of Object (for the reasons given)

"the item under discussion was setting a precedent. It was recognised that the road is a noisy road and that traffic is increasingly heavy both in terms of volume and weight, but there is an existing wall, which was put in at the council's request at the original planning stage in order to reduce noise"

Action on Clerk to inform Wiltshire Council.

121/20

7. Minutes of Previous Meeting

7.1 To consider, approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in January 2020

<https://atworth.files.wordpress.com/2020/01/unapproved-january-15th-2020-atworth-parish-council-minutes-chairman-copy.pdf>

Proposed by RC, seconded by HC and all those present agreed that the minutes represented a true record of the meeting. The minutes were presented to the Chairman for signature.

122/20 **8. Clerk's Report**

Updates on the following actions arising from previous minutes:

8.1 Bus Stop bench

Now moved back into place

8.1 Benches

8.1.1 David Ogilvie Benches (metal memorial benches for clock tower)

The Clerk reported that these had been ordered, delivered and stored. He had held a meeting with a contractor to obtain a quote for installation. Quote awaited.

8.3 SID update

The Clerk reported that an updated schedule had now been received from Melksham Without Parish Council showing the proposed dates for the roll-out of new Speed Indicator Device which had been purchased.

SID (Speed Indicator Device) Installation Schedule New schedule for 2020			
Week	Site	Location of SID	Parish
1 & 2	Outside 161a West Hill, Whitley (outside the Children's Nursery) facing the traffic coming from Purjpit/Atworth		Melksham Without
3 & 4	Beanacre A350 Island (o/b) (site to be agreed)		Melksham Without
5 & 6	O/s 194A Woodrow Road (l/b)	SID post in socket	Melksham Without
7 & 8	The Spa (l/b)	Column 8	Melksham Without
9 & 10	Outside 594 Semington Road, facing inbound traffic	Lamp 22	Melksham Without
11 & 12	O/s 180A Woodrow Road (O/b)	SID post in socket	Melksham Without
13 & 14	Atworth (W) (l/b) - to west of Godwin Close	Lamp post 22 outside the Bear Garage	Atworth
15 & 16	Corsham Road Whitley (l/b)	Sign between Golf Club and Shaw School	Melksham Without
16 & 17	Shaw Hill (l/b) - on right hand side if travelling towards Melksham	Lamp post 38	Melksham Without
17 & 18	Beanacre A350 Island (l/b)	Column 27a	Melksham Without
19 & 20	Atworth (E) (l/b) - opposite Fleetwood Rise o/s 194A		Atworth
21 & 22	Beanacre A350 Island (o/b) (site to be agreed)		Melksham Without

The Clerk explained that the SID would be in Atworth 4 out of every 22 weeks.

The SID cost £2290 and a copy of the invoice had been received.

Councillors **resolved** to offer a pro-rata payment to Melksham Without Parish Council of £416.36 towards the purchase of the SID.

8.4 Community noticeboard – update

The Clerk reported that this had now been ordered and paid for. Delivery was awaited. Unfortunately the Clerk's numeric dyslexia got the better of him on this occasion and he paid £1984.56 instead of £1894.56. The company has now issued a refund of £90.

123/20 9. Finance

9.1 Approval of Payment Schedule and authorisation of cheques

Approvals for the meeting taking place in			February 2020				
Date	Payee Name	DD/Chq No	Net £	VAT £	Gross £	Payment Details	Approved By
	P McMullen	DD	23.47	4.69	28.16	Amazon toner ink refund	
	IdVerde	DD	310.28	62.06	372.34	Grounds Maintenance Works January	
	IdVerde	DD	310.28	62.06	372.34	Grounds Maintenance Works February	
	Parochial Church Council	DD	270.00	-	270.00	Hire of Church Hall for meetings	
	WI	DD	355.74	-	355.74	Litter picking incl. equipment	
	Neston Park	DD	25.00	-	25.00	Youth Club rent	
	Philip McMullen	DD	474.45	-	474.45	Salary and Office Allowance	
	HMRC	DD	118.61	-	118.61	HMRC income tax for wages	

RC proposed, AS seconded and all were in favour.

9.3 Approval to accept Budget Monitoring Statement to end of January 2020

Atworth Parish Budget Monitoring 2019/20				
February 2020				
	Annual Budget	Spend to date	Balance Remaining	CODE
Expenditure	£	£	£	
CLERKS SALARY	5,600	4,643	957	4000
CLERK'S OFFICE EXPENSES	560	464	96	4005
WI VILLAGE CLEAN & TIDY	580	288	292	4010
GENERAL ADMIN	250	228	22	4020
INSURANCE	4,300	2,119	2,181	4030
WALC	500	454	46	4050
SLCC	50	43	7	4052
BENCHES	2,300	1,841	459	4065
SID DEPLOYMENT	400	13	387	4070
VILLAGE MAINTENANCE	1,690	665	1,025	4100
AUDIT FEES	300	275	25	4157
VILLAGE HALL RATES	130	135	(5)	4200
REC RATES	170	171	(1)	4201
VILLAGE HALL	4,500	4,545	(45)	4203
WATER RATES	160	143	17	4205
GRASS CUTTING	4,500	3,629	871	4215
ARMISTICE WREATH (S.137*)	20	17	3	4250
YOUTH CLUB RENT	30	-	30	4261
PRESENTATIONS	100	65	35	4265
HIGHWAYS WORK	2,500	-	2,500	4300
COMMUNITY RESILIENCE EQUIPMENT	200	-	200	4320
NOTICE BOARDS	1,500	1,579	(79)	4335
VILLAGE ENHANCEMENTS	1,250	105	1,145	4336
CLOCK TOWER SITE IMPROVEMENTS eg 250		4,094	(3,844)	4337
VAT ON PAYMENTS		2,392	(2,392)	515
HMRC overpayment refund		1,241	(1,241)	120
Total Expenditure	31,840	29,149	2,691	
Income	£	£	£	
PRECEPT	28,521	28,521	-	1176
B/F from existing balances	3,319	-	3,319	1180
Rates b/f from last year	-	306	(306)	1050
Interest	-	-	-	1190
HMRC	-	-	-	120
VAT refund	-	7,975	(7,975)	115
Total income	31,840	36,802	(4,962)	
Net Expenditure	-	(7,653)	7,653	
Balance Brought Forward	20,216			
Current Balance (Cashbook)	27,869			
Current Balance (Deposit A/c)	-			
-Current Balance (Bank)	27,778			
=Unpresented cheques	-	£91		

Acceptance of the Budget Monitoring Statement was Proposed by RC and seconded by AG and approved by all.

124/20 **10. Agenda items**

10.1 Annual Parish Assembly

The Clerk explained that notices has been distributed to the usual groups and organisations asking them to save the date for the Annual Parish Assembly for Atworth, which this year is to be held on Wednesday 15th April 2020 in Atworth Institute Village Hall at 7.15pm. Several responses had so far been received.

EGS has had names put forward in regard to awards for the year.

10.2 Dropped kerbs

EGS explained that CATG were being requested to install dropped kerbs at the entrance to the Pulpit turning on the Bath Road. Form submitted to CATG.

10.3 Clocktower repairs. The clock repairer attended earlier this week and will be attending again. A stone had also been dislodged from the base of the Clock Tower. The clerk had requested a quote for replacement. RC expressed concern that the concrete around the plinth has deteriorated.

10.4 APC Website. The Clerk reported that our Website needed to be updated in line with the Government's Website Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.1), introduced in 2018, with the introduction of measures to ensure that all public sector websites and mobile apps are accessible to all users, particularly those with disabilities.

We have to be compliant by September 2020. We receive three or four page reads per day.

The Clerk established that the company recommended by the SLCC were charging a maximum of £1500 plus vat which included a .gov domain and new email addresses.

The alternative was a local person who had offered to bring the website up to standard for a £200 fixed fee.

EGS abstained from the decision. The remaining Councillors voted and agreed unanimously to agree to the £200 fixed fee. **Resolved** to spend £200 to bring the APC website into line with emerging accessibility laws.

10.4 Atworth Film Club proposal.

The proposal was to seek some funding for a set up. AS had investigated and confirmed that there is an umbrella licence that can be bought via the Motion Picture Licensing Company, but you are not allowed to charge entry or advertise the event commercially. RC is also seeking confirmation from village hall colleagues. His understanding is that films have to be purchased via Film Bank.

EGS summarised that the group needs the initial licence plus three months' worth of hall hire. The full annual licence is £200. AS abstained from the decision. The remaining Councillors voted and agreed to a grant of £200 being awarded. **Resolved** to award a grant of £200 to start a Film Club in Atworth when the legal requirement is finalised.

10.5 Green Infrastructure and Open Spaces Survey

<https://atworth.org/2020/02/24/wiltshire-open-space-survey/>

The GI survey was noted. EGS pointed out that as nearly all the land surrounding Atworth belonged to the Fullers estate and the land within the village was in private ownership, there was very little change possible, the existing survey appeared correct. Councillors resolved to promote the survey on posters and social media.

Clerk to put together a poster to promote the survey.

125/20 **11. Correspondence**

There had been no correspondence received beyond that which has been discussed as part of the Agenda.

126/20 **12. Any Other Business**

EGS explained that she had met with Highways and agreed an area towards the back of the verge on Bath Road (by the Neston turning) which can be planted with shrubs and small trees. The square of grass behind chapel cemetery/carpark was also identified and approved for similar planting. EGS said trees such as wild cherry, crab apple, hazel, hawthorn, etc could be suitable.

A document will need to be signed explaining that we are taking over the management of that section.

EGS also confirmed potential bench sites with Highways.

Highways confirmed with EGS that the yellow lines in Atworth are on an enforcement list. However, they are not on regular enforcement routes such as those in Melksham where there are regular infringements causing problems to other traffic.

Throughout the village, from the White Hart to the Village Hall, the tarmac is breaking up due to the gas relaying work. Clerk to contact the contractors and register a complaint.

AS noted that there has been dumping taking place at Mt Pleasant – information to be provided by the Clerk on the Wiltshire Council reporting app.

Councillors to note Temporary Closure of: A365 Shaw Hill (Part), A365 Bath Road (Part) and B3353 Corsham Road (Part) Melksham Without (13/04/20 - 16/04/20)

127/20 **13. Date of the Next Meeting of Atworth Parish Council**

25th March in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 21:15

Signed.....

Date