

EVENLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 15th April 2015 at 1.00pm.

Present: Alan Thornhill (AT), Mike Boshier (MB), Jean Morgan (JM), Keith Cousins (KC), Jackie Fox (JF), Mike Genner (MG), Jill Kelly (JK) Kirsty Buttle (Clerk).

Nine members of the public were present.

- 1) Apologies – All present so no apologies necessary.
- 2) Disclosure of interests – No interests were declared.
- 3) Planning application S/2015/0620/OUT Land to the rear of 22 The Green, Evenley. Four terraced houses with parking (Outline) – To discuss the planning application and concerns raised by residents to decide on the response of the Parish Council to the application – AT read out a draft response from the Parish Council detailing concerns including access issues, privacy for neighbours and parking/congestion caused by additional cars. Standing Orders were suspended to allow the members of the public present to add any further comments and raise any concerns. Chris Hart (CH) informed the Parish Council that due to a consultation error that led to 1 neighbour being missed from the consultation, the deadline for responses has been extended to 1st May. CH asked how the Parish Council will respond to the consultation and decide on the content. AT advised that the content would be based on the document that had just been read out once it had been checked by some of the other Councillors who would make any minor alterations to ensure the details and wording are correct. The response will be published on the South Northamptonshire Online Planning Register against the application number and will be accessible to all. Standing Orders were resumed. **Action: AT to e-mail document to other Councillors. Clerk to send in response to planning application when response has been finalised.**
- 4) Approval for the Evenley Fete and Dog Show to be held on The Green on Sunday 6th September 2015 – Proposed and unanimously agreed.
- 5) Emergency work to repair the Village Hall roof – Emergency work has already been completed so no discussion needed.
- 6) Confirmation of responsibility of trees at the entrance to allotments and agreement of the cost of work needed on the trees if they are the responsibility of the Parish Council – Mr Proffitt as accepted responsibility for the trees so no action is required from the Parish Council.

Members of the public were asked to leave at this point due to the potentially confidential nature of item 7.

- 7) Review of Clerk's contract – A discussion was held between the Clerk and the Councillors regarding how the previous 5 months have gone. It was agreed that it was acceptable for the Clerk to respond to any immediate/urgent matters without gaining prior approval from the Councillors. Where possible the Clerk should refer Parishioners to the relevant Councillor for queries that relate to their particular

area eg. Pocket Park, The allotments, VAS. Once the new Council has been appointed it would be beneficial to set formal targets/expectations for the Clerk and review this annually. Due to the fact that the Clerks 6 month probationary period ends 2 days after the new Council are appointed it is possible that the new Councillors will have no previous knowledge/experience with the Clerk and would therefore find it difficult to appraise the Clerk and make a decision on a permanent contract. It was proposed that the Clerk should be made permanent with immediate effect. A vote was held and all agreed.

It was requested to discuss some 'Any Other Business' which was agreed by the Chair.

It was asked at the Evenley Residents Association meeting if the Parish Council have ever made a decision that they would not support the Neighbourhood Watch. It was agreed that the facts of this matter should be sought and then discussed at the next meeting. **Action: JM to obtain more details regarding this matter. Clerk to put on next agenda.**

Three Councillors are standing down at the end of their term. KC was thanked for his long service, MG for his work gaining funding and JF for her work on Pocket Park. It was noted that the litter levels have been reduced considerably on Pocket Park.

The meeting was closed at 1:45pm

It is incumbent on all councillors to support and promote policies and decisions democratically decided at Parish Council meetings