

DANEHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Danehill Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 16th July 2015, at Danehill C.E. School.

Present: C. Critchley, J. Blake, M. Mockridge, M. Riminton, M. Garman. Also Cllr. R. Galley and M. Fishlock (Tree Warden).

In Attendance: C.W. Gooders (Clerk)

Meeting started at 7.30pm

Prayers were said by the Cllr. Critchley.

624. Apologies for Absence

J. Bradley, T. McHattie, S. Crabb, H. Montagu. Also Cllr. P. Roundell and PCSO C. Cooley.
(Clerk to arrange letter of thanks and flowers to PCSO Chris Cooley on her retirement for her exceptional work in our Parish)

625. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Critchley declared an interest in agenda item 9. He is a member of the Parochial Church Council of All Saints Church, Danehill.

626. Minutes

The minutes of Danehill Parish Council meeting dated 25th June 2015, having been previously circulated, were agreed and signed as a true record, subject to minor typographical amendments. Proposed Cllr. Blake, seconded Cllr. Garman. Voting unanimous.

627. Matters Arising

Cllr. Mockridge – Has any action been taken over Mr Stott's comments regarding the Red Lion, music etc? Clerk – Have contacted Wealden District Council. Music is permitted to be played until Sunday-Thursday 11.30pm, Friday-Saturday 12.30am.

628. Communications

- A) Documents pertaining to the Court of Appeal judgement dated 9th July 2015, regarding the Wealden District Council 7klm Ashdown Forest exclusion zone. See file.
- B) ROSPA playground safety inspection report dated 16th June 2015. Copy to Cllr. Bradley 6th July 2015. See file.
- C) Play Inspection Company report dated 1st July 2015. Copy to Cllr. Bradley 6th July 2015. See file.
- D) Email dated 16th June 2015 – ROSPA, re playground inspection courses. Copy to Cllr. Bradley 6th July 2015. Cllr. Critchley – Due to personal problems Cllr. Bradley has not so far been able to attend/participate in Parish Council business. Will ascertain asap whether he is able to take up his role. Cllr. Garman volunteered to assist with recreation ground/play area if necessary.
- E) Email dated 3rd July 2015 – Sara Lawrence. See attached (628A). Cllr. Critchley also thanked Sara Lawrence for her hard work and assistance with the Family Day.
- F) Letter undated – Christine Colbourne. See file. Letter referred to Cllr. Riminton to be included in communications review.

629. County and District Councillors' Reports

Cllr. Galley. See attached (629A).

An enforcement notice has been served on the School Lane field.

Following the high court judgement over the 7klm exclusion zone around the Ashdown Forest, Wealden District Council Planning will assess all planning applications to establish their affect on the Ashdown Forest. There will be no retrospective judgements. Nitrous oxides will continue to be monitored.

630. Reports from Parish Councillors

Cllr. Mockridge – Report submitted. See attached (630A).

Cllr. Garman – Report submitted. See attached (630B).

Cllr. Crabb – Report submitted. See attached (630C). Read by Cllr. Critchley.

Cllr. McHattie – Report submitted. See attached (630D). Read by Cllr. Critchley.

Cllr. Critchley – Report submitted. See attached (630E). Following the Finance Committee's recommendation, Cllr. Mockridge proposed a £100.00 donation to the Open Spaces Society.

Seconded Cllr. Blake. Voting unanimous. Cllr. Garman – Has barbed wire been removed from the fence adjoining the Chelwood Gate Village Hall car park? Cllr. Critchley – Not yet, would suggest this is brought up at next Chelwood Gate Village Hall Committee meeting.

Cllr. Blake – Report submitted. See attached. (630F).

Cllr. Riminton – Report submitted. See attached. (630G).

Mr Fishlock (Tree Warden) Nothing to report.

Meeting opened for the public to express a view or ask a question.

There were eight members of the public in attendance.

Public

The Clerk reported to Mr Boatfield that Cllr. Roundell will follow up the issue of felled trees with Wealden's Tree Protection Officer, Mr Rainbow. If a meeting is arranged Mr Fishlock would like to attend.

Mr Fishlock – Has any information been received as to why the route of the 261 bus service was altered? Cllr. Critchley – The bus company's official reason was that part of the route was excluded due to lack of passengers. Danehill Parish Council do support the view to have this reinstated and will contact the bus company again see if they will reconsider.

Mr Fishlock – Does not believe the church own the land surrounding Danehill C.E. School. Believes it belongs to the Sherriff of Nottingham. If the church do own it, why don't they maintain it?

Rev. McBain – The land is owned by the diocese and held in trust for the school. Mr Fishlock and Rev. McBain to discuss.

Mrs Martin – Excellent news that the 30mph roundels have now been painted onto the Beaconsfield Road. Do the Parish own the land to the right of the A275/A22 junction at Wych Cross, because it is in need of maintenance? Clerk – Don't believe it is the property of the parish, but will check.

Mr Boatfield – Why did the Parish Council donate £1,000.00 to the church? A payment to the church can only be made under Section 137. Cllr. Critchley – The £1,000.00 grant was to provide a Broadband connection for a two year period, offering support in connectivity for users.

Mrs Harrison – Has the Parish Council apologised to both families involved following the recent exhumation at Danehill. Cllr. Critchley – Yes.

631. Financial Support for Youth Worker

Council agreed that this item should be included in 12a.

632. Community Support Grant for Match Funding Parish Initiatives.

Agenda item 12a brought forward.

The procedure for administering Community Support Grant applications was discussed and agreed, as were the attached Terms of Reference (632A) and application form (632B). The completed (by

applicant) form will be presented to Council via 'Communications' and a working group will be formed (per application) to review/investigate and to report back to full Council. A leader will be elected to each individual working group. The Clerk will not attend working group meetings. Cllr. Riminton proposed that the Terms of Reference, application form and procedure be adopted. Seconded Cllr. Blake. Voting unanimous.

Financial Support for Youth Worker – Agenda Item 9 (see above).

Cllr. Critchley – (see Minute 625) The Finance Committee have fully reviewed the financial accounts of the Parochial Church Council of Danehill and Chelwood Gate and recommend one of the following:-

- a) Danehill Parish Council subsidise the salary of a youth worker for the amount of £7,500.00 P.A. for a three year period.
- b) Parish Council to act as an equity release scheme to the property in the name of 'Robins' to the value of £22,500.00.
- c) A combination of the above.

Presentation by the Rev. Paddy McBain and Mr & Mrs S. Coppin.

Are seeking to employ a full time youth worker for £28,000.00 P.A., but are unable to fully financially support. There are 75 youths registered as members of the TNT and ICE youth clubs. Although organised through the church, the majority of attendees are not church goers. An average of 30 attend on a regular basis and numbers continue to grow. Various activities/facilities are provided – camps, educational evenings, guest speakers/information/help regarding bullying at school, assistance with depression.

Cllr. Garman – Have the P.C.C. considered liquidising the house (Robins)?

Rev. McBain – The Chichester diocese would not consider an equity release.

Cllr. Mockridge – Have volunteers been sought from the Parish?

Rev. McBain – Yes, but no one has come forward.

Cllr. Garman proposed support funding of £7,500.00 P.A. for a full time youth worker for a 3 year period. Seconded Cllr. Blake. Voting four for. Cllr. Critchley did not vote (see minute 625).

633. Parish Council Communications

See attached (633A).

Cllr. Critchley – There is a current budget set aside for the website and the Parishioner, but this will be looked at as part of the next precept/annual review in November 2015.

Adeline Garman – Happy to commit time free of charge for term of this Council.

A meeting to be arranged between Cllr. Riminton, Adeline Garman, Mr L. Shaughnessy and the Clerk.

634. Finance Committee Terms of Reference

Cllr. Blake proposed that the Terms of Reference for the Finance Committee be adopted as presented (see attached 634A). Seconded Cllr. Riminton. Voting unanimous.

635. To Review any Applications for a Community Support Grant

Cllr. Critchley – An application from The Chelwood Gate Nursery for assistance with possible changes in the new year has been received. In accordance with the new agreed procedure, a working group of Cllrs. Crabb, Garman and Critchley was formed to review/administer this application.

Cllr. Mockridge wished it to be minuted as a 'Declaration of Interest', that Cumnor House School (of which he is Deputy Headmaster) runs its own nursery group.

636. Completion of Cemetery Retaining Wall

(Refer to minute 616)

The clerk advised the meeting that Amly Build have reduced their original quotation dated 25th March 2015, from £13,625.00 to £11,220.00. Cllr. Blake proposed that the quotation dated 24th June

2015, from Tanyard Developments for £8,620.00 be accepted and that they are invited to carry out the works as per the specification (see attached 636A). Seconded Cllr. Mockridge. Voting unanimous.

637. Independent Environmental Survey

Cllr. Critchley – A copy of an enforcement notice issued by Wealden District Council has been received regarding the field in School Lane (see file). As a way of attempting to defuse an uncomfortable situation, would Council consider employing services of independent company to conduct an environmental survey on the School Lane field, whereby all parties would agree in advance to adhering to the results of the survey. Wealden District Council use Lizard Landscapes to conduct independent surveys. Cost £2,500.00.

Cllr. Mockridge – Believe enforcement notice is effectively a survey of what has taken place at the field. Council should contact Wealden District Council in reply to the enforcement notice highlighting that works will greatly limit the drainage capability of water from the field in the winter, thus creating an ice hazard on School Lane and that the tapping of the spring will have an adverse affect on properties above the field which may well increase the likelihood of subsidence.

Council in full agreement to respond to Wealden District Council enforcement notice. Clerk to write.

638. Finance

a) Clerk's Unpaid Work.

The Clerk left the room while this was discussed and Cllr. Critchley recorded the minutes. Chairman of the Finance Committee communicated to the full Council how a reimbursement payment could be financed via the remaining Exhumation Budget. The council agreed on a reimbursement and two proposals were discussed and presented, one for 100% payment to the sum of £2,060.09 and one approx. 80% to the sum of £1,600.00. The first proposal was a split vote, due to one councillor abstaining. The second vote was a split vote, due to one councillor abstaining. To progress the item, the Chairman used his 'casting' vote, and supported the 100% payment.

b) Proceeds of Family Day.

Cllr. Critchley suggested proceeds (approx. £176.00) be donated to Blesma (limbless ex-serviceman) as previous discussed.

Cllr. Garman proposed that the proceeds be added to the Community Support Grant Budget.

Seconded Cllr. Blake. Voting 4 for 1 against.

c) Barclays Bank Mandate.

The Clerk informed the meeting that S. Lawrence and M. Wells are to be removed as signatories from the bank mandate and replaced with Cllrs. Blake and Garman. The Barclays Bank Mandate signatories will be:- Cllrs. Critchley, Mockridge, Riminton, Blake and Garman.

d) Bank Reconciliation.

The Month End Movement report for June 2015 was approved and adopted. It was noted that the bank reconciliation as at June 2015 was £69,083.55 and that it had been signed by the Responsible Financial Officer and the Chairman. Attached (638A). The Month End Reconciliation report for June 2015 was approved and adopted and signed by the Responsible Financial Officer and the Chairman. Attached (638A). The Balance Against Budget Report for June 2015 was approved and adopted. Attached (638A).

Proposed Cllr. Critchley. Seconded Cllr. Garman. Voting unanimous.

639. Date of Next Meeting

24th September 2015 – Chelwood Gate Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 10.00pm

Chairman..... Date.....

Anyone requiring sight of any attachments to these minutes, please contact the Clerk 01825 740 731