

POULSHOT PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 5 January 2016, 7.30PM
THE VILLAGE HALL, POULSHOT
MINUTES

Present: Councillors: Mr G Collett (Chairman); Mr A Baber; Mr T Coleman; Mr S Housby; Mr N Hunloke; Mr B Hamilton; Mr T Nixon,

Apologies: none

Also present: 13 members of the public; Cllr Seed; Mrs E Read (Clerk).

15/16/089 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies received

15/16/090 Declarations of interest and approval of dispensations for precept setting

Cllr Coleman item 17

The Council granted dispensations such that they are able to vote to set the precept for 2016/17

15/16/091 Approval of the minutes of the last meeting of the Council.

Cllr Coleman proposed and Cllr Nixon seconded, the minutes of the last meeting were accepted.

15/16/092 Police report

The police were unable to attend, but reported to the Clerk that they had received no reports of crime since November, and changes to policing are yet to be finalised. Cllr Seed clarified that the changes are intended to allow an increase in Policing cover overnight, while they may reduce Police presence locally during the day.

15/16/093 Wiltshire Councillor's Report

Cllr Seed raised awareness of flooding and encouraged the Parish Council to work on an emergency plan.

15/16/094 Public participation

There was public support to reintroduce cricket into the village.

15/16/094 To accept the resignation of Clerk and RFO Liz Read and consider next steps

The Council accepted the resignation of the Clerk and RFO Liz Read, and **agreed** the leaving date of the 31st of January. Cllr Housby and Cllr Collett were delegated authority to decide on advertising for a replacement clerk and making decisions necessary as Liz prepares to leave the Council. The Council thanked Liz.

15/16/098 Poulshot Community Fund – to receive and decide on recommendations from the Community Fund Panel (CFP). To include the investment of funds and cricket pitch proposal

Cricket club proposal - Declan spoke about the proposal, as well as an all-weather surface. He outlined the history of cricket in Poulshot, and the enthusiasm of current villagers to watch, play and meet people through the club. The proposal is for the "greater enjoyment of the Green" and will not impede access to it, so is not subject to a Section38 application. The Cricket Club propose to mow the Cricket outfield and pitches, while PPC would continue to mow the rest of the Green. The goalposts would be removed if necessary when a game was in play.

The Community Fund Panel had recommended a £5000 grant in favour of the proposal for natural pitches. Cllr Housby proposed ratifying the recommendation from the Community Fund Panel and the rest of the Council were in favour of this proposal – **agreed**.

Cllr Housby proposed that the all-weather strip be installed, which is to better enjoy the Green, and benefit setting up the club, while not interfering with the football. The grass strips could follow the artificial strips. The Cricket Club would underwrite the removal of the strip if it were unsuccessful or inappropriate. Cllr Housby proposed to adopt the artificial strip – the rest of the Council were in favour of this proposal - **agreed**.

Investment of the Community Fund - The CFP recommended that £50,000 of the fund was put into an instant access account with Scottish Building Society and the £100,000 into a longer term account with Hampshire Trust Bank. The interest rate at Lloyds is 0.05% and there are restrictions on what is available to Parish Councils. The Council **agreed** to this proposal. Cllr Housby and Cllr Baber were delegated to set

up the accounts and oversee moving the money. The Councillors were advised to investigate splitting the larger amount between two accounts in order to be covered by the Government guarantee, if relevant.

15/16/095 Trees on The Green and Green Gardens – to consider quotes for arboricultural survey of trees, to include information from the clerk about insurance cover for work on The Green.

The Council considered three quotes from arboriculturalists to map the trees on The Green and The Green Gardens which would highlight any urgent work or work for the future.

Cllr Coleman proposed, seconded by Cllr Hamilton, to commission a tree survey. The Council were not in favour of this proposal, not carried.

The clerk clarified that the Council is covered by insurance if the trees are checked once a quarter and after high winds, and any necessary action taken. Cllr Collett was given delegated power to check the trees for insurance purposes.

A further proposal by Cllr Collett, seconded by Cllr Nixon was to ask a tree surgeon for their opinion on the trees and quote for work suggested if necessary. The Council voted all in favour. **Agreed** and delegated to Cllr Collett.

15/16/096 Work on Middle Green Pond – permission for Village Trust work on Middle Green pond to remove invasive plants and to prune weeping willow next to the pond

Agreed - All in favour

15/16/103 Planning matters – to receive those decisions notified and to consider applications received

15/12305/FUL Land to the North of Buildings at Higher Green Farm Poulshot Road Poulshot, Devizes
Wiltshire Proposal: Change of use of parcel of agricultural land to allow recreational use

Deadline:21/01/2016 **No objection**

15/10468/FUL 6 The Green, Poulshot – erection of an oak beamed 2 bay garage. **No objection**

15/16/099 To consider the contract regarding the deregistration of access to Higher Green Farm

The Council delegated Cllr Collett to collate their comments on the contract and send them on to solicitor.

15/16/100 To agree how to proceed with the Village Green Policy & Procedures document in the light of the consultation and the external advice that has subsequently been received.

The Council were not willing to continue with the Village Green Policy and Procedures document in its current form. Cllr Coleman proposed, seconded by Cllr Housby to ask people who use the tracks for access to land and residences what their views are regarding the track access. This was **agreed** with three more votes in favour. Cllr Coleman went home because he was not feeling well.

15/16/101 To delegate two councillors to work on a Poulshot emergency planning document.

Cllr Collett and Cllr Nixon were delegated to work on the document.

15/16/102 To respond to the proposed diversion of footpath 7

The Council approved the diversion. Clerk to inform Wiltshire Council

15/16/097 To agree budget and precept request for 2016/17 (deadline 22/01/2016)

The Council agreed the proposed £800 for newsletter, £8608.19 precept request proposed by Cllr Hamilton, seconded by Cllr Baber and **agreed** Clerk to inform Wiltshire Council

15/16/104 Playground inspection and maintenance to include approval of purchase of weedkiller

Cleaned up the playground – spray the raised sections of the playground. The Council did not decide to purchase weedkiller.

15/16/105 Disbursements

Lady Hunloake Over 60s - £250

ICO £35 Website £8.39 a month – to be reviewed

Salary £187.82 Allowance £10

15/16/106 Correspondence and circulars received.

none

15/16/107 Date of next Council meeting (set for 1st March 2016)

15/16/108 Items of maintenance.

none

15/16/109 Key messages.

Cllr Nixon to write key messages, to include cricket approval and pitch

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