

Minutes of General meeting

Held on Sunday 15th September 2019, 18:00 at Lower Slaughter Village Hall

Councillors present: Cllrs Sinclair (Chairman), Randles, Roche and Thomas.
In attendance: Mandy Tomkins (Clerk)
8 members of the public

190915/1 Chairman's Opening Remarks

Cllr Sinclair chaired the meeting and welcomed all present, including the new Parish Clerk. He also welcomed Gaby and Phil Webb's new baby daughter to the village and thanked Robin Cochrane and the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens for their excellent work along Scare Lane and for repairing the bridge without needing to use any of the money allocated for this purpose.

190915/2 Declarations of Interest

Councillors Randles and Thomas declared an interest in respect of allotments.

190915/3 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Kevin Chapman.

190915/4 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the General Meeting on 14 July 2019 and the Extraordinary General Meetings on 8 August 2019 and 8 September 2019 *were agreed and signed as a true record by Cllr Sinclair.*

190915/5 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising, but after consideration *Cllrs agreed that the Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting on 8 September 2019 should be published.*

190915/6 Complaint:

Following his complaint, the Council has since received an apology in favour of Cllr Thomas and a further letter regarding planning reviews from Mr Battersby. Cllr Sinclair again confirmed that the Council carries out planning reviews in accordance with the guidelines. *Cllr Sinclair to draft an acknowledgement letter to Mr Battersby.*

190915/7 To receive comments from the public

No comments from the public.

190915/8 Planning Applications

8.1 To report on earlier applications

18/01681/FUL Scrap Haulage Yard, Gilder, Fosseyway, Lower Slaughter GL54 2EY

Re-development of existing scrap yard and haulage depot to create electric car charging service station and associated works. Parish Council objected 27/6/19. *Still ongoing*

18/03618/FUL Hill Barn, Lower Swell. Retrospective change of use and extension of 2 x agricultural barns to conference hall and function suite (D2). Parish Council objected 1/8/19. *Still ongoing*

19/01988/FUL and 19/1989/LBC The Old Mill, Mill Lane, Lower Slaughter. Conversion of café to dwelling, conversion of retail area to dwelling, re-configuration of café/retail area,

refurbishment of outbuildings, associated landscaping. Parish Council supported "in principle" with areas of concern to be addressed 26/7/19. *Still ongoing*

8.2 To consider new planning applications

There were no new applications pending.

190915/9 Finance:

9.1 Cllr Sinclair reported on the financial position as at 30 August 2019. *The report was approved by the Council and signed by Cllr Randles (Appendix 1).*

9.2 Cllr Sinclair reported on receipts since the last meeting which included July and August interest on accounts of £2.54 and £2.71 and payments made since the last meeting as follows:

HouseGo accountancy – internal audit	£156.00
P Sinclair – Printer cartridges	£25.07
P Sinclair – Clerk Advert -	£39.60
L Dowie – Secretarial Services	£470.00
Bibury – 3 months gardening services	£786.84
James English – Bus shelter cleaning services	£40.00

9.3 *The following payments were approved by the Council:*

Bibury – Allotment west boundary improvement stage 1	£384.00
Bibury – Plantation ground strimming	£316.00
Robert Ayers – fuel for strimmer	£5.00
ER Dowie – Consultancy services	£157.00

190915/10 Employment:

The need to form a payroll committee was briefly discussed and *it was agreed that Cllrs Sinclair and Chapman be appointed to that committee.*

190915/11 Procedures:

Cllr Sinclair explained that a draft complaint procedure had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting, but as this required further consideration, it was hoped that it could be formally adopted in November.

190915/12 Filming and Broadcasting:

The suggestions received to-date regarding use of the proceeds from the filming of Emma were considered as follows:

1. To plant a second tree adjacent to the church entrance to match the existing one. Approximate cost £250 at most. *All agreed to this and Cllr Thomas to arrange purchase and installation of new tree.*
2. To rejuvenate the Hatch Patch (Churchyard extension). *This was rejected due to constraints regarding church land.* Cllr Randles mentioned that the Parochial Church Council were looking into the possibility of securing a grant to help with this.
3. To install a stone flower trough in front of the Village Hall. *It was agreed that the Council would approach the Village Hall Committee to discuss this. It was also agreed that the Council would explore the level of villager interest for, and willingness to help maintain, a village-wide planting scheme.*
4. To upgrade the allotment facilities as follows:
 - a. Additional Village Storage Shed. With the current one now overloaded, the cost to purchase and assemble a 16'x10' shed, prepare suitable base, and have heavy-duty shelving would be approximately £3,500.
 - b. Creation of a communal storage area for allotment holders. This required further research into options available and costings.

- c. To tidy up and re-landscape the area around the current Village Shed. It was agreed that this area should be cleared and the unwanted items disposed of (contaminated sandbags etc).
5. To resurface the Mill dam footpath. It was agreed that Cllr Thomas contact the Hambro's estate manager to discuss this and enquire about the possibility of contributing towards the cost. Robin Cochrane suggested it will cost in the region of £10,000 to lay a membrane and gravel and that GCC would want to appoint and manage contractors, pay invoices and then invoice LSPC. Erecting a fence on the river side of the path was also discussed but rejected.
6. Mr Wheeler asked that the Council underwrite the cost of a reprint of the history book, at a cost of £175. It was agreed that monies from the sale of these books be paid to a nominated charity.
7. To have additional yellow or red lines through the village. Being a Highways matter, this was rejected. It was however noted that the area opposite the small-holding on Becky Hill helps in a small way when drivers park sensibly and it was therefore agreed that discreet re-lining should be undertaken to encourage this.
8. To provide new kit for the junior cricket team. Whilst this would be supported in principle, it was agreed that the Council should discuss the matter with the Cricket Club Treasurers.
9. To provide sports facilities for the Village Hall. The Village Hall Committee advised in the September 2019 LSVN that they would be prepared to purchase some items for villager use during the Autumn and Winter months, provided there was sufficient interest. Councillors therefore agreed to help fund this if the Village Hall Committee requested.
10. To provide a Christmas tree in the middle of the river. This suggestion was rejected as it was felt that the trees that are traditionally illuminated in the village for Christmas are sufficient.
11. To provide better signage regarding drones, driving through the Ford, use of sat nav, rubbish disposal, fishing etc. To be discussed at future meetings.
12. To set up CCTV cameras in the village. To be discussed at future meetings.

190915/13 Highways, Traffic and Parking Report

Coach watch has led to a reduction in coach offences in the village. However, as the Reception at Stow Police Station has now been closed, non-emergencies should be reported using 101 and emergencies or crime in progress should be reported by calling 999. Local Police Stations with Receptions can be found in Cirencester, Cheltenham or Tewkesbury. Cllr Sinclair to consult with Sgt Garrett Gloyn to verify the support he can provide.

190915/14 Village Grass Cutting and Maintenance Report

Still ongoing. Plantation area has now been cut and is looking good.

190915/15 Reports from Local Organisations and Charities

Mr Randles, Fete chairman, reported that the Village Fete was very successful with a profit of £8,253. A breakdown of the distribution of funds will be included in the next LSVN.

190915/16 Allotments and Orchard Report

The new annual allotment tenancies are due for renewal on the 1st October 2019. "Invitation to renew" letters to be sent to existing/no change tenants and full contracts to be sent to new tenants and existing ones where there have been material changes since last year.

190915/17 Parish Website Report

A new website with enhanced planning and parish notifications is being finalised and the Council agreed that it should be launched shortly, with full details announced in the next LSVN.

190915/18 Reports from Wardens

18.1 River: Cllr Roche introduced the suggestion of using 'watersnakes' an alternative to sandbags. Cllr Roche to look into this.

18.2 Rights of Way: Mr Randles updated on an ongoing negotiation between a village resident and Frank Dorrington-Ward regarding a redundant stile on footpath HSL1. This has resulted in the land agents stating they will remove the stile.

The Cotswold Voluntary Wardens have cleared the mud resulting from the accumulation of leaf litter and horse manure from Scare Lane and exposed the remains of the tarmac surface. They have also dug a number of drainage channels to the ditch. Mr Randles asked that the Parish Council write to GCC Highways to now have this section included in the twice yearly road sweep to remove the build-up of leaf litter. Cllr Thomas to write to Highways Department to request this. Also, whilst the Equestrian Centre do pick up horse manure, it would be appreciated if this could be carried out routinely to help keep Scare Lane clean. Cllr Thomas to write to the Equestrian Centre to this effect.

18.3 Snow – there were no items to report.

18.4 Trees – there were no items to report.

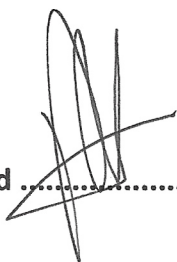
190915/19 Correspondence

No correspondence received.

190915/20 Date of Next Meeting: Sunday 17th November 2019 at 6.00pm – Lower Slaughter Village Hall

The meeting closed at 7.30 pm

Signed



Chairman

Date

17/11/19