

### **Minutes of General meeting**

**Held on Monday 19 November 2018, 18:45 at Lower Slaughter Village Hall**

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Councillors present: Cllrs Sinclair (Chairman), Chapman, Randles, Roche and Thomas.

In attendance: Liz Dowie (consultant)

3 representatives from Pulham & Sons Coaches Ltd (part of meeting)

PCSO Charlie Symes (part of meeting)

Ruth Waller – Clerk to Upper Slaughter Parish Council (part of meeting)

3 members of the public

**181119/1 Chairman's Opening Remarks**

Cllr Sinclair offered condolences to the family of Sheena Frost who had passed away on 28 October, especially coming so close after the death of her husband, Tony.

Karen and Steve Randles were thanked for their outstanding efforts in raising funds to enable the village to purchase "There but not There" artefacts for the commemoration of the centenary of the end of WW1 on Remembrance Sunday.

Cllr Sinclair had been privileged to attend the Bourton on the Water parade with other local Parish Council chairmen.

**181119/2 Declarations of Interest**

None were received.

**181119/3 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Stuart Hodges and Colin Edwin.

**181119/4 Minutes of previous meetings**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2018 were agreed and signed as a true record.

**181119/5 Matters arising from the minutes**

There were no matters arising other than those covered elsewhere in the agenda.

**181119/10 Highways, Traffic and Parking Report**

Item 10.1 was brought forward to allow input from representatives of Pulham & Sons Coaches Ltd.

Kathryn Pulham had requested that Pulhams be exempt from the TRO due to the contribution that the business makes to the local community and economy. She also explained that their vehicles had erroneously been reported to the police on occasions when they were compliant with the TRO.

Email correspondence from Sgt Garrett Gloyn of Gloucestershire Police had been circulated and he had confirmed that, since the TRO had been obtained by Gloucestershire County Council, the police could not take note of exemptions granted by other parties and that any changes would require a new TRO to be put in place.

Councillors explained that residents had, on occasions, been subjected to verbal abuse from drivers of various coach companies when they were advised that they were breaching the TRO or obstructing the highway.

It was also noted that the TRO specifically permitted coaches only to drop off and pick up groups at both hotels and not to wait. It was also confirmed that this also meant that these groups were not permitted to visit the Old Mill Museum cafe.

All parties agreed that action was necessary to resolve the matter since the increasing number of buses stopping in the village had potentially serious health and safety implications including the possibility that emergency vehicles might not be able to gain access.

With regard to the request for exemption from the TRO, it was agreed that most of the problems experienced to date might be resolved by more effective communication, which would also reduce the time spent on this issue by Pulhams, Gloucestershire Police and the Parish Council. *It was agreed that Pulhams would give the Parish Council advance notice of any coaches coming to either of the hotels. This would enable the Council to identify correctly any coaches not complying with the TRO. Any perceived infringements would then be raised directly with Pulhams in the first instance.*

It was noted that this is an issue which affects other villages in the area and the Clerk to Upper Slaughter Parish Council will advise her council of this decision and the matter will be added to the agenda of the December meeting of Upper Slaughter Parish Council.

7.15 pm 3 representatives from Pulham & Sons Coaches Ltd left the meeting.

**181119/6 To receive comments from the public**

The Clerk to Upper Slaughter Parish Council reported that the application 18/03990/FUL for temporary change of use of the land at The Gravel Pits, Fosseyway had been considered at the Council's meeting on 12 November and it had requested that a condition be imposed that, following conclusion of the work by Thames Water, the land be returned immediately to its original use as agricultural land.

She also reported that Bob Hardie of Stow on the Wold Police had advised against dealing directly with coach operators regarding the TRO in Upper Slaughter.

Cllr Sinclair thanked the Clerk for passing on information from Upper Slaughter Parish Council.

**181119/7 WW1 Remembrance Centenary**

Cllr Randles advised that donations had covered the full cost of £1791.46 for commemorative items and wished to pass on thanks to all residents and to the hotels for their contributions. It was also pleasing that the Remembrance Sunday events had been well supported.

7.20 pm PCSO Symes briefly attended the meeting and Cllr Sinclair summarised the discussions which had taken place under agenda item 181119/10.1 and the agreement reached. Cllr Sinclair advised that he would write to Sgt Gloyn to advise him of the conclusions reached.

**181119/8 Finance**

**8.1** Cllr Chapman reported on the financial position as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018 *the report was approved by the Council and signed by Cllr Roche.* (See appendix for full financial report).

**8.2** Cllr Chapman reported on receipts since the last meeting which included the balance of the 2018/19 precept - £1,400. The following payments sanctioned since the last meeting were noted:

Bibury Grass Maintenance	£274.67	Highways Act 1980 s96
Castle Water – allotment water charges	£29.27	Smallholding & Allotments Act 1908 s23
GAPTC training – 2 councillors	£170.00	LGA 1972 s111
Bibury Grass Maintenance	£274.67	Highways Act 1980 s96
Photocopying costs for Planning EGM	£10.50	LGA 1972 s111

**8.3** The following *payments due* were approved by the Council

PATA Payroll Services (Jul/Aug/Sept)	£7.50	LGA 1972 s111
K Randles - Allotment renewal	£18.50	Smallholding & Allotments Act 1908 s23
postage/printing		
Community Heartbeat - defibrillator maintenance	£45.60	LGA 1972 s137

8.4 There were no other financial matters to report.

8.5 Cllr Chapman advised that he would obtain quotations for the internal audit for 2018/19 and a new auditor would be appointed at the January meeting.

#### **181119/9 Planning Applications**

##### **9.1 To report CDC decisions made since the last meeting**

18/01288/FUL St Mary's Church, Lower Slaughter – Construction of a detached WC and garden store; re-surfacing and extension of existing pathway; demolition of derelict concrete block and asbestos cement store abutting listed dovecote (neighbouring property). Permitted

##### **9.2 To consider new planning applications**

18/03990/FUL Land Parcel at The Gravel Pits, Fosseyway, Lower Slaughter, Gloucestershire. Temporary change of use for utilities depot. It was noted that Thames Water would appear to be a good temporary tenant for this site but councillors shared the concerns of Upper Slaughter Parish Council regarding the long term future of the site.

##### **9.3 To discuss any other planning issues**

In relation to the above application (18/03990/FUL), a bund has been built and grassed over just inside the boundary of the site adjacent to the Fosseyway. It is the Council's opinion that this requires planning consent and there is no record of an application. Cllr Sinclair will raise this issue with CDC Planning and report back. Cllr Sinclair had concerns about noise pollution and would follow this matter up with the CDC Environmental Health Department.

#### **181119/10 Highways, Traffic and Parking Report**

10.1 This item had been brought forward to an earlier part of the meeting.

10.2 Lengthsman – Cllr Thomas was pursuing this matter with the Highways Department in order to establish whether the tasks on the list would be carried out.

#### **181119/11 Village Grass Cutting and Maintenance Report**

11.1 **Telephone box repainting** The paint had been obtained free of charge and the telephone box would be repainted in the spring.

11.2 **Grass cutting** Cllr Chapman advised that Bibury Garden Services had held the grass cutting contract for the last 3 years and that he would initiate the re-tendering process in the New Year. The new contract will include the common land on the allotment site at an expected increase in cost of around £1,000 per annum. The work may be split into 2 separate contracts if this proves more convenient or cost effective.

#### **181119/12 Local Businesses, Church, Fete and Village Hall Report**

**Village Hall** – the AGM is due to be held on 20 November and it was noted that Bob Ayers would be standing down as a trustee. Cllr Sinclair would obtain a copy of the minutes and would ask Colin Edwin to provide an update at the January Parish Council meeting.

#### **181119/13 Allotments and Orchard Report**

Cllr Chapman thanked Cllr Randles for her work in renewing all the tenancy agreements. These had all been returned and all payments had been received.

It was reported that 3 fence posts in the orchard may need to be replaced.

The Allotment Strategy Working Party had now become an informal group which would meet quarterly, with the first meeting hopefully to take place in early December.

A picnic area had now been created and residents should be aware that they did not need to be allotment holders in order to use this area.

#### **181119/14 Parish Website Report**

There were no new items to report.

#### **181119/15 Community Initiative**

Cllr Roche was looking into the viability of this scheme and consideration will be given to incorporating a register of volunteers in the parish website.

7.40 pm The Clerk to Upper Slaughter Parish Council left the meeting.

#### **181119/16 Lower Slaughter Village News**

(Subsequent to the meeting it was confirmed that Colin Edwin had, prior to the November meeting, provided a statement about the future of the LSVN in which he said, "I am sure that you will be pleased to hear that the LSVN Team, David, Jeannette, Christine and Colin, supported by the team of distributors have agreed to continue to produce the Village Newsletter. Further details regarding electronic publication, closing dates for copy and funding will be included in an article in the December edition of the LSVN". Due to an oversight, this was not reported at the November meeting.)

#### **181119/17 Reports from Wardens**

17.1 River – Mr Ayers reported that:

- reeds between the 2 bridges and in the mill pond had been cleared but there was more work to do. The resident whose property was adjacent to the mill pond would clear his side in due course and he has already cut back the willow trees. Mr Ayers was asked to advise the council if contractors are needed to carry out this work.
- Cllr Sinclair congratulated Mr Ayers for being shortlisted in the CDC Chairman's Community Awards 2018.

17.2 Rights of Way – Mr Randles reported that:

- generally footpaths were in good condition.
- the hedgerows on footpath HSL1 opposite The Rectory and on footpath HSL2 Green Lane to Upper Slaughter had been cut back.
- it would be more evident after prolonged rainfall if the drainage ditch by the equestrian centre on footpath HSL8 will prevent flooding of the footpath.
- the sightline at the exit from footpath HSL10 onto the Fosseway was good at present.
- A "Temporary Closure Notice" had been posted on bridlepath HSL15 covering the first 400m section. This will be closed for maintenance work for a 3 week period sometime between 29 October 2018 and 29 April 2019.
- Mr Ayers asked for an update on the request to place a dog waste bin or litter bin at the end of Green Lane and Cllr Sinclair advised that he would follow this up.

17.3 Snow – nothing to report.

17.4 Trees – nothing to report.

#### **181119/18 Councillor Training**

It was confirmed that Cllr Roche would attend a councillor training course in the New Year.

#### **181119/19 Correspondence**

Cotswolds Warden Robin Cochrane had forwarded a communication from Government requesting input into the Cotswolds AONB Management Plan 2018-23 to promote the Cotswolds becoming a National Park. The online consultation closes on 18 December 2018. It was noted that the potential change to National Park status would create more restrictions for Planning and it was proposed that this matter be considered at a future Parish Council meeting

Notification had been received of a proposal to reduce the availability of the X-Ray Department in North Cotswold Hospital, Moreton-in-Marsh from 30 hours to 8 hours per week. There is an online petition in support of maintaining the existing hours.

**181119/23 Date of next meeting:** Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019 – 18:45 at Lower Slaughter Village Hall

Signed .....

Chairman

Date .....

The meeting closed at 7.55 pm