

**MINUTES OF ARNCOTT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2015 IN THE  
VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM**

**PRESENT:** John Cooper (in the chair), Lee Savidge and Neil Thompson

**APOLOGIES:** Rob Hill, Martin Byrne, David Hughes (District Councillor) and Anne Davies (Clerk)

Clive Parker attended in Anne's absence to take the Minutes of the Meeting.

**197 Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest

**198 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2015 were agreed.

**199 Matters Arising**

Lee Savidge mentioned the hole in the stopcock pipe on the corner of Woodpiece Road was still causing difficulty. It has been fixed, but temporarily backfilled and sectioned off with bollards until a permanent fill is put in place which should be around the 9<sup>th</sup> of April 2015.

Kerbs had been replaced in Woodpiece. Lee also mentioned that drains in Norris Road to Ploughley Road were full of mud and needed attention.

**ACTION – Lee to report to Oxfordshire County Council**

There is also a problem with "poo bags" and other rubbish in the trees in the alleyway between Murcott Road/Buchanan Court/Woodpiece Road. Need to establish who responsible for/owns the alley.

Neil Thompson asked whether the Clerk had heard anything more about the "Give Way" sign at the end of Harper Close.

**ACTION: Anne Davies to report back to Council**

## **200 Motocross**

Motocross had been sold again, another new owner SW Mototracks. They have not purchased the land but have a right to operate. Through Cherwell DC, the company had asked the Parish Council if they could operate over the Easter holiday. The answer was “No”. They also had asked the District Council if they could operate Car Boot Sales. The Parish Council see no objection.

## **201 Planning Applications**

Notification of two planning applications had been received, 20 Green Lane and 53 Woodpiece Road. The Parish Council discussed the proposals but have no objection to either application.

## **202 Planning Decisions**

There were no planning decisions to report

## **203 Finance**

Cheques were signed as follows :-

Tetbury Accounting Ltd - £120

Mr F Milloy - £140

Cherwell DC - £29.15

HAGS Smp - £337.20

M Dempsey - £300

**ACTION - John Cooper to send cheques**

## **204 Councillor Reports**

John Cooper reported that David Hughes had contacted him about trees/bare root trees in Woodpiece Road. John was awaiting a letter from David but David is currently on holiday.

Lee Savidge mentioned recent problems with a car and van skidding around the football pitch. Lee had spoken to Becky Fishwick about it. Fencing was needed with a lockable gate.

Lee has not yet ordered Dog Bins as he was unsure of process. Anne Davies normally orders. Agreed to order two and then decide where to put them. Bob Richards to put them up.

**ACTION - Lee to discuss with Anne.**

Lee also mentioned roadworks in the village and Open Reach. Broadband is now expected in September.

The bin near the bus stop in Norris Road has rusted away and has a hole in it. Lee said that he had reported it to Cherwell DC and they had undertaken to look into it. Nothing has happened.

**ACTION – Lee to chase the District Council**

**205 Village Hall**

Neil Thompson said that Village Hall bookings were currently good, lots for June, parties etc. A block booking had been received from 15<sup>th</sup> April for 6 weeks from Holly Laverick for dance and aerobics. There is a possibility this may continue after. Neil mentioned that he has a list of all the people with keys to the Hall. Overall, the Hall had not got as many bookings as last year but things were picking up. Prices had been raised for this year. Neil said that two lights had been fixed, one in the Bar Area, the other an Emergency Exit light, and the fan in the disabled toilet had also been fixed.

John Cooper reported that the Solar Farm at Brook Farm had recently been connected to the mains. When the donation has been received from SunEdison the Council can get on with organising solar panels for the Hall roof.

**206 War Memorial**

A quote had been received for the groundwork and slabs for the Memorial. A couple more quotes were in the pipeline. A decision was needed on the number of flower beds, shingle, netting etc. Neil had spoken to Richard at Print

Run. A sub-committee meeting was taking place on 21<sup>st</sup> April to consider Memorial issues further.

## **207 Correspondence**

No correspondence to report.

## **208 Public Participation**

Lorraine Walton mentioned that no one had looked at the trees in Constables Croft. A reminder is needed.

Christeen Lavery reported on the following :-

- Problem of rats in Norris Road, people putting out food in their gardens is an issue. John agreed to put a piece in the Parish Matters

### **ACTION - John Cooper to write a piece for Parish Matters**

- A neighbour has had a chimenea taken from their garden. He has been told to report it to the Police and to get a URN.
- A car is still parked on verge at number 12 Murcott Road. Unclear whether a letter was sent from the Parish Council.

### **ACTION – Anne Davies to check**

- Leylandii at number 1 Hopcraft Close.

Lee said that he had reported it to the District Council to see if they'd cut it.

### **ACTION – Lee to follow up.**

- Could the Council purchase a microphone/mini PA for the Hall as it was difficult to hear what people were saying at Parish Council meetings? Also, could the minutes be more informative?

### **ACTION – Clerk and Chairman to discuss**

- Any outcome of discussions with Carl Robinson re land/hedge between 17 Green Lane & the playing field? John Cooper mentioned that he had asked him how much land he was interested in and how much he was

prepared to pay. Carl had said he was keen to proceed but couldn't get anyone to quote for fencing or hedge cutting.

- Discussion about this hedge. Is it possible to cut it down to ground level?

## **209 Any Other Business**

John Cooper reported that he had asked the Adjutant at Bicester Garrison for possible help with the Summer Fete. It appeared the Adjutant was leaving but an email had gone round the base to see if there were volunteers.

With regard to VE Day on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May, the Parish Council agreed that they would not have a beacon lighting event.

Lee Savidge mentioned the wood on Buchanan Road past Colin Arnold's. It was reported that the MoD own the land which was being used as a cycle track by local youngsters. The MoD is aware of the issues.

John Cooper mentioned the Village Spring Clean on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April . Volunteers should report at the Village Hall at 10.30 am. Ideas were requested as to what areas to tackle. The old play area in Woodpiece Road and Palmer Road were two suggestions. Steven Wells said he would do Buchanan Court ditch.

Fred Milloy does four hours cleaning a week, so his time was limited.

John Cooper raised the issue of the Village Hall and Trustees. John said he needed to get himself formally appointed to the Board of Trustees so he could write to the Charity Commissioners to get things sorted. There were a number of organisations "represented" on the Board which no longer existed. Therefore the number of trustees and who they represent needed review. John said existing trustees needed to be contacted to see if they wanted to continue. Anyone interested to let John know.

**ACTION – John Cooper**

**210 Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May

**Chairman**