

COWBIT PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of meeting of Cowbit Parish Council held on Monday 19th May 2014
in the Village Hall, Cowbit commencing at 7.30pm**

Present:- Cllrs. Tyrrell, Back, Simpson, Kendall and Sharman

In attendance:- Dist. Cllr. Casson, Cty. Cllr. Fairman, PSCO Bev Robinson and seven members of the public.

01.14 Election of Chairman

Cllr. Tyrrell stated he was more than happy if another Cllr wanted to take the role. However, Cllr Tyrrell was elected to serve as Chairman for the coming year

02.14 Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office

The Chairman signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office, his signature being witnessed by the Clerk.

03.14 Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr. Kendall also stated he was more than happy if another Cllr wanted to take the role. Cllr Kendall was elected to serve as Vice Chairman for the coming year.

04.14 Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office

The Vice Chairman signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office, his signature being witnessed by the Clerk.

05.14 Apologies

None

06.14 Public Forum

A resident told of his disappointment was expressed at the planning being granted for the traveller site. Cllr Woolf said he would represent the residents yet no representation was made. Cllr Casson gave no vote. The chairman reported he attended the meeting and explained the Chairman of the Planning Committee decided to refuse the request for Cllr Woolf to speak. The Chairman of the Planning Committee had said it was not in the interest of SHDC for him to speak. Yet Portfolio holder Christine Lawton spoke although should have declared an interest. The vote was 6 for, 6 against and 1 abstained. Cllr Casson stated he was advised by Vicky Thompson (legal dept) not to speak or vote. This was challenged by a member of the public as previously Cllr Casson had stated he was told he could not speak or vote. It was relevant the vote was 6:6 and Cllr Gamba Jones has 2 votes. Opinion was expressed for the Parish Council to go through the council's complaints process due to the fundamental breakdown of the process and issue of principle. Cllr Simpson proposed to this, seconded by Cllr Back.

07.14 Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 24th February 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 24th February 2014, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

08.14 Matters arising

None

09.14 Matters arising from the Annual Open Parish Meeting

None

10.14 Correspondence

Correspondence for meeting 19th May 2014

(a) SHDC Update – Register of Electors 2014

(b) AON Insurance

(c) Grant Thornton – Annual Audit (due 27.6.2014)

(d) Remittance Advice – BACS Payment – Precept £6,500

(e) Remittance Advice – BACS Payment – DMB 2 14 (Village Hall Chairs) £1,500

(f) Playing Field Risk Assessment

(g) SDHC invitation to Civil Reception on 25/4/2014 (Received 14/5/2014)?

(i) Fenland Leisure Products

(j) Transported – Cowbit Bus Shelter, lockable bus shelter frames to exhibit postcard artwork – it was agreed to invite them to the next meeting.

(k) Pinnacle People – Rob Walker – it was agreed to invite him to the next meeting.

Circulation

Clerk's & Councils Direct

LCR

LALC News

Glasdon Products for local councils

11.14 Police matters

PCSO Robinson reported that between 30.6.2013 – 19.5.2014 there had been the following incidents:-

Anti Social Behaviour – 22

Criminal Damage – 5

Road Traffic Collision – 3

Theft – 13

Violence – 1

Burglary – 1

Cowbit Parish has the lowest figures although it is the smallest Parish. PCSO

Robinson went on to report there seems to be a current theft of garden ornaments and asked residents to report anything unusual. The meeting was reminded that the next Police and Community Forum would be held in Cowbit Village Hall on 20th June.

PCSO Bev Robinson then reported receiving funding for 'Chelsea's Choice' (child protection) due to be held on 12th October at Moulton – this will be advertised nearer the time and will be free to see.

12.14 Highways matters

The Clerk reported that Maxine Stukins (Senior Highways Officer) had been in touch with regards to surface water on Stonegate, an inspection will be carried out during the next heavy period of rainfall.

13.14 Finance matters

The following payments were approved:-

AON Ltd – annual insurance premium	£942.01
South Holland Parish Voluntary Car Service	£365.24
Style Seating Ltd (Village Hall Chairs)	£3,600.00
Mr Bartram – village sign	£373.31
Churchyard Grant – Grass cutting	£500

Other Financial Matters

The grant of £1,500 (£500 per council) from the designated budget has been received for the village chairs. The village hall will also give £1,500 contribution and the chairs will be on permanent loan to the village hall.

The South Holland Parish Voluntary Car Service needs to be publicised more and it was proposed by Cllr Sharman and seconded by Cllr Kendall for Cllr Simpson to highlight it in the Village Voice and the Village Website. District Cllr Casson will be attending a meeting in June and will ask what the usage is of the service

14.14 Consideration of approval of 2013/2014 Annual Return and Statement of Governance

With the agreement of those present the Chairman and Clerk signed the Annual Return and Statement of Governance.

15.14 Consideration of additional Village sign

A picture of the cow was asked for and it was suggested to get some up to date quotes. One of the residents asked for the village to have a choice and it was agreed to discuss it at the next meeting. It was also suggested to approach the school for children to design the sign.

16.14 Church grass cutting grant

The chairman explained the Parish Council had given various grants over the years, and whoever is currently undertaking the work is doing a great job
Cllr Simpson proposed a £500 grant, seconded by Cllr Sharman.

17.14 Playing Field Matters

Mr Matthews reported the playing field committee is not currently a registered charity. There are currently 5 members plus 1 pending. There has been too little

time to work on organising a summer village day. The children at Cowbit school have worked on some ideas for a park they would like to see. The artist impression of a potential idea is ongoing. The fence has been purchased for around the Pavilion. Once it is up the Pavilion will have required work completed. It was then reported that Fenway will no longer be using the facilities and there was then discussion as to the possibility of any other football teams to use the site. The semi-permanent kick wall was spoke about and the chairman asked for this to be an agenda item for the next meeting.

The Clerk was asked to photocopy the risk assessment in preparation for the next meeting for all Cllrs.

The blue bin is still in situ. Clerk to phone Mr Blackamore.

18.14 Planning matters

Notification of application (available via SHDC website) was considered for:-

H22-0322-14 Lucksbridge Horticulture Ltd - Proposed replacement glasshouse and 2 new Biomass Plant Rooms – concerns of overdevelopment of the site & fumes from the biomass boiler. Clerk will request for Cowbit Parish to be on the consultation list.

H01-0317-14 Bellesmere Farm - Proposed 2 grain bins to existing storage site – no comment

H01-0258-14 16 Barrier Bank - Proposed First Floor Extension and Alterations to Chalet Bungalow – no comment

19.13 Any other business

It was reported that the church clock will be a major job, quotes have been received for around £3,000. County Cllr Fairman stated he would look into any possibility of some funding. Another option suggested would be lottery funding.

Cllr Kendall reported the grass just outside of the Dun Cow site is very untidy. District Cllr Casson will take a look as unsure if it is county or district's responsibility.

Tree preservation orders will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

A resident reported what seems to be a business running from No 17 Clarkson Ave fitting car stereos, and the weeds are also high at that property. Clerk was asked to contact the housing dept. Also the state of weeds on the footpath between Clarkson Avenue & Parkin Road was mentioned.

A resident reported occupiers at 2 properties are needing the hedges cut. The chairman stated that house numbers would be needed to enable letters to be sent out. Cllr Tyrrell will investigate.

Chairman