

MINAL PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting Held on 14 January 2019 At 6.30pm in the Village Hall

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| 1. Present:
John Bevan - Chairman
Brian Devonshire – Co-Vice Chairman
Ruth Kolish
Anna Whitehead
Chris Webb | Apologies:
Rob Bailey
Sue Hine (Clerk and RFO)

In Attendance: Jane Davies, County Councillor |
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Minutes: Taken by Ruth Kolish and transcribed by RK and Clerk

2. Questions from the Public: None.

3. Declarations of Interest: None

4. Minutes of the meeting held on the 12 November 2018

The Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising – Also see separate Matters Arising and Actions List

Provision of Bus shelter and Footpath

JB and RK have attended recent Cat G meetings where we are now on the priority list. There is concern that the bus stop has become disconnected from the footpath and is now being viewed as two projects. The costs for the bus stop have increased to £10,000 as Ringway feel that the road is not wide enough and will have to be shut for the work to commence. RK stated that it was wide particularly as there was a lay by opposite and following the meeting Steve Hind came to re-measure the road but no response has been received from him yet. A condition of the Cat G grant is using WCC preferred contractor which is Ringway so we are unable to obtain other quotes. 25% of £10,000 is considerably more than the original budget and JB feels that we need to obtain further evidence of the need and feasibility for this provision. Councillor Jane Davies re-iterated WCC policy that Ringway is a preferred supplier and offered to chase up Steve Hind on our behalf.

6. Dog Waste Bins

RB was contacted by a parishioner requesting a bin for dog waste near the playing field as there is a lot of bagged and unbagged waste being left along the path which is unattractive and unhygienic. The Clerk has carried out some research. WCC are no longer providing waste bins or a collection service and recommended Idverde who are a private company used by many parishes and WCC for various activities. Having looked online Idverde offer a complete service for supply and installation and emptying costs include new bags which works out cheaper than purchasing the various elements separately. The Clerk had drafted some emptying options and asked Councillors to discuss these. JB and RB suggested that a bin also be provided in the playground car park. RK

noted that the bin shown was for general waste and asked if this was appropriate for dog waste. Also whether the size would encourage more waste eg nappies to be left. Councillors approved the purchase of two bins one to be located in the playground car park and the other to be in the Sports field opposite the telephone box subject to clarifying all waste would be collected and upon completion of the playground car park. Following the meeting the Clerk and Chairman met to discuss this and JB has issued an email proposal, as per our standing orders, to Councillors clarifying that all waste is collected from the bins and asking for approval to purchase two bins. All Councillors have now replied and the Clerk will order the bins with Idverde.

7. Councillor Vacancy

There is a vacancy on the Parish Council following the resignation of Deirdre Watson. As extensive advertising was carried out in April JB and RB have been following up a couple enquiries. Clive Schofield has now taken on Chairmanship of Sports and Social Club so has limited time. It was agreed to invite Guy Gagen to the next meeting with a view to co-opting him to the Council.

8. Planning

No one has objected to the new Hernshaw plans and a decision from planning department is awaited. The Clerk wrote to Lesley and Joe to thank them for their efforts to produce a pleasing design to suit the village. The Old Forge Cottage application was also not objected to as the plans were within the existing site plan. The Clerk had collected votes by email as per our standing orders. The PC have agreed with WCC and objected to the Greenways development on the grounds that the plans were too large for the plot and breached Core planning policies

9. Rights of Way

Nothing to report.

10. Playground Car park update

BD reported that the area had been pegged out and work was to start shortly. Sir Nigel Thompson will oversee the work. A bill for £252 has been received from MJS Contracting for new logs fitted into the play park. This is part of the Maintenance plan and has been paid by the Clerk.

11. Website Progress

We are now higher up the rankings when google searching due to the considerable efforts of CW. CW and the Clerk have attended a further training session with Chris Franklin. As the website language constantly evolves CW and the Clerk feel that further ad hoc sessions may be required and this should be budgeted for. Money remains in the Website grant for this purpose. Councillors approved this.

Action: CW is to identify revised budget amount for hosting and other costs.

12. Responsible Finance Officers/RFO Report

The Accounts were approved and signed by the Chairman. Following the

approval of Councillors the RFO has now signed the financial statement. It was noted that the VAT return up to the end of December 2018 has been completed and payment received and that the Clerk will apply for the approved Precept of £22,000 by the deadline of 25 January 2019. There are continuing problems with HSBC administration and the Clerk has been offered further compensation for the time taken to resolve issues.

Action - The Clerk will issue a revised budget for 2019 shortly.

13. Area Board/Neighbourhood Plan Update

Deirdre Watson is continuing to sit on the Neighbourhood planning Group along with Sir Nigel Thompson. As this is two well known residents from Mildenhall DW had asked JB if she could continue to update the Parish Council on the activities of the Neighbourhood Planning Group or did we require another current Councillor to represent us. JB proposed that this was sufficient and this was approved by Councillors.

14. Any Other Business

14.1 Parish Pump

RB has conducted a household survey in the village asking residents whether they would like to continue to receive a paper copy of the Pump or whether they would be happy to download from the website. RB has received 102 replies indicating the Pump is well read and that residents would like to continue to receive a paper copy. For some time advertising costs have not covered the costs and the MPCC Treasurer has requested a donation of £500 from the Council. This is 50% more than the £250 in the budget for 2018-19. Councillors approved the request to support the village magazine.

14.2 Tommy in the Churchyard – JB removed this on the last day of the year and it is stored in his garage. It will be re-installed next year near Armistice Day.

14.3 Litter on Greenways and Chopping Knife Lane

CW mentioned that he had been picking up litter at his end of the village and it was acknowledged that visitors do not seem to take litter home with them. Hopefully the provision of new bins will help this in the future.

14.4 Salt bins

RK advised the Council that the bin opposite Old Forge Cottage is in a sorry state with spiders webs. RB is shortly back from his holiday and will pick up this as part of the Emergency plan.

Action - RB

Meeting closed at 8.00pm – next meeting 11 March 2019