

North Cerney Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING on 15th December 2022 at 7.30 pm at The Memorial Hall, North Cerney

Present: Councillors Adam Stoten, Nigel Wilkes, Cathy Martin and Clare Cannock and Barr Koch as RFO

Presiding: Councillor Adam Stoten (Vice-Chair)

Clerk: V Hancock

Apologies: Councillors Mark Tufnell, Linda de Carles and Neil Brown, County Councillor Paul Hodgkinson and PCSO Susan Fellows

1. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 8th September 2022

The Council **resolved** that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th September 2022 at The Memorial Hall, North Cerney be approved and signed.

2. Matters Arising:

2.1 **Water leak at Broad Close:** The Clerk reported that the leak had been dealt with, but the highway drain had yet to be repaired.

2.2 **Woodmancote Planters:** Denise Ewbank and other Woodmancote residents, who had maintained the planters during the summer, had removed the bedding plants and replaced them with winter-flowering plants. She had been in contact with Tom Shaw, and had asked if the Parish Council might contribute to the cost of the plants. The RFO confirmed there was still money in the budget for the planters that had previously been agreed. The Clerk would ask Denise what the cost was.

3. District and County Issues:

3.1 **County Council:** Councillor Hodgkinson had sent a report regarding the following:

3.1.1 **A417 “Missing Link”:** The Government had given final approval for works to start. Preparatory works would commence in early 2023 and full construction from next September. The existing road would remain in operation while the new dual carriageway is built around it. National Highways expect that the new road will open in late 2025.

3.1.2 **Covid and Flu:** There are currently a high number of cases of Covid and Flu, and other viruses. There has been a high take-up of vaccinations by the over-65s, but a lower take-up by the 50-65 age group. Given the intense strain on the NHS, it is important for all over-50s to have the booster vaccinations, to protect themselves and others,

3.1.3 **Fosse Cross Recycling Centre:** Visits to the Centre can now be booked “on the day”. He had asked why the booking system was still necessary, and had been told that, as it was “working well”, it would be continued.

3.1.4 **Gritting:** Following the recent snow and ice, he clarified that the County Council gritted the main roads three times in every 24 hour period. Side roads are not gritted, and parishes could have stocks of grit to either give out or be positioned for residents to use.

3.2 **District Council:** In the absence of Councillor Forde there was no report.

4. Financial Matters

4.1 Reconciliation statement and authorisation of expenditure: The reconciliation statement was presented by the RFO and it was **resolved** that it be approved. The balance of the precept for this year, had been received. Ross Collins' invoice e had yet to be received, but was expected to be for £850. It was agreed to pay Roy Savory £175 for mowing the village green. The following expenditure was approved:

V Hancock	Salary September to November	441.00
George Stone Gardens	Plants	93.24
Ross Collins	Playground mowing	850.00
Roy Savory	Mowing village green	175.00
Village Hall	Hire of hall	15,00

4.2 CIL Receipts: The Council had received £454.98, and would receive further payments totalling over £4,000 by instalments in December and June, in respect of the new development at Woodmancote. These funds had to be kept separate from the Council's general funds.

4.3 Budget and precept for 2022-23: The RFO expected there would be a balance of some £3,750 at the end of the financial year. No unusual major expenditure was expected next year, but items might arise during the year. It was **resolved** to keep the precept at its present figure of £6,000.

5, Woodmancote Defibrillator: Christopher Wise from Woodmancote attended the meeting, as he was organising fund raising for a defibrillator in Woodmancote. Part of the profit from the village Jubilee event had been applied to this fund, and they were selling Christmas cards and arranging other events. So far they had raised about £100 and a further £300 was pledged. The cost was expected to be in the region of £1,500. A grant might be available from the District Council. It was proposed to install it in the bus shelter. A means of supplying electricity had yet to be identified, The Clerk would ask Councillor Hodgkinson if he could find out whether it could be connected to the supply to a street lamp.

Councillor Stoten would pass to him the contact details for the defibrillator installed in North Cerney.

It was agreed that this would be a suitable use for part of the CIL funds

6. Neighbourhood Watch and Crime Prevention:

6.1 PCSO Fellows had sent a Report of crime in the parish. During the period 1st November to 1st December, there had been one residential burglary and one case of violence. The violence related to an incident at Fosse Cross where the victim was verbally abused. The burglary was from an outbuilding of an unoccupied property in Calmsden, where building works were being carried out. There had been a recent spate of thefts of building equipment on building sites in the Chedworth area. Building workers should be asked to take their work equipment home where possible.

6.2 VAS Speed sign: Councillor Wilkes reported that he had applied for the VAS machine, and had met with Matthew Parker of Gloucestershire County Council Road Safety Department. He had been told there needed to be three sites for the machine. At present there were only two on the A435. Speed data would need to be produced for the third site. It was suggested that the main road through Woodmancote might be a suitable site.

7. Highway Issues:

7.1 Closures of A429 and A435: Notification had been received of the rolling closure of sections of these roads for ash die-back felling. Advance notice of closures would be given

7.2 Potholes: The Clerk had reported the potholes in Burcombe Lane

7.3 Trees in the river: Councillor Cannock confirmed that this had now been dealt with.

7.4 Camera at Woodmancote: The Clerk had received enquiries about a camera installed on a lamp post in Woodmancote. Councillor Hodgkinson had ascertained that it was an ANPR camera installed at the request of the police.

7.5 Winter Ice and Snow: During the recent ice and snow it had become apparent that there was no-one available to use the snow-plough or to grit the side roads in and around North Cerney and Woodmancote. It was agreed this needed further consideration. In the meantime, Councillor Tufnell would be asked if he could arrange for the grit bins to be refilled from the stocks he was holding.

8. Woodmancote playground: Councillor Brown had reported that the weeds on the asphalt area had not yet been treated. The Clerk had asked Ross Collins if he could deal with this when conditions were right. Councillor Brown had also suggested the Council might consider installing goal posts in that area, so more use could be made of it. It was agreed that a general upgrade of the area and some of the equipment could be considered.

9. Planning applications and Tree Preservation Orders:

9.1 Applications: The following had been notified to the Council:

Former Calf Barn, Moor Wood, Woodmancote – change of use of the Calf Barn to a residential dwelling and associated works

Chapel Farm North Cerney – conversion of farmhouse barns and outbuildings to 4 residential units

Scrubditch Farm – erection of an agricultural building for crop and machinery storage

The Grange Woodmancote – extension and remodelling of garage to form ancillary residential accommodation

Calmsden Manor – advertisement application for erection of an aluminium sign

9.2 Consents:

Scrubditch Farm – as above

The Grange Woodmancote - as above

Calmsden Manor – as above

Nordown Barn – installation of solar PV equipment on roof - No approval needed.

10. Correspondence: The following had been received by the Clerk:

10.1 Notification that parish council elections would be held on 4 May 2023. Further information would be provided.

10.2 Janey Gibney had been appointed by Cotswold District Council as a Community Support Officer for Town and Parish Councils.

10.3 Cotswold District Council are encouraging communities to consider Community Composting. It was agreed this was not feasible in the parish.

10.4 Press releases from Cotswold District Council on (inter alia)

Over half a million raised through Crowdfund Cotswold

Clamping down on illegal fly-tipping

Reminder to householders of their duty of care regarding disposal of builders waste

Upgrade of the gym at Cirencester Leisure Centre

A partnership with Bromford housing to deliver more affordable low-carbon homes

10.4 From GAPTC regarding

- Training courses for Councillors, Clerks and Finance Officers
- Roll-out of EV charging points by Gloucestershire County Council
- The consultation on new constituency boundaries
- Updated pay agreement for clerks

10.5 From Cotswold District Council regarding the Government's Rural England Prosperity Fund

10.6 Regarding progress of the Energy Bill through Parliament

10.7 A complaint through the website about a neighbour's noxious bonfire

11 Any Other Business:

11.1 Christopher Wise said that there were problems with Wi-fi in Woodmancote. It was good when it worked, but unreliable. It was suggested that Councillor Hodgkinson might be able to help.

11.2 Councillor Cannock proposed a vote of thanks to Councillor Martin and those who had assisted in organising the recent community party. The Council also thanked those who had organised the School Christmas Fair.

11.3 It was suggested that the Council might consider installing a commemorative Coronation bench on the North Cerney village green. The Clerk would look into this.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.20 pm

Signed:

Date:

The next meeting will be on Thursday 2 March 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall.