

LITTLE BARDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting held on Monday 19th September 2016 at 7.30pm in Gardiner's Barn

Members Present

Cllr William Gardiner (Chairman), Cllr Terry Cutmore (Vice Chairman), Cllr Colin Simpson, Cllr Clare Beeston, Cllr Andrew Davies, Mrs C. Feltham-Williams (Clerk), C Cllr Simon Walsh, D Cllr Simon Howell

Public present Mrs M. Gardiner

1. Apologies

None

2. Public Forum

No matters brought to the Council's attention

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

- Minutes of 12th July 2016 – Approved and signed by the Chairman
- Minutes of 25th August 2016 – Approved and signed by the Chairman

4. Annual Return

Clerk to circulate template for Standing Orders and Financial Regulations to be amended by Councillors.

Cllr Colin Simpson agreed to look at the Council's current insurance policy to see if it covers all areas that are needed. Competitive quotes to be gained at time of renewal, Clerk to contact EALC to enquire about different Insurance companies.

Asset list to be completed by the Clerk, Assets belonging to the Parish Council are 2 benches, Little Bardfield Village sign, Water pump at Oxen End, Printer and office equipment used by Clerk, 3 Salt Bins and 3 noticeboards, Bus Shelter.

5. County Councillors Report

County Cllr Simon Walsh delivered a county report in which he stated the highways conversion of street lights to LED's is due to begin, saving the public thousands a year. He has also instigated a change in the use of recycling centres; they can no longer accept trade waste as the sites do not carry the correct licenses. This will reduce queues for people using the sites for household waste. Cllr Colin Simpson asked if this was likely to increase fly tipping, Cllr Simon Walsh is to run a parallel campaign for fly tipping, where on the spot fines can be issued up to £400.

Local Highway panel had a meeting recently; they have £650k in funded projects in the system.

The Chairman thanked C.Cllr Simon Walsh for his report and attendance.

6.Highways.

Cllr Terry Cutmore has reported three potholes; these have been marked for repair.

Clerk is to put the Parish Boundary and Footpath Maps onto the council website.

Clerk to contact Mr David Low regarding hedges especially on Dairy Lane corner.

7. Finance

The following Invoices were approved and paid.

Mrs N Powell Davies (Internal Auditor) £150.00

EALC/NALC affiliation fees £83.79

Clerk Salary and expenses.

Invoice for UALC membership not approved for payment.

Cllr T.Cutmore gave a very detailed report on his many discussions with Santander concerning the ongoing problems in changing the Bank signatories and contact details. A copy of this report is included with the minutes

The Parish Council agreed that Santander have until the end of September to complete the change of details or the Council will decide to move to another Bank.

The Council unanimously agreed to keep £1000 in reserve in the event of a contested election.

The Bank balance stands at £5219.84 following payment of the above invoices

8. Planning

Solar Farm west of Hawkspur Green

Cllr William Gardiner has been in contact with Mr Clive Theobald regarding documents not yet on the Planning Portal regarding the Solar Farm site. Lorries for the site had been getting lost as far away as Finchingfield. The Road Traffic Management Plan was submitted in August but was not yet approved by the Council, the site was shut down by enforcement officers but a few days later a digger was levelling the site with no Road Traffic Management Plan in place. Cllr Simon Howell has also been trying to get in touch with Mr Theobald and will continue to do so.

There are three conditions still not on the Planning Portal, however Cllr Simon Howell was advised by Mr Clive Theobald these conditions had be received and approved.

The Parish council was advised that if a driver and/or company persistently does not adhere to the Road Traffic Management Plan then residents can report the number plate of the vehicle or name of company to the enforcement team.

Coopers Transport

The Parish Council is to report concerns regarding planning approval conditions that have not been completed to the enforcement team. Cllr Simon Howell will write to the enforcement team regarding water running from the site and light pollution.

Clerk is to do a weekly check of local paper websites regarding planning and vehicle Operator licence applications which may affect the Parish.

There were no fresh planning applications.

9. Broadband

Cllr Clare Beeston has been investigating ideas for better broadband options for the Parish, which could be part funded by the LightSource community deed. Contact with BT was made to check for number of drop outs or slower internet speed. This resulted in an technician making improvements to the line, which resulted in less drop outs and an engineer being sent out.

A query was made on the Superfast Essex website to see if the Parish could be looked at, Phases 3 is due to end in October.

Gigaclear is a fibre optic option, a query was sent but no reply received yet.

Cllr Clare Beeston will contact Uttlesford District Council to see if they have any recommendations.

The Parish Council could pay or contribute to set up cost of internet but parishioners will still have a monthly cost.

8. AOB

The naming of Hawkspur Green Lane has been put on hold for the time being.

Date of next meeting – Monday 5th December 2016 at 7.30PM

Meeting closed at 9.00PM