

CANDOVERS PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

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| Date: | Monday 24 th July 2023 | Time: 7:45pm |
| Venue: | Candover Valley Club | |
| Present: | Jonathan Moseley | Chair |
| | Adam Willmott | Vice Chairman |
| | Edwina Curtis Hayward | |
| | Sam Foote | |
| | Wendy Simson | Clerk |
| Apologise: | Paul Gaskell | Borough Councillor |
| | Juliet Henderson | County Councillor |

1525 Declaration of Public Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary or personal interests declared.

1526 Any additional Agenda Items

No additional agenda items were suggested.

1527 Apologies

Cllrs Gaskell and Henderson both sent their apologies.

1528 Minutes of the last meeting

The Minutes for the last meeting held on 18th May 2023 were reviewed and agreed by the Council as an accurate record. The Chair signed to confirm they were an accurate record of the meeting.

1529 Matters arising

New Councillors – The Clerk confirmed that an advert was being placed in the August Oxdrove. The Chairman asked for a copy of the text to advertise via email.

Action: Clerk to send Chairman advert

New Internal Auditor – The Clerk informed Councillors that John Murray, the Internal Auditor, had written to confirm his retirement and directed the Council to the Internal Audit Forum website (www.internalauditforum.org.uk) for the list of other qualified auditors in the area.

The Clerk explained that there were six listings:

- Sara Sawyer - sara.sawyer@hoodedswan.co.uk
- Tim Light - tlight@townandparishaudit.co.uk
- John Murray - john@johnmurray.co.uk
- Paul Reynolds - paulreynolds48@hotmail.com

- Eleanor Greene - EleanorGreene@DoTheNumbers.uk
- Mulberry & co - councils@mulberryandco.co.uk

The Clerk explained that both Tim Light and John Murray had retired, and Mulberry & Co tended to work with larger councils. Paul Reynolds has worked with the Clerk at Alton Town Council with Tim Light, the Councillors agreed to contact Paul initially.

Action: Clerk to email Paul about taking on the Internal Audit work for the Parish Council.

1530 Financial update

The Clerk circulated the financial statement prior to the meeting along with posting on the Parish Council website. The Clerk informed Councillors that £4.31 in interest had been received.

Payment to be approved at the meeting are:

- Lengthsman invoice SI-45 - £3,000
- HMRC (April to June) - £75.00
- Clerk's salary (April to June) - £300.00

All payments were approved, and Cllr Curtis Hayward and the Vice Chair signed the cheques. The Clerk informed the Councillors that Cllr Henderson's grant fund was now open and application of up to £1,000 were available.

1531 CVC Update

The Chairman informed the Councillors that work on the driveway has been completed. The new "Hive" heating control has also been fitted and will save heating costs this winter. There are no further plans for work currently.

The Committee are looking to hold another live music evening as the last one was successful. The Cricket Club are using the facility regularly through the season and the drinks on Saturday evenings is also being well attended.

The Drinks Party in December after the Nine Lessons & Carols Service has started to be planned.

1532 Flooding

Water levels have risen following the wet July and the brook still has water in it as do the ponds throughout the valley. Any property owners with a riparian responsibility will need to ensure the vegetation is removed from the ditch once the water has gone.

Cllr Curtis Hayward informed the Council that Southern Water had visited to inspect the grasses at the Flood Meadows but no SSI Quality specimens were discovered.

1533 Lengthsman

The Lengthsman is due to visit on 29th August and so a list of work was required, the Chairman asked Councillors to make him aware of any issues. Future dates for 2023/24 are:

- 28th November
- 27th February

The Vice Chair explained that the verges along Bryce's Lane needed cutting back but only by about half a meter to protect the varied vegetation.

A number of the road signs have been damaged, the Chairman has spoken to the Lengthsman about fixing these but replacements are required. The Clerk suggested they be reported to Hampshire Highways using the link below:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/brokensigns>

1534 Planning

The Council received an application to insert 2 new windows at Chilton House (23/01333/LBC) on 25th May, the Councillors had no objections.

An application for tree work at Yew Tree Lodge (T/00284/23/TCA) was received on 24th July, the application asked for the following work:

T1 Yew tree reduce canopy height and spread by 2m and lift to a height of 4m. To let more light in to the house and keep tree in scale with drive.

T2&3 Yew trees fell trees are small and have low amenity value.

T4 Cypress fell tree is small and low amenity value.

G1 7 x Cypress trees fell trees are small and low amenity value.

The Chairman agreed to visit the property and report back to Councillors.

Action: Chairman to provide feedback to Council by 14th August.

1535 Website

The Clerk reported that the website is up to date.

1536 General correspondence

The Vice Chair informed Councillors that he had received a response from Conways to the complaint about the damage to the verges on Bryce's Lane, which he would respond to.

The Chairman has reported an incident with the recycling removal to Cllr Henderson which is being escalated.

Cllr Curtis Hayward has had a visit from Hampshire Wildlife Trust who are looking to restore the brick bridge at the water meadows which is believed to date back to the 1600s. It was agreed that these pathways offered a beautiful view of the area and the project would include signage giving the history of the flood meadows and how they were managed. The Councillors gave their support to the potential project.

1537 Date of next meeting

Monday 25th September 2023, it was agreed that a 7:00pm.