

**Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting
29th April 2015**

Present: Councillors L Attewell, M Chewings, P Cousins, I Shaw, B Tansley, A Wilkie and V Wood.

In Attendance : Councillor W Handbury and the Clerk.

Absent : Councillor C Chewings

The meeting was held in Studio 4 of Cotgrave Leisure Centre and started at 7.00pm.

Declarations of Interest

951 No declarations of interest.

Public Open Session

952 No members of the public attended.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

953 **Resolved** : "That the minutes of the Cotgrave Town Council Meeting held on 11th March, 2015 be received and confirmed as a true record".

Progress

954 M940 Defibrillator Training

Councillor M Chewings attended the training session provided by St John along with some residents.

The session was found very informative.

Council thanked St John for providing the training.

955 M941 Plumtree Road Closure

No further dates have been received by Council as to when the road will be closed after the initial date was cancelled.

956 M943 Welcome Pack

Councillors Cousins, Gardner, Shaw, Wilson and Wood met and discussed ideas for creating a 'Welcome Pack' for any new residents moving into Cotgrave.

Councillor Wood has mentioned the idea in his chairman's report in Cotgrave Connections, asking residents to give their ideas for creating the publication.

957 M946 Paying Respects to the Passing of Councillors

A group of councillors met to discuss the writing of a policy on how to pay respects to any councillor in the event of their death.

This will be on the next full town council agenda in May 2015.

958 M948 Dog Fouling

This is an ongoing issue and Council are always trying to find additional ways to reduce the problem.

Council will contact the dog warden, again, and ask for the patrols to be in more specified areas.

Councillor Shaw has noted the signage on the green space near The Dial has made some improvement to the area.

Financial Matters

959 Payments

Resolved: "That the payments made since the previous meeting totalling £22508.15 as recorded on page 19, be approved and the invoices awaiting payment be paid".

Matters Arising

960 Councillor Shaw asked if Cotgrave Futures would be asked to take over the payment of the cleaning of the windows of the building.

This will be raised at the next council meeting.

Financial Statements

961 Members considered the February and March statement as reproduced on the inside cover of the minute book.

962 At the end of March 2015 Council has £359,380.10 in hand.

963 Councillor Tansley noted that as he was finishing with the Council finances were in a healthy position.

Grants

964 A grant application has been made by Positive Futures for £1250 to increase their support of the holiday provision already being supported by Cotgrave Town Council and to give additional support and training of an apprentice from Cotgrave.

The apprentice has been identified from the local peer mentors programme currently ran by Positive Futures, which has had a major improvement to behaviour over the last four years in Cotgrave.

The funding would be for a year's support, finishing at the end of March 2016.

Council recognised the benefits of awarding this grant would help to continue all the work already achieved by Positives Futures within the local community.

Council noted that a surplus of £660 grant funding had been not spent in 2014/15 and this would be added to the grant funding allowance for 2015/16.

965 **Resolved** : 'To carry forward the balance of £660 grant funding from 2014/15 budget To 2015/16'.

966 **Resolved** : 'To award Positive Futures a grant for £1,250 to increase the holiday provision and support the apprentice training'.

(Local Government Act (Misc Provisions) Act 1976, Section19)

966 A grant application has been made by Rushcliffe Barn Owl Project to help support the breeding of Barn Owls in the local area, with many bird boxes being located around Cotgrave.

The grant would help towards the cost of maintaining the breeding boxes and sites and the vehicle costs.

967 **Resolved** : 'To award a grant of £100 towards the cost of maintaining the Barn Owls.'

(Local Government Act (Misc Provisions) Act 1976, Section 19)

Nottinghamshire County Council Pensions

968 A letter had been received informing that a pension gap has been identified by the actuary this is the first time a deficit payment has been introduced. The report is an triannual document.

The deficit payment for year end 2014/15 is identified as £2520, which is due for payment immediatel.

The letter also identified the pension gaps for the following two years, 2015/16 is £3160 and the gap for 2016/17 is £3840.

969 Council agreed to pay the first payment and then will arrange a meeting with the Nottinghamshire County Council pensions department to discuss the future payments.

970 **Resolved** : 'To pay 2014/15 pension gap deficit of £2520.'

Grassmere Play Area

- 971 The funding applied for in December from Nottinghamshire County Council, the Environment and Sustainability and has been awarded to Cotgrave Town Council to install some additional play equipment on the Grassmere play park, this includes some adult gym equipment and 6 new play pieces to add to the play equipment already located there.
- 972 Cotgrave Town Council have asked Hags-SMP for delivery and installation before the school summer holidays.
- 973 The new equipment is costing a total of £21,770.03 +vat. The grant award is £9750 and Cotgrave Town Council will pay the balance.
- 974 **Resolved** : 'To place the order for new play equipment on Grassmere Play Park.'

CCTV Cameras

- 975 As reported at a previous meeting, the transmitter blew off the roof above the shops in the high winds and was damaged beyond repair.
- 976 The Clerk asked, Globesec, who supply the current CCTV equipment, to quote for replacing the transmitter for the current system and to quote for installing a new updated system for the three external cameras.
- 977 Globesec have supplied the two quotes and they are both over £6000.
- 978 Council discussed the CCTV quotes and have asked the Clerk to find additional quotes for installing a new system for the three wireless cameras and present to Council at a future meeting.
- 979 **Recommendation** : 'To find quotes for replacing the wireless CCTV.'

Staff Appraisals and Pay Awards

- 980 Staff appraisals and pay award information is quoted in the contract of employment, in the current contract for the Clerk, it states that an appraisal is due at the end of year two and four of Council.
- 981 Council discussed updating the employment contracts and have the staff appraisals for all members of staff to be conducted each year and consider if applicable, to offer a pay award.
- 982 The personnel committee and the Clerk will appraise the staff annually and personnel committee will appraise the Clerk.
- 983 **Recommendation** : 'To update the contracts of employment to annual staff appraisals'
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Correspondence

984 The Police

An email has been received from Chris Berry, Unison Nottingham Police Branch Chairman, informing of the announcement made by Paddy Tipping, The Police and Crime Commissioner, of the loss of 76 Police Community Support Officers across Nottinghamshire.

This equates to a quarter of the PCSO workforce across Nottinghamshire.

985 The Fire Fighters Charity

A letter has been received asking if Cotgrave Town Council would consider supporting the fire fighters charity by supporting an event.

986 The Clerk will contact the fire fighters charity and ask how and if Cotgrave Town Council could offer some support.

Clerk's Report

987 Councillor M Chewings and a resident had contacted the Clerk regarding the grass cutting provided by Rushcliffe Borough Council, the grass has not been cut and is getting very over grown.

The Clerk has contacted Streetwise, who cut the grass on behalf of Rushcliffe Borough Council, and the grass cutting has started but is behind schedule and they are trying to catch up as quickly as possible.

Councillors' Reports

988 Councillor Wood wished all councillors standing for re-election good wishes for the election of 7th May 2015 and he thanked Councillor Attewell for the help and support as Vice Chairman of the Council.

Councillor Wood also thanked the staff for all their working during his time as Chairman of the Council.

989 Councillor Tansley gave thanks to all members of the council and staff during his time as a councillor for Cotgrave Town council at his final meeting of Council before he and his wife emigrate.

Councillor Tansley noted the council is in good shape and he will be leaving with great memories of his time serving and living in Cotgrave.

990 Councillor Cousins thanked Councillor Tansley for all his work over the years helping Cotgrave and thanked council for all working together since he joined Council.

991 Councillor Wilkie noted that some flying tipping had been found on Cotgrave Country Park and he has also been contacted regarding some more fly tipping on a field near the old A46, called Cotgrave Gorse.

The Clerk will report the fly tipping to Rushcliffe Borough Council.

992 Councillor Wilkie mentioned that a resident's dog has got parvo virus and the dog has been recently to Cotgrave Country Park.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.01pm.

Chairman..... Signed as a True Record (Date).....