

MINUTES of the meeting of Soulbury Parish Council held on Tuesday 18th April 2017 at 7.30pm at The Parish Hall, Soulbury.

PRESENT:- Cllrs Mr V Wright (Chairman); Cllrs Mrs M Rowe; Wendy Taylor; Mr I Culley; Mr A Stevens; Mr M Cross; District Councillor Mr N Blake and 11 members of the public.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:-**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J P Day and County Councillor Mrs Janet Blake.

2. **MINUTES:-**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 20th March 2017 were approved by the Council and signed as a true record.

3. **MATTERS ARISING:-**

There were none.

4. **FINANCE:-**

4.1 Payment of the following accounts was unanimously approved:-

EON	Village hall	£78.00
BMKALC	Annual Subscription	£128.14
M J Keel	Grass cutting (Churchyard)	£100.00
M J Keel	Grass cutting (Village)	£790.00
Tesco	Fuel for mower etc	£26.17
AVDC	Broadband fees	£150.00
Screwfix Ltd	Nylon line	£12.98
Signs of the Times Ltd	Keys for Notice Board	£24.00
AVDC	Rent of Recreation Ground	£12.77
EON	by direct debit	£53.43

5. **PLANNING:-**

5.1 **APPLICATIONS:-**

The following applications were considered:-

2017/ – Land adjoining The White House, High Road, Soulbury – erection of triple garage.

This was a proposal to vary the permission for a single dwellinghouse granted in 2015. This proposal encroached onto an adjoining field, which was classified agricultural land. The Council therefore decided to repeat the objections they raised to the erection of the single dwellinghouse but to add an additional comment dealing with the encroachment onto agricultural land.

6. **ENVIRONMENT:-**

6.1 **CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND:-**

There was a comment that the grass could be cut a bit shorter. The Clerk commented that the first cut of the season had just been carried out and that subsequent cuts would improve the state of the grass.

6.2 **GRASS CUTTING:-**

Nothing to report.

7. 7.1 **REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLOR MR NEIL BLAKE:-**

Cllr Blake reported that the District Council's Local Plan would be presented to the Council in July. This would be followed by a consultation period. There was no further news on the proposal for a Single Unitary Authority. He also reported that the broadband installation was progressing satisfactorily.

Cllr Blake was asked a question about the local bus service which was stated to be at risk in danger of cancellation. The service was stated to be the only connection to Leighton Buzzard and other villages. Cllr Blake said this was a matter for the County Council and that he would consult them to find out what was happening.

8. **PARISH HALL:-**

There was a potential problem in the ladies toilet and this was being dealt with.

9. **MILLENNIUM GREEN:-**

The Easter Egg hunt had been very successful. Community workers were continuing to work on the site and had moved 80 tonnes of soil over the past week.

10. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:-**

There were comments concerning a proposal to develop land behind Laburnham Cottages. This was in its very early stages and an application for planning permission had not yet been lodged with the District Council. Residents of Laburnham Cottages who were present expressed their dissatisfaction with the plans. The owner of the land was present and advised the meeting that consultations with the District Council were going on and that she was in the process of ascertaining what type of housing would be most beneficial for the village. The Chairman said that the Parish Council could not comment until they had a proper planning application before them.

11. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:-**

There was none.

12. **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:-**

Monday 15th May 2017. Annual meeting of the Parish Council at 7.30pm, followed by the Annual Assembly of the Parish at 8.15pm.