

NYTHE, ELDENE & LIDEN
PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 3 July 2017 at 6.30pm
in Nythe Community Centre

Present Cllr K Parry (Chair)
Cllr D Bell (Vice-Chair)
Cllr B Cockbill
Cllr G Cruse
Cllr Z Hawson
Cllr A Hunt
Cllr O Ibitoye
Cllr B Solomon
Cllr G Stubbs

Officers Joyce Holman (Parish Clerk)

Public Nine

Public Session Mrs McClean asked about the future plans for the doctors' surgery in Eldene. The Chair stated this was a matter for Swindon Borough Council but he understood that there were no plans to vacate their current premises.

Mrs Barker asked about the location of future meetings. The Chair confirm that the Parish Council was arranging for meetings to take place in Liden and Eldene.

Apologies

None.

41 Declaration of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

Cllr Cruse declared a personal interest in Nythe Allotment Society (Min. 50 and Min. 51).

42 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 19 June 2017 be approved as a correct record.

43 Review of Grounds Maintenance Services (Min.21 – 15.05.17)

The Chair reported that he and the Clerk had met with the Contractor to discuss the grass cutting in Eldene and Liden following a number of complaints by the public. The Contractor had accepted that there had been problems, but standards had improved in the last two weeks. The Chair informed the Parish that he had been out with the contractor working on improving the standards.

The Chair suggested that 2 Councillors should spend some time with the Contractor looking at the scale of the services to be carried out and it was agreed that Cllrs Bell and Stubbs should carry out this work. The Chair added that there had been similar problems in Nythe when the new Contract started.

The Clerk submitted a further quotation from the Contractor for the hedge work in Nythe, Eldene and Liden a copy of which appears as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

The Clerk submitted a draft Service Level Agreement a copy of which appears as Appendix B in the Minute Book.

The Clerk submitted a an email dated 29 May 2017 from Cllr Solomon a copy of which appears as Appendix C in the Minute Book.

The email asked about the clearing of fly-tipping in the parish. The Chair stated that the Contractor had been worked hard to clear fly-tipping and he was in the process of removing the clothes banks as this may discourage people from leaving other rubbish at the site. There had also been a problem with a member of the public with learning difficulties leaving rubbish he had cleared up at a bus stop. The Chair and Cllr Cruse offered to visit the man to plan further litter picks with him.

RESOLVED

- a) that the quotation for the hedge work in Nythe, Eldene & Liden from All Build of £6,000 be accepted and the cost be met from General Balances;
- b) that the draft Service Level Agreement be approved.

(Cllr Hawson arrived during this item)

44 Transfer of Assets from Swindon Borough Council (Min.20 – 15.05.17)

The Vice-Chair reported that he had attended a meeting with the Chairs of the other new Parish Councils and the Leader of Swindon Borough Council. Swindon Borough Council were now intending to pass assets to the Parish Council by 99 year leases and a copy of a lease had been circulated to Councillors and a copy of which appears as Appendix D in the Minute Book.

The Vice-Chair advised Councillors that all the Chairs of the Parish Councils had indicated that they wanted the transfer of assets to be by freehold. The only freehold asset that had passed to the Parish Council was the allotment site.

The Chair asked Councillors to review the lease and contact the Clerk with any concerns. The Chair and Vice-Chair would then agree the changes to be made and enter discussions with Swindon Borough Council.

45 Litter & Dog Bins

The Clerk submitted a report a copy of which appears as Appendix E in the Minute Book.

The report gave details of dog and litter bins that needed to be replaced as they had reached the end of their life and also additional bins that had been identified by the Contractor as being required. The purchase of new bins had been delegated to the Chair and the Clerk and this decision needed to be approved retrospectively.

The Chair explained that the new dog bins for Nythe would have to be deferred for the moment. Cllr Cruse proposed that the additional dog bin for Westview Way should still go ahead now.

RESOLVED

- a) that the purchase of 5 new dog bins and 3 litter bins for a total price of £2,982 be approve retrospectively and the cost be met from the New Waste/Dog Bins Budget of £1,200 and the remainder of £1,782 from a virement from the Noticeboards Budget;
- b) that a new dog bin be purchased for Westview Way in Nythe and the cost of £297 be met from General Balances;
- c) that the cost of emptying new litter and dog bins be noted and met from General Balances.

46 Communications (Min.23 – 15.05.17)

The Chair referred to the production of a newsletter by the Parish Council and suggested that a regular article could be placed in the Swindon Handy Mag, which was circulated to the whole parish and it would save the cost of producing the newsletter and the distribution.

The Clerk submitted a quotation for new noticeboards a copy of which appears as Appendix F in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED

- a) that a regular article be placed in the Swindon Handy Mag in place of a newsletter being produced by the Parish Council;
- b) that the quotation from All Build for the supply and fitting of 2 noticeboards of £520 be accepted and the cost be met from the Noticeboards Budget;
- c) that the noticeboards be located at Liden Library and Eldene Community Centre.

47 CCTV Cameras (Min.24 – 15.05.17)

The Clerk reported that 5 cameras had been received and 3 had been delivered to Nythe Allotment Society.

Councillors agreed that the 2 remaining surveillance cameras should be located in the Eldene area where the main problem of fly-tipping occurred. The exact locations would not be noted in the minutes.

48 New Planters

The Chair reported that there had been very little response from residents to look after planters and due to other more pressing issues, this would have to be deferred until later in the year, when it was hoped it could be implemented.

49 Calendar of Meetings

The Clerk submitted a draft amended Calendar of Meeting for 2017/2018 a copy of which appears as Appendix G in the Minute Book.

The Chair added that the meetings in September, December and March would take place in Liden Library, for which there would be no charge. The Parish Council would continue to look for a location in Eldene for future meetings.

RESOLVED that the Calendar of Meetings that appear as Appendix G be approved.

50 New Lease for Nythe Allotment Society

The Clerk submitted a copy of the licence issued by Swindon Borough Council to Nythe Allotment Society a copy of which appears as Appendix H in the Minute Book.

The Clerk recommended to Councillors that an amount should be included as the rent, which would then be paid by Nythe Allotment Society as this would give the lessee more security in proving that the rent had been paid than stating a peppercorn.

RESOLVED

- a) that the rent amount be changed to £5 per year;
- b) that the term of the lease be changed to 20 years;
- c) that the other terms and conditions of the document that appears as Appendix H be approved;
- d) that the draft Licence be sent to Nythe Allotment Society for approval and signing.

51 Cannon Bollards

The Clerk submitted an email dated 12 June 2017 from Cllr Cruse a copy of which appears as Appendix I in the Minute Book.

The email asked if Nythe Allotment Society could use 2 of the cannon bollards at the allotment site. The Chair explained that Covingham Parish Council had asked to have some of the bollards, but this had come to nothing. He asked Councillors to give some thought to where the bollards could be located in the parish and this could be discussed at a future meeting.

52 Exclusion of Public and Press

RESOLVED that in accordance with Standing Order 3d) that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they be instructed to withdraw; the reason being Staffing Matters.

53 Staffing (Min.28 – 15.05.17)

The Clerk reported that there had been a very small response to the advert for a new Clerk. It was agreed that the current applicants should be interviewed and the post should then be advertised in the Swindon Advertiser.

The meeting closed at 7.33 pm

Signed.....
Date.....
Chair of the Council