

POULTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THE 14th OCTOBER 2019 AT 7.30 PM
IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Chris Davies
Mike Willis
Andy Young
Ailsa Summers
Shaun Parsons (County Councillor)
Lisa Spivey (District Councillor)
Heather Harris (Clerk)

6 members of the public attended the meeting.

1. Approval of Minutes.

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8th July 2019 were approved and signed.

Matters Arising – The Chairman has met with Richard Gray regarding the common land at Falcon Green. There may be a Community Grant for a 50:50 payment towards the reinstatement of the grass and enclosure of the land. A figure of £5-6,000 has been estimated. A quote is required and the issue of the electricity cables needs to be looked into further.

Speeding – Cllr. Willis will obtain the up to date data from the interactive speed sign. 700 plus vehicles were exceeding the speed limit on the previous data. Cllr. Summers will attend the Decrease speeding; increase Road Safety meeting on the 14th November. The issue of speeding was discussed and the Chairman will look at the siting of the 40 speed sign on the approach from Fairford.

2. County Councillor's Report.

The County Councillor reported that the resurfacing of the A417 will commence in November. The programme will be completed this financial year. Mr Fowles asked if the crash barrier at Betty's Grave had been looked at. The Chairman said it had been reported but would be very expensive to repair. The Clerk was asked to email Richard Gray about the barrier and ask for it to be repaired or moved.

3. Financial Report.

Payments received to the Current account:

Cotswold District Council (Precept)	£2,000
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Payments made from the Current account:

Cotswold District Council (Flood alleviation work)	£500
HMRC (PAYE)	£131.40
Clerk's Wages (April-October)	£526.10

Balances:

Current account	£5,404.17
Deposit account	£4,774.91
Cemetery account	£3,001.67

4. Meeting with Trustees and Cricket Club.

There has been repeated infringements regarding dog fouling by a minority of dog owners and therefore, after several warnings and notices have been ignored, the Trustees have been left with no option but to only allow dogs onto Englands if they are on a lead and remain on the perimeter.

Regular meetings are to be held every 3 months with the Trustees and the sports clubs to have better communication. David Dunn from the Cricket Club has been very positive and this is welcomed by everyone involved.

5. Village Cemetery.

Mr Jackson has refused the land swap offered and has terminated his rental on the land belonging to Englands. The cost of the land swap would have been cost neutral. The Solicitor at Cotswold District Council has said that the council would need "compelling reasons" to purchase land from Mr Jackson and that these were evident. The Council will write to Mr Jackson regarding the issue. £3,000 will be needed for the initial planning, survey and legal costs. The Chairman will look into the financing of the approximately £20,000 needed for the new cemetery.

6. New Noticeboard and Post Box.

The new noticeboard was discussed by all those present at the meeting. The Parish Council had envisaged the noticeboard being used by village organisations to promote events however; those presents were keen for the noticeboard to be open to all information and advertising from anyone. The Parish Council had previously conducted a site visit and had planned to place the noticeboard near the playground. Mr Fowles will approach his neighbour, Mrs Griffiths, regarding placing a new noticeboard on the barn wall. With regard to placing a board on the barn belonging to Jenners the chairman pointed out that permission for doing this had been sought in the past and had been refused.

The Chairman suggested that, regarding a general use notice board that those proposing one should obtain a design and a quote and report back to the Council.

The post box, which is now situated in a private residence, is no longer secure and the Post Office would rather it was a free-standing post box. It was agreed that the village map, which is looking worn, will be removed and the new Post Box should be sited in its place.

Some, but not all, of the villagers present at the meeting expressed a preference for locating the noticeboard on the bank at the corner of West View and Cricklade Street and for an open rather than an enclosed board. The Chairman pointed out that this could make cutting the grass and hedge there difficult and that the views of the households overlooking that area needed to be sought.

7. Drone Usage.

Intrusive drone usage was reported over the summer months by a villager in Ashbrook Lane, however, this has now ceased and the villager was no longer worried about the issue. The owner of the drone was represented at the meeting and the Council were assured that the drone is at all times under control and flown in a sensible manner. The Council asked that the owners of nearby properties were contacted, as a matter of courtesy, before flights were undertaken in the future. The owner was more than happy to do this but has moved flying further away from properties to ensure that no further disturbance was caused.

8. District Councillor's report.

The District Councillor stated that the new areas the new District Council would be focussing on were: the climate emergency, affordable homes and supporting businesses.

Waste service – delaying until next year due to Brexit and other factors so will probably start mid-March. There were a few issues with the timing of the delivery of the vehicles and also staff training which meant a delay was preferable.

The Chairman said he felt the green waste should remain weekly and £66 per year was a reasonable amount for the service.

Cirencester Parking – the new multi storey car park at Waterloo will start soon, the aluminium design was picked after the online vote.

Noise from the A419 was still a cause for concern and the Noise Action Group have been campaigning for noise mitigation and will look to either have the 10 miles of resurfacing, ask for a 50 mph restriction to alleviate the problem or other alternatives.

The Cllr. Spivey remarked the rural crime was not a huge issue in the area. Those at the meeting did not agree with this as many had been victims of crime in the village. The Clerk said that she had looked at the Police website for Poulton and there were two recorded violent offences in August. The Councillors asked the Clerk to contact the PSCO to ask for more information regarding crimes in the village.

9. Any Other Business.

Overhanging branches have been causing difficulties within the village for wheelchair users, parents with prams and partially sighted villagers. A note from the Parish Council will be included in the church newsletter.

Parking on pavements has also been an issue and this will also be mentioned.

Old Farmhouse-the Chairman has had a discussion with the homeowner regarding his planning application and expressed the Council's concerns. The homeowner will submit news plans in due course.

Flood prevention-A sluice gate is still needed to complete the flood alleviation works.

Vicarage Lane-the road surface is in very poor repair, 16 potholes. After discussion, it was decided that a letter from the Parish Council and a joint letter from the residents was the best way forward.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.