

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CAMELEY PARISH COUNCIL 10th FEBRUARY 2010 IN TEMPLE CLOUD VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Ms Atkinson (chair), Mr Hutchinson, Mr Ashman, Mr Hooper, Mr Dando, , Mr Dean, Mr Warren

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Mrs Harvey, Mrs Sherley-Price, Mrs Gray

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST: There were none

3. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

There were no members of the public present.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: were accepted and signed

5. MATTERS ARISING

Core Strategy Spatial Options: it was confirmed that the Parish Council had responded with its comments and that two members of the Council had submitted comments separately.

Councillor Hooper spoke with Liz Elford from B&NES (Planning Policy) about the facilities audit carried out the previous year. He was able to correct the mistakes in the audit and an amended audit was sent to the Clerk.

6. VILLAGE HALL/PLAYING FIELD

It was confirmed that the new item of play equipment would be installed at the end of February. Councillor Gray would co-ordinate.

Geoff Thomas and Son of Peasedown St. John was confirmed as the preferred contractor to carry out the external renovations to the Village Hall. The Clerk would write and confirm. The Clerk would also write to the unsuccessful shortlisted builders.

7. MATTERS AWAITING RESULTS:

Allotments: Several plots of land within the village had been identified however the owners were reluctant to commit land to such a long term project given the uncertainty surrounding local planning criteria. The search would continue; another potential parcel of land had been identified and this would be pursued.

Grit Bins

B&NES confirmed that there is no money available for grit bins.

8. HIGHWAYS AND ROADSWEEPING: nothing to report

9. CORRESPONDENCE:

There was none that hasn't already been dealt with elsewhere.

10. PLANNING MATTERS:

Applications

Mr R Allen app to renew existing planning approval to erect a two storey dwelling on land at 1 Oaklands, Temple Inn Lane, Temple Cloud.

Outcomes

None

11. FINANCIAL MATTERS

A) Payments authorised	Feb	£	Vat
(i) Clerks Jan wages		269.54	
(ii) Sweepers Jan		439.30	
(iii) Garage rent Feb		33.36	5.84
B) Payments received			
(i) Parish Sweeper Feb		280.33	

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A.L.C.A. The Clerk had attended a group meeting of the Avon Local Councils Association and he circulated a précis of the meeting. The main topic which could affect small Parish Councils like Cameley was the resignation from the group of larger Councils. The loss of their annual subscriptions could adversely affect the ability of A.L.C.A. to provide the advisory service to its members.

The cause of the mass resignation was that at the group's A.G.M. in November it was agreed to change the charging structure whereby reducing the smaller council's fees and increasing the larger councils on the basis that the new fees would better reflect the size of each council's electorate.

There would be a Special meeting at Emerson Green's Village Hall on March 18th to discuss this.

Councillor Atkinson then explained that these county associations were how Parish Councils accessed the National Association of Local Councils and therefore had access to legal advice, funds, training and advice in general.

The latest training course for Councillors was due to start in May and Councillor Hooper volunteered to go.

Website: Councillor Hooper had circulated a document to all councillors at the January meeting and asked for comments. In the document he suggested that the Council was more reactive than proactive and that it's policy on various items like the Village Hall, Playing Field etc was unclear. He wants the Parish Council to be more central to Village Life and be more of a driving force. However apart from the Noticeboard and the monthly précis in the Clutton & Temple Cloud News there was no easy way of getting a dialogue started with members of the parish, no way of ascertaining the views of residents and so on. This led to the fact that Cameley were one of the few Parish Councils without a website and the meeting unanimously agreed to investigate. The Clerk would investigate using B&NES by contacting Hinton Blewett Parish Council who had recently gone this route. Ward Councillor Warren offered to introduce a website designer to Cameley PC. This would be discussed at the March meeting.

Local Government pay: The meeting was told that the "Employers" side of the National Joint Council for Local Government Services had told the unions that they are unable to offer any increases in pay for 2010/2011.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 10th March 2010