

Minsterworth Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Minsterworth Parish Council (MPC) held on 17th April 2023 in The Harvey Centre, commencing at 7.00pm.



PRESENT: Councillors R Blowey, N Powell, N Garbutt, S Ingham, C Thomas and R Thomas.

Councillor J Smith & Councillor P Mclain
J Badham - Clerk
Parishioners: 0

Nick Evans (Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner)
Nick Cooke (Forest of Dean Police)

Nick Evans (Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner) and Nick Cooke (FOD Policing) were welcomed to the meeting and presented on anti social behaviour and road safety in Minsterworth.

There has been recruitment of 300 extra staff, this is across police constables and administration staff. The procedure of recording crimes has improved with correct process implemented, this supports a better outcome.

Improved links with parish councils helps preventing crime before it happens.

Number of incidents that have been reported in Minsterworth from 1st September 2022 to 1st April 2023 have decreased from 122 to 83 compared with the same period in 2021/22. (For the full report please go to the Minsterworth Parish Council website).

There are plans to increase use of Engagement Vehicles in the Minsterworth area over the coming months. The Council will liaise with the police to arrange a suitable date and location.

Work has been done in conjunction with the rural crime team in relation to ASB across private farmland. Councillor C Thomas mentioned nitrous oxide canisters continues to be a problem, especially on private land. It was acknowledged this is a nationwide problem, but signs are that the problem is slowing down and Government are proposing a ban on selling the canisters.

Poaching continues to be a problem and project Firefly was not a success. Councillor C Thomas mentioned people identified were not approached, Nick Cooke replied he will request some feedback.

Road safety on the A48 continues to be a major concern of the village, with speeding of vehicles and the national speed limit ignored. The suggestion was to contact Highways to look at data and recommendations.

The Parish Council acknowledged support from our PCSO's and thanked Nick Evans and Nick Cooke for their attendance at tonight's meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES**

No apologies received.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None declared

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

The minutes of the MPC meeting held on 13th March 2023 had been circulated and were accepted as a true record.

4. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

From the 1st April Tewkesbury Borough Council implemented a new management structure details will be announced in due course. The planning department has gone through a re-organisation, however there are still 9 vacancies and TBC are using consultants to support the current team. Garden waste still a good service with more people paying for the brown bins. UBICO have gone computerised with in-cab technology, this will allow the team to return to a property if a bin had not been collected. External Auditors have completed their audit, there is a surplus of £1.6 million funds, how this is mainly due to recruitment.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments

7. MATTERS ARISING.

7.1 Village Hall

7th May the village hall will be celebrating the Kings Coronation Luncheon. The replacement of the emergency generators was deferred until May

7.2 Minsterworth Park

The clerk will contact Gloucestershire County Council regarding the lease of the Park and consider registering the park as a Community Asset.

7.3 Harvey Centre

Councillor N Garbutt noted the received grants have been spent on the Harvey Centre Community Centre and not on the Nursery which was funded privately and not by reserves.

7.4 Highway Matters

The pot holes and poor road surface on Bury Lane had been communicated to the Highways, who said that a risk assessment will occur in due course. There is no update at the installation of the gates east of the village.

7.5 PROW

There is a damaged style at the top of Star Croft Lane.

8. Minterworth Road Safety

8.1 Signs for 'Care Pedestrians' (Lower Lane) and MPH 'roundballs'

Contact Highways for advise.

8.2 Roundalls 50mph signs

A replacement installed on the A48 opposite the entrance to Church Lane, is not the correct size, it was noted this is only a temporary sign. Action Chair to contact Highways.

8.3 Progress with Community Speed Watch Camera

Councillor R Thomas distributed a report prior to the meeting. The camera is to be installed opposite the Seven Acres development. Once in place the camera

will be linked to the Speed Watch Data.

9. Financial Matters:

9.1 Council to accept the Financial statement to end March 23

The Clerk displayed the account sheet. It was agreed the finance reports to be distributed prior to the meeting. **Action Clerk: Email reports prior to meeting.**

The accounts has now been set up so the £6000 reserves is in the savings account and the balances are as follows:

HSBC Reserves	£6,000.00
HSBC Current Account	£4,191.74
Ring Fenced Funds	£2,364.53

The ring fenced are the CIL money and grant of £450 from TBC for the Severn Bore Portable toilets

9.2 Proposed Expenditure for April 23.

Proposed expenditure was displayed. Clerk added the code for 'Power to Spend' ie the authority to spend from the relevant paragraph of the document. **Action Clerk to distribute the document 'Power to 'Spend'**

Ser	Item	Expenditure	Income	Power to spend	Comment
1	Clerk Wages	511.83		13	
2	Villager Printing	211.63			
3	Insurance	570.00		32	
4	Data Protection	40.00		4	
5	CIL Money		1914.53		LGF Act 1992 Sec 41
6	Bank Charges	8.00			
7	Bank Interest		12.00		
8	Grass Maintenance Play	80.00		28	2 months March and April
9	GAPTC Membership	125.00		57	
10	System Force	60.00		38	Issue with laptop
To-TAL		1606.46	1926.53		

9.3 Approve cut to the verges in Minsterworth A48 approx. £400

The cost of £396 was paid to HA Farming Ltd last year. Council agreed to pay for this year and will be added to the added to the budget of 23/24, grass maintenance.

9.4 MPC Financial Regulations – Deferred to May 2023 meeting. Action Clerk to distribute the regulations.

10. Planning

10.1 None to date

10.2 Decisions

23/001752/FUL Erection of detached garage and entrance gates. Highbury, Main Road, Minsterworth. REFUSE

23/00002/PIP Erection in principle for residential development of up to 5 dwellings.

Land Opp November Cottage, Pound Lane. REFUSE

10.3 Appeals/Enforcements

21/01392/OUT Land North and South of Newent Toad, Highnam. Appeal Tuesday 18th April.

11. Development of Play Area

Due to the short license of the play area with Gloucester County Council its very difficult to apply for grants to improve the play equipment. **Action Clerk will discuss with GCC and look into registering the land as a Community Asset.** The equipment will require maintenance and Councillor S Ingham asked if the CIL money could be used?

12. Correspondence

None to date

13. Residual Items

None

Date for Next Meeting: Annual Meeting of The Parish Council Wednesday 10th May 2023 7pm in the Minsterworth Village Hall. Please note that we have had to move to a Wednesday to avoid Bank Holiday on Monday 8th May and the due to Elections protocol.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Signed:

Date: