MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KNOSSINGTON & COLD OVERTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN KNOSSINGTON VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY
23 MARCH 2017 AT 7.00 PM.

Present: 
Mr Nigel Gates, Chairman
Mr George Cook
Mr Richard Bates
Mr Brian Cobb

Mrs Alice Cox, Clerk
Mrs N Boyd, Parishioner
Mrs L Lennard, Parishioner
Mrs J Scary, Parishioner
Mrs J Gillies, Parishioner
Mr S Hazard, Visitor

Apologies 
Mr Paul McCreesh

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2017 were confirmed and signed.

Mr Gates then introduced Mr Simon Hazard, who is developing proposals to install an anaerobic digester on part of his farm near Pickwell. Although in the Somerby Parish, the land is very near the Cold Overton border. Before formal planning proposals are submitted Mr Hazard said he was keen to involve key neighbours in the consultation process. He gave details of the working of the proposed plant, the input materials and the output products. He answered a number of questions from the floor about the visual impact, traffic implications and odour and he handed out a consultation document which could be completed and returned.

Mr Hazard was thanked by Mr Gates and he then left the meeting.

Matters Arising: These were to be dealt with under the appropriate heading.

Finance

Invoices paid since last meeting:
Oldham Marsh Page Flavell £1,193.20
Paint It Or Plant It £389.94
Quoin Print £42.90
E ON £42.12
Severn Trent £28.88

Income
Seary (Playing Field) £20.00
Interest Santander £10.60

Invoices for Payment
Quoin Print £42.90
A Cox £249.99

Current Balances
HSBC £6,256.29
Santander £12,533.38
MMBS £1,935.50

The Clerk asked for the approval of Councillors to ask Mr I Bain of Lamin & White to undertake the internal audit as soon as accounts were completed. This was approved.

23.03.17
The Clerk informed the meeting that the new bank mandate had been approved by HSBC and Mr Brian Cobb was now on the list of signatories.

Plans

Mr Wetherby, Preston Lodge. The Equestrian area was approved.
Mr and Mrs Roberts, Church Farm, Cold Overton. Alterations approved.
Fisher German. Conversion of barn to dwelling on Knossington Road, Cold Overton. The decision of the MBC is still awaited.
Fisher German. Conversion of agricultural buildings to dwelling house at Stone House Farm, Cold Overton. The plans had been circulated. The majority of the Councillors raised no objection subject to the proposals meeting the MBC planning policy. However, Mr Bates raised some concerns about the development. A draft letter, covering all the points, would be circulated for approval by the Councillors.

Land at Cold Overton.

The land had been inspected by the Land Registry Surveyor and notice served on the family claiming ownership. The family had been given a date in May to respond.

Land adjacent to Rose Cottage.

Since the last meeting Mr Gates had received correspondence from the Solicitors asking the Council to appoint a firm of Surveyors from their list. After consulting all the Councillors the appointment had been made. A draft of the letter from the Solicitors to the Surveyors instructing them to act on behalf of the Council had been circulated. It was agreed that the address of the Parish Council should be noted as that of the Clerk.

Questions were raised from the floor about the necessity of the Council to refer the matter of the dispute to Solicitors. Mr Cook said that as the Council had received representation from some villagers about the erection of the pathway at the side of Rose Cottage, it was necessary to pursue the matter. The Council had a right to protect its property.

After much discussion, Mr Gates re-iterated the Council's position and said that the matter was now in the hands of the legal authorities. He confirmed that the legal expenses would be covered by the Council's Insurance Company. Once ownership had been formerly confirmed the Council would discuss any further action.

Carriage Way

Mr Gates had received a quote from Paul Ford for further work but he found it to be expensive. He said he would meet with Mr Ford again to look at doing the work in stages.

Cemetery Hedge

This had not been cut by D and M Barnett and Mr Cook said that it was now too late to do this.

Allotments

Mr Gates said he was awaiting a quote from Severn Trent Water for the provision of a water supply.

Mr Cook was looking to arrange for a working party to paint the fence. A hedge had now been planted.

Mr Cook asked to look at a copy of the Agreement Licence for the Pre-School allotment area as comments had been made about the visual effect of some of the additions.

23.03.17
Playing Field

A quote had been received from Mr Peter Burdett for repairing some of the equipment. This had been accepted and work was underway.

Mrs Cox had received notification from MBC that they would now be taking over the arrangements for playground inspections in the area. It was agreed to accept this.

Damage to Church Roof

Mr Cobb and Mr Cook reported on their meeting with staff at Knossington Grange following the disturbing incident on the Church roof. They had accepted responsibility for the pupil concerned and he had been removed from the school. They also assured that measures would be put in place to secure the school’s boundary.

Any Other Business

Planning Application No 13/00725/GDOAGR. Mrs Boyd had raised concerns about a barn being erected in the field next to her property. On investigation it was discovered that the planning application had been made in 2013. The Clerk could find no evidence of having received this application. She had managed to obtain a copy of the letter sent to the applicant which gave approval for the proposal. It would appear that the application was passed by the MBC without reference to the Parish Council.

A letter had been received from E.On informing the Council of a forthcoming price increase. The Clerk was asked to inquire if a fixed term contract would be beneficial.

Letter from Norris and Fisher, Insurance Brokers wanting to give a quote for the renewal of the Council’s policy. It was agreed that it was not the time to change due to the ongoing legal issue.

Mrs Cox had been approached by Mrs Sue Sills for permission to put a cupboard on the village from which to sell cakes, etc. during the summer months. This would be for charity. The Councillors could foresee some problems but agreed to let her try it for a couple of months but if it became a nuisance they would withdraw this permission.

Mrs Scary said she would like to arrange a Children’s First Aid Course. It was agreed this could be considered and she was asked to obtain details of cost and interest.

Mrs Boyd told the meeting that she had contacted Sir Alan Duncan, MP about the possibility of positioning blue “not suitable for heavy vehicles” signs at the entrance to the village to deter the through passage of large lorries. She said that she was willing to pay for these. Mr Gates said he would look at the positions mentioned and report back to the next meeting.

Date of Next Meeting.

This was arranged for Wednesday, 7th June. The Annual Parish Meeting would commence at 7.00 pm and be followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

Signed.................................................. Date..........................................

23.03.17