

**The 221st
Coln St Dennis Parish Council
Open Meeting
Was held at 7.00pm
On Wednesday 11th January 2017
in
The Coln Valley Village Hall**

Present:

Councillors: Nick Talbot Rice, Nick Dummett, Graeme Matthew, Philip Allen,
Malcolm Carmichael.

In Attendance: Libby Oakley (Clerk)

Residents: Simon Oakley, Andy Pease, Anne Williams

Apologies: Douglas Petersen

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 19th May 2016 were approved and signed.

2. Actions arising:

4.1 Happy with new seat and general tidiness of Calcot village green. However, it was noted that there has been an increase in the amount of cars parked.

3. 2017/18 Precept:

Budget for 2017/2018 was presented by Libby Oakley and discussed:

There had been no significant change from 2016/17 budget; the contingency of £300 was exceeded by £156 due to remedial surgery required for the Ash tree at the top of the Calcot triangle. Conversely, there had been a reduction in insurance premiums and audit fees which balanced the scales somewhat.

Based on her findings and having taken into account the Council Tax base for 2017/18 at 146.0 (representing roughly a 1% reduction in percentage increase in Band D due to compensation for the impact of the Council Tax support Scheme grant which Coln St Dennis no longer qualifies for) and unless Councillor's foresee expenditure greater than the contingency, Libby recommended that the Precept for 2017/18 remain unchanged at £2100.

Councillor's agreed to the proposal and set the Precept at £2100

4. Review work by Gigaclear

Residents have been generally happy with work carried out by Gigaclear, although project running approximately 5 months behind schedule with some properties still not connected. Douglas Petersen asked whether the Parish Council would action the removal of tarmac left by Gigaclear outside No. 5 on the grass bank by the village grit bin. Nick Talbot Rice agreed to take a look with a view to removing.

Gigaclear project to be reviewed at next Parish meeting.

5. Calcot Notice Board

Douglas Petersen and Andrew Gregory have kindly offered to restore the Calcot notice board at a cost of approximately £15-£25. Councillor's very happy with the proposal and have authorised up to £50 for materials.

6. AOB

There was a brief discussion regarding crime rates within the valley. Andy Pease indicated three types of crime: Theft from cars, Farm theft and burglary (possibly one gang) targeting specific houses in Coln St Dennis and Winson mainly for high value goods (Police have been informed but not enough evidence to act on). AP says that although 140 people participating in the neighbourhood watch, villagers should continue to be vigilant.

AP also highlighted the speed limit thought the valley and suggested the possibility of a 'Please drive carefully' sign at the entrance from the Fosseway. Graeme Matthew wondered whether there was a rural scheme in place or whether the issue should be addressed by the local MP. NTR suggested to keep under review.

Planning quiet at moment, the only item of note being the Gower's roof refurbishment.

It was proposed that there be another meeting in March and going forward to arrange quarterly meetings in advance.

There being no further business NTR declared the meeting closed at 19.35pm.

Nicky Talbot-Rice
Chairman
12th January 2017