

# Meeting Pack

for June 2019 Full Council  
7.00 p.m. on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019

**9a. Grasscutting. To note 2RH's completion of strimming Milling Brook and its banks, and to receive updates on grasscutting and vegetation management elsewhere in the parish.**

- 22/5/19 Amy James of 2RH wrote: *Thank you for your email regarding the various grounds maintenance issues. I am aware that we are several weeks behind on grass cutting at the moment but aim to try and catch up on this as soon as possible. With regards the vegetation at Stockwell and Millbrook Green I have passed this onto the Grounds Maintenance Team Leader to look into and book the work in.*
- 22/5/19 Cllr Blamey reported that Millingbrook and banks had been strimmed.

**9c c. Cemetery contributions to LTC. To note the current arrangements and discuss future provision.**

*The original cost is historic, council then elect as per policy to apply a 10% increase*

*I am sorry we hold no information relating to initial calculations, only minuted resolutions concerning the year on year increase/charge to be imposed; however, given the shortage of grave/interment space this is possibly why Aylburton have been asked to pay a premium.*

*During my employment we have looked at the woodland in Aylburton (LPE land) for possible Green Burials as we had hoped this would extend the life of the Cemetery and reduce interment costs somewhat however the woodland was considered unsuitable and so we are currently trying to secure additional land adjacent to the Cemetery from the Dean Academy*

**Q1: Do other nearby councils also contribute and if so, how much?** *No, the Council only allow Lydney residents (and Aylburton due to the PC's payment) to be interred in Lydney Cemetery as Lydney Town Council is the recognised Burial Authority for the Cemetery in Lydney*

**b. Which items in particular does it go towards? PC concerned that it only goes towards things that benefit Aylburton parishioners**

*The payment allows Aylburton residents to be interred in the Cemetery, without such a payment this council may withdraw its consent for such interments, resulting in Aylburton residents having to be interred in FODDC controlled areas i.e. Coleford.*

**c. Why is the increase higher than inflation year on year?** *We always add a standard 10% as approved by Members, maintenance costs do not decrease; furthermore we want to purchase additional burial ground so that local residents (including Aylburton residents) may continue to be buried locally in Lydney. If such ground is not secured and space is exhausted then Lydney and Aylburton residents will need to look to FODDC to be interred (outside of Lydney)*

**d. Can you tell me how many Aylburton parishioners have been interred there in the past 5 years?** *This would take time to research but regardless of number, no interment of Aylburton residents would take place if Aylburton chose not to contribute; instead Aylburton residents would need to be interred elsewhere.*

**e. Do Aylburton parishioners receive a discount as a result of contribution and/or do those from non-contributing parishes pay a higher rate?** *Please see*

above – Aylburton PC's payment allows for Aylburton residents to be interred. We do not accept any other interments/burials from o/s of the town (there are one/two exceptions to this rule). The office follow an approved/adopted Burial Policy which I have attached FIO (which was circulated via email to all parish councillors on 28/5)

**9f. The Cross Monument. To receive any update on restoration project (JH) and to note insurance information from GCC (MH)**

22/4 Stephen Lloyd GCC wrote: *I'm not entirely sure there is insurance on offer in the market to cover the cross and other similar structures. I'll ask our insurance broker. Our liability cover would pick up any third party injury/damage arising out of our ownership of it. Unless insurance is specifically mentioned in the agreement then I wouldn't have thought there was any expectation on the Parish to insure it (as I say that may not be possible anyway).*

**Clerk adds: I have asked Stephen to look into whether such insurance is available. John is currently looking through his files to see if there is an agreement; if not I will ask GCC to draw one up so we have an official one.**

**9g. Church Road residents' parking. To note any updates including recent query with Highways.**

On 22/5 Brian Watkins emailed:

*With regard to parking on Church Road. We do not generally mark out parking bays other than disabled bays etc. Marking out bays generally reduces the number of spaces and indicates that this is a safe place to park which from a highway point of view GCC as the highway Authority would be reluctant to do and if we did it would only be at locations where the remaining road width was sufficient to maintain two way traffic flow. At this location there is insufficient width to enable two way flow.*

**9k. Overgrown hedge at the rear of the Cross pub. To receive any updates and note parishioner letter on the matter**

**Concerns from a parishioner re Cross Inn overgrowth onto public areas**

*I would like to bring to the notice of the Parish Council (if the councillors haven't noticed themselves) the state of the surrounding ground of The Cross. I live in Orchard Close and it is impossible to walk on the only footpath joining Chapel Hill due to the hedge belonging to this property being overgrown making the footpath almost non - existent. I was walking with my dog a few days ago and, due to having to walk on the road along this stretch, when I was nearly in collision with a large van who turned into Orchard Close almost on the wrong side. As the verge along Chapel Hill is so overgrown, there was nowhere for us to go. Also leaving Orchard Close, vision is impaired due to the height of this vegetation.*

*I understand that in circumstances where the owner does not maintain their property, making life dangerous to others (as in this case) that the Council has the power to get the necessary work carried out and pass on the cost to the negligent owner.*

*I would be grateful if you would put my comments before the Council.*

*Many thanks.*

*[Name supplied]*

**9l Road Safety:**

**Brian Watkins' latest responses to issues raised:**

- i. Sandford Road resurfacing:** *I have put a section of Sandford Road forward for resurfacing during the current financial year. I will update as and when I receive confirmation of the programme date.*
- ii. Flashing Road Sign:** *Steph and Meg meeting Brian on 13/6 17.30 by the current speed sign – all council members and road safety group are also welcome to attend.*

- iii. **Orchard Close 'lip':** *I had expected Orchard Close defect to of been completed by now. I will ask my colleague Clive Saunders to visit the site and confirm what work has or has not been done.*
- iv. **Re the refreshing of road markings in the parish:** *I am currently waiting for confirmation of the bulk lining works from my contractor. I am expecting this site to be included on this schedule. If it is not then I will arrange for a separate job to be raised to reline the carriageway on the Chepstow side of the village.*
- v. **With regard to a parishioner's concerns over trees on Chapel Hill.** *If I recall correctly my contractor had a look at this site and concluded that there was no immediate risk of any of the trees falling However I would be more than happy to visit the site with the lady in question. Please feel free to ask her to contact me via our generic email address [highways@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:highways@gloucestershire.gov.uk) (Clerk has put the parishioner in touch with Brian and hopes that they will be able to meet to discuss.)*
- vi. **Query regarding memorial bench being placed on way to Taurus Crafts:** No response received yet.
- vii. **Query regarding ownership/maintenance of vegetation/trees around bus shelters:** No response received yet.

**9s Stockwell Lane new fence. To note new fence on Stockwell Lane installed by Lydney Park Estate.**

On 22/5 Cllr Blamey emailed Clerk: *Lydney Park Estate have started putting a fence down the 2 rivers plot at the top of Stockwell Lane. I asked their man about it. He says that LPE own it, have always owned it, he's seen the land registry maps, and the odd location of the fence is because they need to get a tractor down there because they have responsibility for maintaining it.*

**11b. Payments. To approve any outstanding council payments**

John Harrison	Expenses for repainting bus shelter	£67.18
Meg Humphries	Expenses for travel for audit	£13.05
Meg Humphries	Pay May 2019	£347.22
HMRC	PAYE	£4.40
Martin Rice	Grasscutting 1 x April and 2 x May	£902.16
Merlin Waste	Dog Bins May 2019	£37.50
Simply Gardens	Weed spraying April 2019	£130.00

**11c. Income. To note any income received since the last meeting**

09/05/2019	Interest on deposit account	£0.31
09/05/2019	HMRC VAT reclaim	£187.90

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