

Present

Councillors: S Marley, C Crosdil, S Davies, R Calvert, S Garley, N Staff and Mrs. V Finnegan.

In Attendance: B. Clayden (Parish Clerk), 1 member of the Public, and Cllr Kitchen.

Minutes

1. Apologies for absence.

Cllr Faith, Cllr Humphreys, and Cllr Nagel

2. Declarations of Interest by Councillors on any matter on this Agenda.

None

3. Agree the minutes of Full Council on 13th November 2023 and Planning meetings on 8th and 29th November 2023

Draft minutes can be found on www.colgatefaygate.com

All Councillors agreed that the minutes were a true reflection of the meetings, and the Chair duly signed them off.

4. Meeting opened.

a) for members of the public to speak on matters connected to the agenda and other matters which can be noted but no decision can be made.

A member of the public contacted the Council about the Durrant Village permissive path being locked over the Christmas period. On checking Cllr Finnegan confirmed it remained locked. This information has been sent to HDC Compliance Team. Colgate PC have been advised that WSCC and HDC are meeting with Durrant Village management team over the S106 conditions and will take over the negotiations from this point onwards.

b) For District and County Councillors to speak on any matters including updates from the District and County Council.

Cllr Kitchen pointed out the Local Plan consultation was now open. This will be an agenda point in February. The link for more information is: [HDC Local Plan consultation](#)

Cllr Finnegan mentioned the Community Climate Grant Fund. Full details can be found on this link - [HDC Grants](#)

Biodiversity Net Gain Plan- Biodiversity net gain (BNG) is an approach introduced under the [Environment Act 2021](#), to ensure that developments and land management leave the natural environment in a better state than it was before. For more information follow this link - [BNG](#)

5. Finance-

a) Schedule of payment-Bills to be paid Dec/Jan

Cheque	£
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1062	B Clayden office exp 9.25	
1163	SLCC subs	183.00
1164	S Marley	83.00

Total 275.25

Online £

WSCC Nov salary 1443.12

WSCC Dec salary 1102.08

Hedgehog highway 157.00

Total 2702.20

b) Bills to be paid Jan/Feb Estimate.

WSCC Clerk Jan	£1000*
Clerk's expenses/overtime	£200*
Pension	£400*
Litter Warden	£300*
Litter warden mileage	£40*
Noticeboard	£2000*
Installation Notice board	£200*
Speed gun calibration	£330* (due April)
Website annual fee	£250*
Replacement defib pads expires	£100
Electrician defib cabinet	£200

*Potential online banking payments

All Councillors agreed the payments on section 5a and 5b.

c) Report on accounts

Summary

Income- Precept and Cleansing grant =£0

Balance current account 1.1.2024

£42236.74

Electronic accounts reconcile.

Bank statements and electronic accounts reconcile, and all Councillors agreed the accounts summary which were duly signed off.

Retrospectively, all Councillors confirmed that the Faygate VAS unit and the x2 solar panels were to be taken from the VAS earmarked reserves (Elan city VAS £2807.99 Elan city and solar unit £481.06) and shrubbery cut back from CIL monies (Grasstex £671.33 paid Nov 23).

d) Grant Application

No applications.

e) Expenses

Total expenses for Clerk-£ 163.94 from Sept- Dec

All Councillors approved the expenses.

f) Draft budget

[Budget 24-25](#)

The Clerk drafted a budget for Councillors to consider. All Councillors approved the budget 24-25 (V7).

g) Boom Community Bank

All Councillors decided not to invest in this project at this time since the Council was now able to receive interest on reserves with NatWest bank. Councillors agreed this would be a more prudent use of reserves.

h) NatWest Manager Liquidity Account

Councillors agreed to invest.

- ***£8000 in the Liquidity Management fund on a 95 days' notice account. (4.17%). This is circa half of general reserves.***
- ***The balance of the Reserves circa £24000 in the instant access account (1.45%).***

It was agreed the Clerk would facilitate the opening of the accounts. Councillors confirmed the Clerk will have the power to transfer monies between accounts when required. This would leave circa £10000 in the current account to cover day to day payments.

i) Quarterly figures Oct-Dec 2023

[Q3 Budget v Expenditure](#)

All Councillors agreed the Q3 Budget V Expenditure which reconciled with the electronic accounts.

6. Transport/Travel/Highways.

- Racing on the A264
It was noted that racing of cars was still ongoing, but the police presence had been increased and often were present before the racing got underway.
- Update on sound barriers and speed/noise camera with number plate recognition.
Cllr Nagel will investigate.
- Vehicle Activated Sign.
Cllr Davies confirmed that the Faygate unit was running well with the solar panel as the main source of energy. The Colgate solar panel is not as efficient because of its position. However, the battery has not been changed for approx. 3 weeks which is an improvement on the length of use before the solar panel was fitted and is expected to improve during the Spring/Summer months.

7. External meeting

Opportunity for Councillors to update the Council on any meetings attended.

None

8. Parish Assets

- All assets during January 2024 were checked and were found to be in good working order including defibs monthly check. (VF)
Next Report on all assets due April 2024. Next defib check due Feb 2024. (VF)
Cllr Finnegan confirmed all Parish Assets were in good working order including the alarm on the Faygate cabinet located outside the garage, Faygate Lane. The Clerk confirmed the alarm (Faygate Garage cabinet) had been replaced just before Christmas.

9. Climate Change and Sustainability. (BH)

- Hedgehog doorways-Once the doorways are received the Councillors will consider the distribution thereof.

10. Kilnwood Vale

- Noticeboard (BC)
Awaiting the delivery of the noticeboard.

11. Faygate Village

Update.

- Durrants Village Permissive path and library use (VF)-update
WSCC and HDC have taken over the meeting with Durrant’s Management team with regards to s106 commitment since HDC and WSCC have the agreement with Durrant Village and not the Parish Council.

- Petrol station update on littering outside of site, bus stop – change of levels and signage and fly poster.

The Clerk confirmed that the change of levels behind the bus stop were still being considered by WSCC. The Clerk removed the fly poster from the bus stop.

- Play area improvements at Faygate Village Hall.

Cllr Finnegan and Cllr Staff will discuss the situation with Faygate Village Hall Management team with regards to the broken fence and broken equipment in Faygate play area. Several residents have raised this with the Parish Council.

12. Dates and times of next meeting: Locations and dates may be subject to change.

- Discuss refreshments arrangements for the Community Meeting.

All Councillors agreed light refreshments only.

Monday at 7.30pm on

12th February- Durrants village

11th March-Colgate VH – (Community meeting)

8th April -Durrants village

13th May-Colgate VH (Annual Parish Meeting)

Meeting closed at 8.35pm

Signed by Chair.....