



Minutes

Meeting of the Parish Council Monday 13th July 2020 7 pm held online on Zoom

Present: Councillors Turley (Chair), Biden, Gilbert, Hilderley, Payne, Toon, Wright

In attendance: Mrs Jones (Clerk), District Cllr Leytham

The meeting was held remotely as permitted under The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

Open Forum

No members of the public had attended or sent comments.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Wright apologised for being delayed at work; he attended from 7.40.

2. To receive Declarations of Interest

None received.

3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of 8/6/19

The Minutes were approved and would be signed at the next actual meeting.

4. To receive the Clerk's Report

Training sessions – SPCA Councillor training was now fully booked. The Clerk would attend an online course on preparing accessible documents for websites in August. The Clerk had also attended training on digital mapping in June.

Village Hall – There were no plans to re- open for some time to come, and no events were expected to take place for the rest of the year.

Playground re-opening – the equipment had been painted and inspected by Alan Robey, information signs had been put up explaining how to comply with the new guidelines for safe use to minimise the risk from Covid-19, and a risk assessment had been prepared by the Clerk. It appeared to have been well used since opening on July 4th. Cllr Turley thanked those who had helped with this.

Anti social behaviour – there had been reports of drug taking near the Walled Garden and PCSO Costas Karpi had been asked to check the area.

New Model Code of Conduct consultation – The Monitoring Officer at Lichfield District Council had forwarded the Draft Code of Conduct and comments had been requested. Once adopted training on this would be available.

Resolved: Approved

5. To consider Planning applications

20/00636/FUH 8 The Osiers, single storey side extension to side of detached garage to form garden room. No objection

Update on applications: 20/00682/FUH 2 Mere Pits Cottages, rear extension. There had been no objection.

19/01707/FUL Elford Social Club. No progress had been made, the developers would be asked to tidy the site in the meantime.

Elford Lowe, Planning appeal. Cllr Hilderley said that the Inspector had visited the site and he expected a decision shortly.

Resolved: Approved

6. To consider the Sportsfield Underleases

Following correspondence with a resident who had expressed concerns about the implications of the underleases on parking for the Scarecrow Festival, the matter was discussed again at length. It was agreed that Cllr Biden and the Clerk would prepare a consultation document to ask for the views of Birmingham City Council and consult the Clubs.

Resolved: Approved

7. To consider the bus shelter

Residents had been informed of a proposal to site the shelter nearer to Croft Close and some had expressed concerns about parked vehicles. It had been confirmed that this site and the second site at The Shrubbery were not acceptable to the coach company and would not be allowed by the School Transport team for safety reasons. It was agreed that as there was no alternative site for its use by school pupils it would be offered to village organisations for use as a seated shelter.

Resolved: Approved

8. To discuss the website and compliance with Accessibility Regulations

Councils had a legal duty to meet the Website Accessibility Regulations by September 2020. Cllr Wright had prepared an accessibility statement which was now on the web site and explained that he would continue to work on making the site more accessible to ensure compliance. He was thanked for his hard work on this.

Resolved: Approved

9. To consider speeding on the A513

Cllr Wright had been contacted by a resident with concerns about vehicles speeding on the A513, especially motorbike activity during evenings and weekends. Highways had been asked for advice and suggested various options which were discussed. It was agreed to request that the speed camera van attend more frequently. The Parish Council could purchase Vehicle Indicator Signs in the future if grants or CIL monies from housing developments became available.

Resolved: Approved

10. To receive an update from the Sports Clubs

The Football Club had confirmed that socially distanced training had commenced and other youths had been asked not to use the field at these times. Information was given on matters regarding the gate lock and pavilion repairs. The Clerk would arrange an online meeting of the Sportsfield Committee.

Resolved: Approved

11. To consider Great British Spring Clean

This initiative was going ahead in September and further information would be displayed in the village when available.

12. To consider maintenance

Cllr Payne reported that he had fixed some roof slats at the Playground and that the condition of the roof should continue to be monitored. The equipment looked much better after being painted, and the large slide would also need painting at a convenient time.

Cllr Gilbert would deal with a protruding post on the tarmac area.

The Notice Board would be repaired soon.

Potholes had now been fixed in Brickhouse Lane and others reported in The Shrubbery. Cllr Turley would re-align a sign near the Fisherwick Road bridge.

Cllr Wright offered to wipe down the speed limit signs.

Resolved: Approved

13. To receive correspondence

SPCA bulletins, training details

LDC local information, and cancellation of Lichfield proms

Resident regarding tree trimming required in The Avenue; Birmingham City Council would deal with this.

14. To receive questions and reports from Councillors

Cllr Hilderley asked whether there had been any information on the matter previously reported off Harlaston Road from the Rights of Way Team, they would be contacted again.

District Cllr Leytham asked whether information had been received on increasing the number of defibrillators; it was felt that those at the Village Hall, Cricket Club and Walled garden were sufficient.

15. To receive a financial report

(a) Banking – The bank reconciliation was given, there was currently £12,128 in the current account. The taxi money of £1750 had been transferred to a 90 day account.

(b) Budget comparison – Payments over the first quarter were in line with expectations.

Resolved: Approved

16. To consider authorising schedule of accounts for payment

The Clerk had circulated copies of the invoices.

Payments: M. Jones, salary, reimbursement of expenses including annual Zoom licence and plants £502.26; HMRC £78.20;

A. Robey, handyman work £110;

R.W. Harcombe, grounds maintenance £210;

A. Cox, mowing, The Avenue, £70;

Scottish Power, electricity, £15.29

Resolved: Approved

17. Date of next meeting:

14th September online at 7pm (Zoom)

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.