

MINUTES OF THE AILSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

ON MONDAY 21st DECEMBER 2020 AT 7.30pm

(Held by Zoom video conferencing due to the ongoing pandemic and restrictions on meeting in person)

Present were Councillors Mrs J Pickett (Chairman) Dr M Ellershaw (Vice Chairman), Mr M Samways, Mr R Moon, Mrs A Perkins

Cllr J Phillips was absent.

Clerk Miss J Rice.

Members of the public 1: Cllr N Boyce (Chairman, Castor Parish Council (CPC))

20/128	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
	There were no apologies received by the Clerk.	
20/129	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
	To receive all declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda. (Members should disclose any interests (pecuniary, personal or other) in the business to be discussed and are reminded that the disclosure of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest will require that the member withdraws from the meeting during the transaction of that item of business). There were no declarations of interests in items on the agenda.	
20/130	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	
	A maximum of 15 minutes was permitted for members of the public to address the meeting. Mr N Boyce did not want to address the meeting then but was invited to speak later on.	
20/131	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING on 16th November 2020 (previously circulated)	
	These were agreed as a true record and will be signed electronically for now during the pandemic. Action Clerk	
20/132	MATTERS ARISING:	
	It was noted that the defibrillator process notice has been put in the notice board and on facebook and that a general training session is needed when able to do so as confusion over the scheme still exists. There was a plea to change the order of the agenda to cover the items needing a decision first as the meetings have been overrunning and all agreed to this. Minutes are written in the original order.	
20/133	RECREATION GROUND/VILLAGE GREEN/BUS SHELTER	
	133.1	To receive feedback on costs to potentially remove sides of "shelter" so that just seats left and if any \$106 money available to re-paint/remove/replace/plan for future improvements. The Clerk stated that PCC were reluctant to remove the sides of the "shelter" as it could be reassembled with the roof and used elsewhere as a complete piece. It was resolved to ask PCC to make enquiries for this to happen in spring and the remaining \$106 money to be used towards a project to improve the play area and other areas in the recreation ground. Action Clerk/Council
	133.2	To note and recognise Christmas decorations and tree on green and agree expenditure from grants. This was noted and agreed to pay and thanks given to those involved as much appreciated.
	133.3	To resolve to request the annual hedge cutting and tree survey with work to be completed in January. It was resolved to request these as in previous years. Action Clerk
20/134	VILLAGE GROUPS	
	134.1	To receive and note feedback from the Tennis Club re loan offer. It was noted that the tennis club had declined the offer of a loan for now, as a grant is still their preferred option.
	134.2	To receive update on works at the village shop and temporary shop solution/planning permission. It was noted that due to planning issues with the previous idea, a temporary hut would now be erected on site to house a temporary shop operation. It was recognised that the Parish Council are keen to help and support where possible and a Councillor will continue to liaise with the owner. (Cllr Shaw from CPC is liaising over planning issues) Action Cllr Perkins
	134.3	To note that requests for grant help to local groups has been lower so far this year but there is still money available to help them restart. This was noted.
20/135	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND JCAP	
	135.1	To receive feedback from meeting with Nene Park Trust. The notes of the meeting were circulated and there were no additional comments.
	135.2	To receive feedback on Good Neighbours Trust - Rural Peterborough The Chairman confirmed that the ongoing costs for this needs to be met by the parishes taking part The figure of £2 per household from each council was agreed and this will be included in the basic budget. There is a flyer being delivered about the scheme.

	135.3	<p>To receive feedback from Joint Meeting and resolve any actions needed to take in respect of bus service, speedwatch scheme, water supply, climate change and Covid response.</p> <p>Speed restrictions. It was resolved to set up a Joint Working Group to look at speeding in the villages, if CPC agree also. The group would involve Councillors and residents who have shown an interest in the speedwatch scheme and other speed reduction measures. Action Clerk to liaise with CPC Clerk</p> <p>Water supply and bill – Cllr Boyce explained why the water had been turned off - due to a leak at the community allotment – and both taps to both fields have been turned off while the tap there was mended. It is hoping this will be mended sooner than anticipated originally in order that the horses have water. The large water bill is still an issue due in part to the leaks and depends on the meter reading which is unable to be read whilst the meter is under water. This has not subsided despite many attempts to do so. The meter will now be removed asap and read and then arrangements made to replace it above the water table and away from the horses to stop them trampling on it and breaking it. The payments split will then be applied and confirmed as accurate.</p> <p>Action Cllr Pickett/Cllr Boyce</p> <p>A village Climate Change group has been set up and is running. It was agreed that a Councillor from each council should be on the group and Cllr Samways agreed to try this. Action Cllr Samways</p> <p>Covid response – the Good Neighbours Trust scheme is getting up and running, as well as the existing village help group. Updates and information from PCC are posted on social media. There is a grant available from PCC and this will be investigated. Action Clerk</p>
	135.4	<p>To review Section 7 of NP and update as agreed.</p> <p>A verbal review was given at the joint meeting and it was agreed to carry forward the documents in the email from J Hodder to the January meeting and Councillors are requested to look at the documents before then. Action Councillors</p>
20/136	FOOTPATHS, RIGHTS OF WAY, VERGES AND SPEED CONTROLS	
	136.1	<p>To receive update on speed restrictions taking place in Helpston Road, Station Road and resolve to take further action at a higher level.</p> <p>There has been no update despite promises to review the situation by PCC and respond. CPC has also agreed to summon them to a meeting to discuss it if necessary. The new speed signs are not enforceable. It is confusing and a hazard to have differing speed signs. The other measures promised for Helpston Road and Station Road well over a year ago have not been actioned and it is unacceptable. This was all long time ago before the pandemic and a pattern of poor performance and service from PCC. Action Cllr Samways to raise with Cllr M Farooq</p>
	136.2	<p>To receive feedback from Lee Moore on footpaths/parking in Main St. and agree any actions.</p> <p>Cllrs attended a meeting with Lee Moore and it needs to be followed up with PCC on safety grounds. It is not straightforward to install with utilities in the way however still possible. Some of the issues might be dealt with by PCC on grounds of safety. Action Cllr Ellershaw</p>
20/137	PARISH LAND AND ALLOTMENTS	
	137.1	<p>To note New Close field tenant without water and resolve action/help.</p> <p>See item 135.3 above</p>
	137.2	<p>To note action taken in respect of hedges/tree work at Nene Overland.</p> <p>Following a resident concern, planning enforcement were asked to check the situation regarding hedges and an old tree being removed. It was reported that it is not a planning issue.</p> <p>A general issue regarding Station Road verges being churned up recently was raised, as was potholes in Helpston Road and pictures will be sent to NPT and “fix my street” for information and action.</p> <p>Action Cllr Samways and Perkins</p>
20/138	PROJECTS	
	138.1	<p>To receive latest information and update on the Langdyke Trust All Parishes Nature Recovery Plan project. Cllr Samways attended the latest meeting and a list of simple local tasks/projects will be drawn up to concentrate on next spring, for which there may be some funding. A 10m strip of wild-flower meadow will be discussed at a future joint meeting.</p>
	138.2	<p>To review position with Council logo and if possible agree date for final design and production C/F.</p> <p>This will be carried forward again as Cllr Phillips was not present.</p>
20/139	GOVERNANCE AND TRAINING	
	139.1	<p>To note list of mandatory and recommended policies from NALC, to be circulated</p> <p>The clerk said this will be better to do at a later date so it will be C/F Action Clerk</p>
	139.2	<p>To note invitation to renew subscription from Open Spaces Society and resolve to pay, £45</p> <p>It was resolved to renew this subscription again this year. Action Clerk to pay</p>

	139.3	To receive feedback on potential applicant for Councillor vacancy and resolve further action. There has been no interest despite more adverts on line.	
20/140	PLANNING APPLICATIONS previously circulated		
	140.1	20/01384/CTR tree works at 9 Maffit Road. Permitted 26/11/2020	
	140.2	20/01625/CTR to reduce a Sycamore tree on front drive at 48 Main St. Deadline 30/12/2020. It was agreed that there are no concerns regarding this. Action Clerk to send response.	
	140.3	Consultation on Thornhaugh Augean Planning Application for changes in excavation and engineering of landfill cells, circulated. There were no comments or concerns.	
20/141	FINANCE/BUDGET		
	141.1	To receive and note monthly bank reconciliation and finance report, herewith. The report was received and noted with no questions.	
	141.2	To receive draft budget proposals and precept options, taking into account projects, reserves and price increases and resolve to agree figures/precept as far as possible. The draft budget was received and discussed. A query has been raised with PCC over a new credit amount communicated. It was noted that PCC are most likely cutting services due to budget restraints however still pay 75% of burial fees and all grass cutting costs. The clerk explained a surplus of reserves has built up over projects not realised and availability of more S106 monies and that maybe consideration should be given to reducing the precept accordingly. The burial fees are not known yet and will be available in January. Even with the basic costs, projects, earmarked and general reserves levels, the precept can be reduced and proposed budget still be met. When the burial fees are known the final figure can be calculated and agreed at the January meeting however it was agreed to reduce the precept by approx.14%. Action Clerk and Chairman	
	141.3	To note new bank account opened and update on online access. The Clerk confirmed that the account is live however the current balance switch date needs to be confirmed and actioned. The Councillors are setting up their online access to authorise payments. Action Signatory Councillors and Clerk	
	141.4	To note internal audit can be done at end of year to check processes in place for monitoring and accountability, with internal control checks done quarterly by councillors. The Clerk confirmed that with internal control checks in place, the 6 monthly audit review is unnecessary to check all transactions. Action Clerk to liaise	
20/142	CLERK REPORT a) To note NALC new guide on community business, circulated. This was noted for possible future use.		
20/143	ORDERS FOR PAYMENT		
	It was resolved to pay the following payments:		
	143.1	CGM invoice no 234761 for cut on 29/9	£186 paid
	143.2	CGM invoice to come	tbc
	143.3	HMRC employer tax	£72.60
	143.4	Clerk pay £266.72 plus home office £27 - PAYE £72.60 payable 31/12/2020	£221.12
	143.5	Reimburse Zoom subscription shared pm J Rice paid November	£3.20
	143.6	Reimburse J Rice ink cartridge subs, shared per council pm J Rice paid November	£4
	143.7	J Rice mileage November	£nil
	143.8	Re-imburse J Rice for computer security Avast	£41.87
	143.9	Re-imburse J Rice for new computer/Microsoft word	£483.99
	143.10	CAPALC councillor training	£75
	143.11	Allotment water bill	£4.41
	143.12	Reimburse J Judge for Xmas tree and decorations	£78.94
	143.13	Water bill CPC	tbc
	143.14	Open Spaces subscription	£45
	143.15	ICO Data protection fee due by 15/1/2021	£35 by DD
	143.16	Tree survey and hedge cutting costs	tbc
20/144	Noted	Receipts. None	Receipts None
20/145	DATE OF NEXT MEETING It was noted that the date of the next remote meeting is Monday 18 th January 2021 at 7.30pm		