

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10th November 2020 at 7pm

This meeting was held remotely in accordance with the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020

PRESENT: Cllr Pat Woodfield (Chairman), Cllr Paul Berrisford, Cllr Margaret Briggs (by phone), Cllr John Charles-Jones, Cllr Sophie Hopkin, Cllr Richard Pannell, Cllr Daniel Raynor, Cllr Colin Starke, Cllr Charles Wardle.

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Helen Greensmith (GBC, part), Cllr Boyd Elliott (NCC, part), Averil Marczak (Clerk). 3 residents/members of the public observed the meeting.

There was a delay to the published start time, as several members experienced difficulties logging into Zoom for this meeting.

4115. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Andrew Gough. Cllr John Newsome was unable to join the meeting as planned, due to problems logging into Zoom.

4116. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No additional interests declared.

4117. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th October were approved with minor amendment.

4118. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Wardle reported that Calverton Practice had decided not to proceed with a wall mounted box for prescriptions due to security implications. GBC did not have a suitably sized dog fouling sign to replace the sign on the playing field gate. Cllr Charles-Jones had obtained further information regarding the best way to refurbish the old village signs, and recommended that the work was undertaken in summer. He had sought an update from the Environment Agency regarding their investigatory work for flood mitigation measures in Woodborough.

4119. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported that the play equipment had been deliberately daubed with mud one evening in an act of vandalism, and she thanked the volunteer who cleaned the equipment. The Chairman thanked the Lengthsman for putting up the remembrance poppies on the lampposts. She had placed a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday, in the presence of a handful of residents. A Village Hall user had tested positive for Covid-19, and the group organiser had triggered the required tracing procedures.

4120. DISTRICT REPORT

Cllr Greensmith had circulated a report. It was unclear whether the bin collections in the Governors' Field had resumed, and Cllr Greensmith would chase the relevant service manager. Cllr Greensmith was liaising with Kevin Nealon regarding the Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Fouling) 2020 to understand how it could be used to deter dog fouling in Woodborough. A mobile Covid-19 testing centre was being set up for 2 days at the Richard Herrod leisure centre, for testing by appointment only.

4121. COUNTY REPORT

Cllr Elliott could not supply a Christmas tree but offered £150 grant funding for this purpose. Hardstanding at the Main Street bus stop should be installed before the end of March 2021. Cllr Elliott continued to chase for repairs to Woodborough roads, and confirmed that gritting was planned for all Woodborough bus routes. The LIS grant awards were still to be determined, and an officer would be in touch with Cllr Charles-Jones to discuss WPC's application.

4122. COVID-19: UPDATE ON ACTIONS TAKEN

Since October's meeting, Nottinghamshire had progressed from Tier 2 to Tier 3 (requiring exercise classes at the Village Hall to be cancelled) and then into a national lockdown on November 5th, requiring the children's dance group to be cancelled as well. Preschool was currently the sole user of the Hall. Revised signage had been put up at the Governors' Field to remind users of the new restrictions on gathering. Football and the Boot Camp were also suspended. The Chairman thanked Cllr Starke for his work to revise the Governors' Field signage. Cllr Hopkin reported that she had forwarded the wording of the signage to the school for circulation in the newsletter.

4123. PLANNING

There was no objection to PC1109/GBC2020/1028, for the erection of a treble garage with linking roof/covered walkway at 14 Bank Hill.

It was agreed to complain to GBC that inadequate notice had been given to consider the revision to PC110/GBC2020/0528 and that the new documents could not be opened by all. Cllr Greensmith agreed to forward this complaint on WPC's behalf.

4124. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

It was agreed to accept GBC's quote of £1660.55 + VAT for the installation. It was also agreed to ask for a breakdown of the costs associated with lighting and chipping the standalone tree, and to request details of how the wood chips were used. It was agreed after much debate to purchase a standalone 16 foot Christmas tree at a cost of £280, £150 of which would be covered by Cllr Elliott's grant.

4125. CHRISTMAS VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Cllr Hopkin outlined the "Christmas Capers" programme that was planned, with the dual purpose of creating some festive excitement, and also fundraising for the school PTA. It was agreed that the pinfold could be used for a socially distanced visit by Santa, and that the Village Hall car park could be used for a range of suitably distanced stalls.

4126. PAVEMENT PARKING CONSULTATION

The Clerk had circulated details of a UK government consultation on pavement parking. There was a lengthy debate about pavement parking in Woodborough and the likely consequences of a potential ban. It was decided not to submit a response to the national consultation on behalf of WPC, but to look to revisit Woodborough's pavement parking issues next year.

4127. GOVERNORS' FIELD

It was agreed to accept a quote of £150 from New Leaf Landscaping to clear the leaves. It was agreed that the Field could be locked during the works. Cllr Starke had circulated details of 2 benches using recycled materials which would provide low maintenance seating in the Governors'

Field. It was agreed that hardwood benches should also be considered, with a view to further discussion and agreement before spring. Cllr Starke agreed to carry out further research. Cllr Charles-Jones suggested that a bench on Roe Hill should be moved to the Governors Field; this followed requests for its removal by a resident. It was agreed to check whether other Roe Hill residents would object to this before proceeding.

4128. BENCH ON FOXWOOD LANE

Cllr Charles-Jones reported that a parish bench had been a casualty when a car left the highway on Foxwood Lane. It was agreed to submit a claim to WPC's insurers, to recover the value of replacement from the motorist's insurance.

4129. VILLAGE HALL

An email had been received from the preschool committee, formally thanking WPC for waiving the rent during lockdown. It was noted that 2 members of the preschool team were leaving to set up a new preschool in Oxton. Cllr Berrisford suggested that when the Hall reopened in full, post Covid-19, WPC should offer free Wi-Fi to hirers. Cllr Berrisford thanked WPC for storing the Institute's tables and chairs in the committee room during the Institute's refurbishment.

4130. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

It was agreed to compile a list of maintenance items that the Lengthsman could help to tackle over the winter. Cllr Wardle agreed to circulate the Lengthsman's current checklist to start the ball rolling. Cllr Charles-Jones suggested that clearing the leaves from the Village Hall car park and the weeds from the bottom of the churchyard wall should be included.

4131. MEETING DATES 2021

The schedule of meeting dates for 2021 was approved.

4132. ALLOTMENTS

Following an incident in the summer, Cllr Berrisford was concerned that the allotment gate could be easily breached. Cllr Berrisford and Cllr Charles-Jones agreed to meet to consider what could be done to improve security.

4133. WOODBOROUGH CHARITIES

Progress had been made towards the appointment of new trustees, and a volunteer had come forward to lead the process. It was agreed that the papers that the Clerk was holding could be passed to this volunteer. It was noted that WPC was holding a surplus of £2,064 from the allotment rents, amassed over a number of years of lower expenditure requirements. It was agreed that, for now, only the budgeted amount of £450 should be transferred to Woodborough Charities pending the appointment of new trustees.

4134. BUDGET 2021/22

There was a discussion regarding capital expenditure during the current uncertainties, and acknowledgement that any planned capital expenditure in 2021/22 would need to be provisional only, given that WPC's major income stream from the Village Hall was much reduced. It was agreed that the planned replacement of lighting in the Village Hall (in the 2020/21 budget) should be cancelled. It was agreed that the proposed replacement of floor coverings in the entrance hall and committee room should be progressed, recognising that work at present caused minimal disruption. It was agreed that the VHWP members should be consulted, potentially via Zoom.

4135. CONCLUSION OF AUDIT

The Clerk reported that the audit had been completed, with no matters raised. The required documents had been published on the WPC website.

4136. FINANCE

The Clerk presented the financial statement for November and 23 payments, totalling £6,163.83 net, were approved for payment. Gross payments over £500: £1,020.00 DCM (repairs to safe surfacing), £695.42 LGPS (staff pensions).

4137. CORRESPONDENCE AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

An email had been received from the headteacher at Woodborough Wood's school, thanking WPC for its work to keep the play equipment accessible during Covid-19 restrictions, and committing to continue to raise concerns about social distancing with parents and children. An email regarding GBC's Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Fouling) 2020 had been received and the Clerk had followed up with a request for clarification on how WPC might use this to tackle dog fouling in the parish. Via had asked for WPC's help in asking landowners along the bus routes to check their trees and cut back any that overhang the road. The following items were noted: details of NALC AGM (Zoom, November 19th), RCAN Hall Talk newsletter, details of social media training course (Zoom). Various GBC agendas and press releases were noted.

4138. SAM MIDDUP FIELD

Cllr Charles-Jones provided an update on works to prepare the footpath.

4139. OTHER UPDATES

Cllr Charles-Jones reported that an area of safe surfacing under the new springer car in the Governors' Field appeared to have sunk, and Cllr Starke agreed to check. 3 new graves had been returned. Cllr Wardle would ask the Lengthsman to take down the lamppost poppies at the end of November.

It was noted that various problems had been experienced with WPC emails and also with access to this WPC Zoom meeting; the Clerk agreed to discuss with Pete Wiles to try to resolve.

4140. WOODBOROUGH WEB

It was agreed to include: minutes; details of the Christmas lights, mentioning Cllr Elliott's grant towards the tree; meeting dates; a reminder to park considerately. Cllr Briggs and Hopkin agreed to liaise with the Woodborough Web regarding videoing the switch on of the lights.

4141. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next PC meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 8th December at 7pm.

The meeting finished at 10pm.