

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 27th April 2021 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, Cllr John Charles-Jones, Cllr Andrew Gough, Cllr John Newsome, Cllr Richard Pannell, Cllr Colin Starke, Cllr Charles Wardle.

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Helen Greensmith (GBC, part), Cllr Boyd Elliott (NCC, part), Averil Marczak (Clerk). 5 residents/members of the public observed all or part of the meeting.

4241. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE & ACCEPTANCE

Apologies from Cllr Raynor were received and accepted.

4242. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA)

No additional interests were declared.

4243. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th March were approved.

4244. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Wardle advised Cllr Greensmith that a new dog bin erected on Lowdham Lane should have been located by the bridleway entry as a direct replacement for the previous bin. It had instead been installed next to the fishing lakes, the location mentioned for a potential additional bin.

4245. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Woodfield noted that this meeting had been rearranged from April 13th due to the period of national mourning, and thanked fellow members for their support in working between the meetings. Cllr Woodfield thanked Cllr Elliott for opening the new permissive footpath on the Sam Middup Field on April 1st.

Cllr Woodfield had on April 1st 2021 signed the approved minutes for all Zoom meetings held to date.

4246. DISTRICT REPORT

Cllr Greensmith had circulated a report. She had presented the opportunity for dog waste stencils on pavements at the March meeting, and asked whether WPC wished to proceed. She agreed to supply photos of the stencil for further consideration. Cllr Greensmith agreed to ask for the renovation or replacement of the bin outside the shop. It was noted that the bin near the tennis court and playing field was frequently overflowing, and it was agreed that a laminated sign should be put up to direct people with litter to use the trade waste bin. Cllr Greensmith had received copy correspondence regarding rats in the vicinity of Church Walk and Pinfold Crescent. GBC's pest officer had attended and given advice to residents; he had identified a defective drain on private property (rather than the old Coop site) as the epicentre of the problem. Cllr Greensmith planned to visit the residents to follow up.

4247. COUNTY REPORT

Cllr Elliott explained that due to the County Council elections on May 6th, purdah restrictions applied. Hardstanding had been installed at the Main Street bus stop. The result was good but a resident had complained about the amount of days taken and the number of workman's vehicles involved. Cllr Elliott explained that works were only permitted between 9.30am and 3pm and that workmen arrived individually as part of Covid safety measures. It was noted that boards on the footbridge on bridleway 6 were starting to rot and Cllr Elliott had reported this to NCC's Rights of Way Officer. Cllr Newsome reported that some NCC Road signage had been abandoned near the Nag's Head, and Cllr Elliott agreed to get this picked up.

At 7.33pm Cllrs Greensmith and Elliott left the meeting.

4248. SAM MIDDUP FIELD PERMISSIVE FOOTPATH

Neighbouring residents had raised a number of issues regarding works on the field and use of the footpath.

Two residents had telephoned the Clerk to report that, during the installation of the gate, their properties had shaken and they were concerned that unseen damage might have occurred, to become obvious later. These concerns were noted. Cllr Charles-Jones had established that the impact was caused by a thumper, used by the contractor to break the old gatepost concrete foundation.

Further concerns had been raised regarding the painting and erection of the fences abutting residential gardens. It was noted that there had been some damage to shrubs and plants and that proper procedures had not been carried out. Cllr Woodfield had sent an unreserved apology to the householders affected and had drafted more rigorous procedures, for discussion and agreement, that should apply to future works. Cllr Charles-Jones agreed to visit the householders affected to discuss actioning remedial works.

A resident had raised concern that spraying had occurred on the agricultural portion of the field while the footpath was in use. The tenant farmer had agreed to lock the gates on the footpath before spraying in future. It was noted that spraying occurred every one or two years.

One resident had reported that a dog and young child had entered the pipe in the north-east corner of the field. It was agreed to ask the owner of this land to install a grate in front of the pipe. Several residents had reported that people of all ages have entered the ditch to walk or play. It was agreed to communicate that walkers must keep out of the ditch via the Woodborough Web and Village Facebook page, and also to put up a sign at each end of the path. It was agreed that this sign should also state no bikes and repeat the message about keeping dogs on leads. Cllr Charles-Jones reminded the PC that long term signage incorporating details of the LIS grant was required and some thought was needed as to how best to communicate the various rules of usage.

A number of residents had raised further concerns about the impact of the opening of the footpath. These concerns were noted.

4249. REMEMBERING HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Cllr Woodfield paid tribute to HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, commenting that following the news of the death of His Royal Highness Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh, we mourned his passing and offer condolences. He was a great advocate for community and youth enterprise around the

world. He will be warmly remembered by many in our community in Woodborough and our thoughts are with Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal family. Cllr Starke said he had been most touched by pictures of HM the Queen sitting alone at the funeral, as so many widows and widowers have done during the pandemic. Cllr Woodfield thanked members who took part in the rota to make the Book of Condolence available for signing. Cllr Charles-Jones thanked the Clerk for coordinating WPC's preparations for Operation Forth Bridge and the Clerk thanked WPC's web manager for implementing the temporary changes to the website so promptly.

It was agreed that a permanent and substantial memorial should be established in the village; it was suggested that an oak tree might be planted and/or a high-quality bench be purchased. It was agreed to invite views from the residents before making a decision.

4250. COOPTION TO VACANCY

Cllr Woodfield thanked members for joining an online meeting with the prospective candidates. It was agreed by a unanimous vote to co-opt Adam Wylie (proposed Cllr Gough, seconded Cllr Berrisford).

4251. INTERNAL CONTROL / INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT

The internal auditor's assessment of the PC's performance against internal control objectives was considered. The internal audit report was received and noted. Recommendations included a review of memorial safety; a review of building insurance values; an annual review of Standing Orders; GDPR training for new members; consider opening an account with a further bank to protect more funds under the FSCS. Members were satisfied that the PC had met its internal control objectives. It was agreed to investigate setting up an account with a further bank.

4252. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2020/21

The Chairman read out the lines 1 - 8 of the Annual Governance Statement in turn (line 9 N/A). It was resolved to respond "yes" to all statements and to approve the Annual Governance Statement. The Chairman signed and dated Section 1 of the AGAR for collection by the Clerk.

4253. ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2020/21

The Accounting Statements signed by the Clerk before presentation for approval were considered. The Chairman read out the data. It was resolved to approve the Accounting Statements. The Chairman signed and dated Section 2 of the AGAR for collection by the Clerk.

4254. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS FOR 2020/21

The analysis of receipts and payments for 2020/21 was approved and signed by the Chairman.

4255. COVID-19 UK GOVERNMENT ROAD MAP FOR LIFTING LOCKDOWN

The Clerk presented a brief update. Meetings after May 6th must take place face-to-face, although a case to retain remote meetings had been presented at the High Court on April 21st. It was agreed that face-to-face WPC meetings should take place in the main hall to enable social distancing to be practised. Exercise classes were able to return to the Village Hall after May 17th. It was agreed that for a month the Pilates instructor could use the Hall for 2 hours, while paying for 1 hour, to limit the numbers in each session. Football, Cricket and the Boot Camp had all returned to the Playing Field. The benches were on their way back to the Governors' Field, and the restored bench from Roe Hill had taken up a prime position alongside the railings.

4256. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

It was noted that the proposed Q&A on Zoom, scheduled for April 27th, had been unable to take place due to the rearrangement of the April Parish Council meeting. The Annual Report had been posted on the WPC website and it was agreed to invite queries by email.

4257. PLANNING

Application PC1131/GBC2021/0112TPO to reduce sycamore by 6 m, stables to north of Bank Hill Farm, Bank Hill was considered; there was no objection.

The Clerk had responded to the following applications under delegated power due to the delayed meeting: PC1125/GBC2021/0071 2nd revised consultation for demolition of existing caravan storage buildings, erection of detached dwelling and detached garage block and associated works at Bank Hill Farm, Bank Hill (no objection) and PC1130/GBC2021/0224 for 2 storey side extension at Hill Side, Private Road (no objection).

4258. PARISH BENCHES

The Clerk had been advised that the insurance excess for the bench destroyed on Foxwood Lane could not be recovered. It was agreed that a Bewley bench (cost £452 + VAT) should be ordered to go in this location. A family had donated a replacement bench for the Governors' Field in memory of their mother, and it was agreed that this should go in the north west corner. It was agreed that further decisions regarding new benches in the Governors' Field should be put on hold pending consideration of a memorial bench for HRH the Duke of Edinburgh. Cllr Wardle confirmed that he had resolved the trip hazard left on Roe Hill following the removal of a bench.

4259. FINANCE

The Clerk presented the financial statement for April and 34 payments, totalling £10,070.10 net, were approved for payment. Gross payments over £500: £714.52 LGPS (staff pensions), £888 S P Rose (fencing works), £2629.99 Woodborough Park (supply of fencing materials). A 3rd Covid-19 support grant had been received (£1500).

The following direct debit and regular payments were approved for 2021/22: Opus Energy (gas and electricity for Village Hall), Scottish Power (electricity for pavilion), Water Plus, Livepay (payroll services), Gedling Borough Council (trade waste), PWLB (loan repayments), Gardenscape (grass cutting), staff salaries, HMRC, LGPS (staff pensions).

4260. CORRESPONDENCE AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Correspondence had been received regarding: a rat infestation, blockages in the stream, night time use of the Village Hall. A note of thanks had been received for the help given by a number of councillors who had helped Woodborough in Bloom's tidy up. The Woodborough in Bloom team had reported that a tree had perished in the shrubbery at Ploughman Avenue; it was agreed to consider planting a new tree in the autumn. Details of the adoption of the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan had been received. It was agreed to decline the opportunity to subscribe to the Rural Village Services Group. The following items were noted: Gedling Police Newsletter; RCAN Hall Talk; GBC, various agendas and press releases.

4261. WOODBOROUGH INSTITUTE

Cllr Berrisford reported that the refurbishment works were nearly complete.

4262. OTHER UPDATES

Cllr Newsome reported that the storage capacity at the Playing Field was under pressure and the Cricket Club were finding it difficult to stow their lawnmowers. The Clerk agreed to discuss with other users.

4263. WOODBOROUGH WEB

It was agreed to include: minutes; details of the Annual Report; details of the rules for use of the permissive footpath details.

4264. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the Annual Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 4th May.

The meeting finished at 9.18pm.