

26th JANUARY 2021

This was a virtual meeting using Zoom.

This meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday 26th JANUARY 2021 at 7.30pm.

Councillors present : Mr R Leighton (RL) Chair, Mr A Ketteringham (AK) Vice-Chair, Mrs J Lusher (JL), Mrs A Shephard (AS), Mr K Collins (KC) Mr J Leggett (JLg), Mr L Ready (LR), Mr A Thomas (AT). Also in attendance Jean Sangster Clerk.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs M Forsyth (MF) due to illness.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

The minutes of the meeting held on 05.01.21 had been circulated, read and passed and will be signed when normal meetings recommence.

REPORT FROM DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCLLOR

Mr Eagle was not in attendance so no report given.

MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC – no public in attendance.

MATTERS ARISING

Highways – Flooding still a problem near Womack House. Mr Jacklin had confirmed that this will be investigated further. Sign post at junction of Cress.Rd/Sw.Rd. still not repaired.

Potholes to report : Swaffham Road near Womack House, outside last bungalow Hale Road, Potholes along edge of frontage of Millfield.

SAM2 sign – The complaint re positioning of SAM2 was discussed at length and it was felt that the positioning of this was satisfactory. It was proposed by KC seconded by JLg that the rota and positions remain as planned and this was agreed by all.

Play Equipment – All checked. Under Government Lockdown the MUGA, Tennis Court and Fitness equipment should be taken out of use but Play Area can be used so Disclaimer will be put up again.

Playing Field – Reported that moles have returned and RL will deal with these. Only one quote received at present for maintenance so Clerk to chase TTSR for second.

Police – No report but there had been problems at the flats in Old Allotment Close which had been dealt with.

Speedwatch – No sessions held this month but Enforcement Officer had been in the village twice.

Litter Bin – This is now in place. Thanks to JLg and AT.

Community Centre – BOWLS. Arrange to discuss siting and work with Comm. Centre Committee. Clerk advised that there is grant available through Norfolk Community Foundation and RL will look into this. Members felt that if there are grants available Parish Council should apply for help with new driveway but Clerk has not received the quote as yet.

KC informed that the containers are dripping with condensation and JLg will get some prices for ventilation. This was always going to pose a problem.

Footpaths – Concerns expressed that people are walking across playing field as the roadway at side of tennis court is so wet and muddy but it was pointed out that this is NOT a public footpath. The footpath actually runs from opposite the Green and then across the Ashill Estate to join the path at southern end of playing field.

Maps – AS informed that these are being dealt with.

Car Scheme – Clerk has received notification from Breckland that the Car Schemes should not be used for transporting public for COVID vaccinations. Arrangements should be made at the time of bookings with their Surgery or through NCC Transport Plus.

26th JANUARY 2021 Cont.

Future Meetings – The Clerk asked if the Council were in agreement with holding the Annual Parish Meeting via Zoom in April as no Annual Meeting was held last year and it looks unlikely that an actual meeting will be allowed this year. It was agreed this would be held via video link. The Annual General Meeting will be held in May.

Any Other Matters – Complaints received regarding the use of the Library in kiosk in Church Street and concerns re safety. The Clerk had advised that there is a disclaimer notice displayed so really this is the responsibility of the public.

CORRESPONDENCE

Norfolk ALC Wellbeing - Request for Parish Councils to sign a 'Pledge' to support the Armed Forces Covenant. After due consideration it was felt that the village supported everyone regardless of their status and service families had always been considered as part of the village and therefore this Council did not feel it necessary to sign up. Clerk to reply.

Request from FOL to display posters with clues around the village for a 'treasure hunt' during half-term week. There were no objections to this.

Norfolk Citizens Advice – Request for a donation to assist with running of this. It was proposed by AK seconded by AS that £100-00 be given under Section 137. This was agreed by all.

A quote for the maintenance of Churchyard for the coming year had been received by the Church Warden. (Copy of quote held on file for Audit purposes). This shows an increase of an additional £30-00 on the share that Parish Council contribute per annum under Section 137. It was agreed by all that this should be accepted.

PLANNING

There were no new applications and no notifications of plans granted.

ACCOUNTS

The following accounts were passed for payment for January proposed by AK seconded by KC :-

Direct Debit - SWALEC payment for Power supply Dec. £329-72

K & M Lighting Services Maint St Lights Jan.. 127-19

Mrs J Pickard Play field Warden Jan.) Undisclosed

Jean Sangster Clerks Salary Jan.+ 13hrs)

Expenses Jan. 37-80

AW Water Supply. Outstanding payment 0-53

Andrew Hyde Work to move Play Equipment 1357-51

Norfolk Citizens Advice Donation Section 137 100-00

Details of Accounts circulated. The question was raised as to whether we had ever received an invoice from Mr Marshall for work at Comm. Centre and Clerk confirmed that this had never been received and it was agreed that only if one was received before end of Financial Year would this be considered for payment.

Any Other Business

Community Assets - It was agreed that we look into how to register the shop and pub as many Parishes seem to be doing this.

Question of donation to Ashlink was raised. PC has not donated for several years but Editors have been advised that if help is needed they should contact us.

Clerk to query timers on Street Lights in Cress. Road as they seem to come on early.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 23rd FEBRUARY 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom.

Signed.....Date.....