

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held by Zoom Monday 11 January 2021

Present: Cllrs Robert Law, Tim Hancock, Teresa King, Will Pow, Brian Huggett, Brian Scurlock, District Cllr McCabe and Kathryn Manchee the clerk.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE None.

2 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations None.

3 Parishioners Matters

Rectory Farm Lane Junction Visibility

The chairman to request from highways suggestions on how the visibility of this junction could be improved and the cost of signage warning of the junction.

Innox Grove Junction Visibility

The chairman to request from highways suggestions on how the visibility of this junction could be improved and the cost of signage warning of the junction.

4 Council Meeting 7 December

4.1 Approval of the 7 December Meeting Minutes Unanimously approved. They will be signed by the chairman at a later date when physical meetings resume.

4.2 Matters Arising from the 7 December Meeting Broadband now installed at the Old School. There is now a WIFI hotspot in the car park which is suitable for use by people who are home schooling. Cllr Hancock also stated that the parish council could consider a contribution to the Community Hub and Library in the next financial year. The Xmas tree was a great success. The chairman to write a letter of thanks.

4.3 Progress Report on Consideration of Installation of Pavement to improve post box access It was proposed to revise the design to by moving the rubbish bin nearer to the noticeboard. This would mean that the pavement could be smaller thereby reducing the cost and providing more parking. The chairman was not supportive of this since it would compromise the sight line when turning left from Rectory Farm Lane into Englishcombe Road if a vehicle was parked there. The chairman will get the proposal costed by talking to BANES and a possible contractor.

4.4 Consideration of Co-option to Fill Parish Council Vacancy.

The chairman has advertised the vacancy on the village WhatsApp but has not had a response as yet. Cllr Pow said he would approach a possible candidate.

5 PLANNING

5.1 Results, Correspondence and Consideration

Some potential breaches of enforcement were discussed. None of these required any action from the parish council.

5.2 Consideration of a Response to the Local Plan Partial Update Options

Consultation. The chairman to draft a response by 23 January. Comments back from other councillors to be provided by 30 January. A final draft response will be circulated by 6 February and then submitted before the 18 February deadline. District Cllr McCabe reported that the list of HEELA sites will be published soon. He also reported that it is very difficult to put a requirement for affordable housing on infill as the minimum threshold for affordable housing is 10 houses.

6 FINANCE

6.1 Payments for Approval

Payments to Ratify Parish Council

31 Dec	Standing Order	Clerk's Salary December	£293.52
31 Dec	Standing Order	Sweeper Fee December	£229.78

Payments for Approval Parish Council

11 January	Cheque no 980	Share of SLCC Membership	£37.00
11 January	Cheque No 981	Winter Newsletter Printing	£170.00

Unanimously approved.

6.2 Financial Report including 3rd quarter forecast

The balance of funds as at 11 January is £14,472.58 and without CIL Funds is £11,072.97.

Millstream Wheelwrights funds are £2,191.58.

Forecast Against Budget 2020 2021 3rd Quarter

Total receipts forecast to be up £186 at year end as compared to budget. Total Payments to be forecast down by £155 at year end compared to budget. Overall this means that the council is forecast to make a deficit of £659. The budget forecast a deficit of £1,000.

6.3 Approval of Precept Level and Budget for 2021 2022.

By a vote of 4 to 2 the parish council resolved to approve a budget with a 10% increase in the precept. The 2 votes against this rise would have preferred a 5% increase in the precept.

7 HIGHWAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY & ALLIED MATTERS

7.1 Highway and PROW Issues.

The PROW team will arrange the repair of the handrail on the footpath BA11/8. There are lots of potholes appearing. District Cllr McCabe suggested that a walk around the parish was undertaken to photograph all of these along with the various missing white lines at the junctions discussed under parishioners' matters. These then to be reported via Fix My Street in about March so the work can be undertaken spring/summer. Any potholes that are dangerous should be reported via Fix My Street immediately.

7.1.1 Update On Community Speedwatch

The clerk has not heard back from the PCSO on this.

8 Millstream and Wheelwrights Workshop and Orchard Committee Report

The stream has been cleared with the stream on the other side to also be cleared. The committee has joined The Freshwater Habitats Trust, at no cost to the committee funds, from whom it aims to get best advice on the management of not only the cress beds that are overgrown but also the pond and streams, flora and fauna.

9 Parish Newsletter and Website The usual updates have been made to the website. The St Peter's church element of the website to be rebuilt by Cllr Hancock which will include all the church's present activities and future direction.

10 District Councillor's Report Consultation on security in Bath continuing. Vaccinations now being offered at Ashton Gate.

11 Reports by Clerk/Councillors/Chairman

The chairman reported that the carol services went ahead but were held outdoors. There was a good feeling of pulling together at Christmas.

Cllr Huggett expressed concern about the increasing amount of telephone scams and rogue traders. Cllrs will warn people as well as a notice on the noticeboard and a warning placed on the village WhatsApp.

12 CORRESPONDENCE None.

Meeting closed 8.41 pm. Next meeting 1 March.