

WICKLEWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held via Zoom video conferencing as allowed by the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus)(Flexibility of local authority and police & crime panel meetings)(England & Wales) Regulations 2020 on **Monday 1st March 2021 at 7.30pm**

Present: John Seville (JS) Chair, Nick Kemp (NK) Vice Chair, Joel Pailles (JP), Louise Downton (LD), Richard Goodings (RG), Alan Goodings (AG)

In attendance: Richard Elliot (RE) (until 8pm), Margaret Dewsbury (MD)Helen Frayer (HF) Parish Clerk

574. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies received from John Hipperson. The Chair welcomed all to the meeting

575. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: None

576. PUBLIC FORUM: Nothing raised

577. REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS: Written reports received from RE and ME which will be circulated and posted on website. ME mentioned that the members' highways grant had been increased to £10k per division and can include environmental items. Also, library charges have been removed for under 16 yr olds

578. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4th JANUARY:

Resolved: To agree these minutes as correct. **Proposed LD, seconded JP, all agreed**

UPDATE FROM CLERK ON ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:

579. HF reported that Highways have agreed that the verge by the church needs attention and will be done in due course.

CORRESPONDENCE: (all previously circulated to councillors)

580. Email from resident requesting permission to fit a tall fence at end of her garden to protect from footballs which keep coming in. Will require to cut down/back some of existing hedge and remove existing wire fence. Will replace hedging as required. Work to be done at property owner's expense. Decision to approve, made by councillors prior to meeting via email exchange as no cost implication to council. Also requests removal of mature Hornbeam tree – on agenda for discussion

581. Response to grant request from Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme for cavity wall insulation (circulated). Bid had failed. JS said the scheme had given a very poor service

FINANCE

582. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Salaries	Clerk & Booking Clerk	405.02
HMRC	Month 11	72.20
Clerk's expenses	Zoom fee, Fire safety signs	57.11
B L Clarke	Verge and hedge cutting	933.00
MW Sweeper Hire	Gully clearance in carpark	108.00
John Roy	Installing hooks and door stop and emergency work to broken gutter/waste pipes	101.84
Jeremy Neave	Installation of fire alarm call points	90.00
SNC	Premises license – DD was not taken in August	180.00
Wave	Water rates – by DD	13.49
	TOTAL	1,960.66

HF reported that an invoice was awaited for the boiler service that had been done that day and requested it also be authorised in advance on sight of the invoice by the Chair, so it can be paid in this financial year

Resolved: That all accounts as presented be paid including boiler service. Proposed LD, seconded RG, all agreed

583. MONTHLY RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS REPORT

	Current	Premium	Total
Balance b/f	28,375.11	15,001.15	43,376.26
Total receipts to 22.2.21	1,553.14	0.00	1,553.14
	29,928.25	15,001.15	44,929.40
Total payments to 22.2.21	16,803.54	0.00	16,803.54
	13,124.71	15,001.15	28,125.86
Inter Account Transfers	0.00	0.00	0.00
Closing Balance	13,124.71	15,001.15	28,125.86

HF reported that income included the FBT and large allotment rent. The Covid Business Support Grant not received this month whilst awaiting the Roadmap but has now been paid since this report

HIGHWAYS

- 584. Report from Highways Officer:** JP had circulated the latest figures from the SAM2 from Hackford Rd by the school facing Wymondham. Average speed 26mph but fastest 50mph at 3.50 on a Monday afternoon. The 85% percentile is 31mph but every day over 100 vehicles are breaking the speed limit. Will place it next on High Street. RG reported several large potholes, JP will check them out. He reminded that anyone can report potholes themselves direct on the council website. JS asked what had happened to the fingerpost sign which had been knocked crooked and has been taken away. No known, but it was removed after being reported as damaged so will await its return.

PLANNING

585. 2021/0003 Location: 10 St Georges Hospital Road - Proposal: Replacement of centre arched Georgian window and front door to the rear and replacement of 1 no. window to the front - **The council had no views or comments.**

VILLAGE HALL AND PLAYING FIELDS

586. **Report from Booking Clerk:** HF reported that the booking clerk is still furloughed but enquiries were now starting to come in for bookings after June when restrictions are expected to be lifted and asked if the Booking Clerk could be brought back on part-time furlough. Agreed. Donna is expecting to start individual lessons in April and full classes in May if the roadmap runs to time.
587. **Hall Maintenance:** Guttering and downpipe had been damaged by balls being kicked against the hall. To prevent water damage, John Roy, who had still been working at the hall agreed to replace/repair. No other issues
588. **Playing Field Inspection:** NK reported all ok. Net pegs had needed replacing again. He had emptied the bins
589. **To consider request to remove hornbeam tree:** JS reported that UK Power Networks had pollarded it when they worked on the overhead line. The householder has trimmed their side of it. NK said he was against its removal as we want to preserve trees where possible. RG said he thought it far enough away from boundary fence to not cause a problem. NK proposed not to agree its removal, RG seconded, all agreed.
590. **Update re tree planting:** As it had remained too wet for the tractor, JS and NK had done individual planting holes and JP reported that they had held a socially distanced tree planting session and 4 rows across end of field, and 8 flowering cherry along roadside at end of allotments. There are 57 trees left. School may like some. Could plant some around the field. JS suggested about 10 go in the far NE corner of field to fill the gap there and perhaps fill in the gaps in the hedgerow by the proposed new footpath. JP will check these places out.
591. **Consider further actions re vacant large allotment:** HF reported that the vacancy had been advertised with no interest, although there had been a couple of people express an interest in a normal sized plot. JS suggested that 3 normal sized plots could be made by taking some of the very wide track to the side and a little of the plot which would enable 3 more allotment holders while maintaining the large plot big enough to be viable to farm. NK suggested creating 6 plots, however, there are only 3 names on the waiting list and vacant plots cause a weed nuisance for all. We also have to ensure the remaining space is large enough to be viable to farm. **NK proposed creating 3 new plots and negotiating a revised price for the rest of the plot. RG seconded, all agreed**

TO CONSIDER ACTIONS REQUIRED IN THE EVENT OF RETURN TO PHYSICAL COUNCIL MEETINGS AFTER 7TH MAY:

592. Consider bringing date of May meeting forward so it can take place remotely: Agreed to move date to 5th May. Can then consider having less frequent meetings in future, perhaps alternate months.

593. Consider increasing delegation policy: Will review in May
594. Replacement extractor fan: JS had requested this be revisited in light of the new H&S regulations that had been circulated. He said that he wouldn't be prepared to sign off a risk assessment for use of the hall knowing there was a non-functioning extractor fan. The electrician had revised his quote to show the breakdown between materials and labour. JS said the cost could be reduced if we discarded having a timer. Also there is an existing circuit that may be possible to use which would further reduce costs. Until he starts and is able to test this, the electrician doesn't know if this is a viable option so has costed for its replacement. JP said it was against standing orders to revisit a decision prior to 6 months. JS said that H&S considerations overruled that. AG queried if we would be covered by insurance if we didn't go ahead. JS checked with JP and LD if they wanted to change their minds given the serious H&S implications of not supporting this proposal, which would go against SAGE, WHO and HSE advice on ventilation and the original design of the hall included a fan, which information had been previously circulated. **RG proposed going ahead with the work and NK seconded JP proposed not going ahead as was concerned about setting a precedent of going against the standing orders. LD seconded and said as we were coming to the end of the covid situation and people were getting vaccinated it wasn't needed. 4 councillors voted to go ahead.** Will ensure that all hall users include the use of the fan in their risk assessments. Will aim to get the work completed prior to dance lessons resuming if possible
595. Volunteer to set up room in advance of meetings: HF said that the usual method of all helping together to get tables and chairs out would not be viable because of the close contact and passing each other in the doorway. JP volunteered to set the room up. Can consider if tables are needed for all, or just chairs with tables for Chair and Clerk
596. Risk assessments: These will need revisiting and also a separate one for the clerk due to H&S in the workplace.
597. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:** HF said there was a virtual training meeting on planning enforcement. Will circulate details.
598. RG said the Bowls Club would be fitting a new sign at the end of the drive. They will look at possible extending the height of the current post, or if not, then will fit a new longer post. If it is a new post, JS suggested it be placed a little closer to the road to make it more visible.
599. **DATE OF FUTURE MEETING**
The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting on 12th April at 7.00pm followed by the monthly parish council meeting via Zoom. Items for the agenda to be sent to the clerk by 1st April