



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WINCHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2020 at 7.30 PM CONDUCTED VIA WEBEX COMPUTER LINK DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Present:

Parish Councillors: I Parr, K Barker, D May, D Kelly, A Webster, N Morgan, G Olive and W Shirley

Parish Clerk N Morris

No concerns were expressed during the public forum.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was conducted virtually, with the public invited to log on to watch and listen.

- 1. It was noted that during the COVID-19 pandemic arrangements, the current Chair, Vice Chair and Footpath Officers continue to hold their positions.**
- 2. Apologies for absence**
Apologies had been received from Cllr Powell and and Cllrs N Wright, L Gibbon and P Marshall and PCSO Wiggins
Proposed: Cllr Barker
Seconded: Cllr Webster
- 3. Declarations of any**
(a) disclosable pecuniary interests or
(b) other disclosable interests
As are required under Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011.
Cllrs Parr and Kelly declared pecuniary interests in Item !8 relating to the donation for help for the vulnerable during the pandemic. No further declarations were made.
- 4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 22 April 2020**
Resolved that the Minutes for the meeting held on Wednesday 22 April 2020 be confirmed as a correct record
Proposed Cllr Webster
Seconded Cllr May
- 5. There were no matters arising from Previous Meeting.**
- 6. No Unitary Councillors were present, but it was noted that the Unitary Councillors were planning a Zoom virtual meeting for the Chairs of the Marbury Parish Councils.**

7. PLANNING

The following were considered:

A. APPLICATIONS

Site Address: **Home Farm Linnards Lane Wincham Northwich Cheshire CW9 6ED**

Proposal: **Extension to existing livestock building**

Reference Number: **20/01245/FUL**

Case Officer:

<http://pa.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/online-applications/>.

comments by:

23 May 2020

This will be an agricultural building in an agricultural area and was not contentious.

B. APPROVALS

None

C. REFUSALS

20/00373/FUL

Proposal: Demolition of existing garage and erection of detached annex

Location: Holmfield Linnards Lane Wincham Northwich Cheshire CW9 6ED

Refusal

Noted

- D. *It was noted that there was work on the field going down to Pickmere Lake where permitted development was allowed for an agricultural storage facility off Earles Lane. It looks as if a path or road was being made down to the Lake. The clerk was asked to inform Cheshire West and Chester Council.*

8. The clerk read out the following report from PCSO Wiggins:

PCSO REPORT APRIL – MAY 2020

Passing attention has been given to the park area.

Speed monitoring carried on Church Road Wincham.

Reassurance visits to some of the elderly/vulnerable residents in the community.

Passing attention given to local businesses in the area.

Local shops visited – reassurance visits.

General patrols of the area.

All areas have been quiet with very little reported incidents for the area.

PCSO Wiggins has promised to check speeds on Chapel Street.

PCSO Wiggins has confirmed that she is keeping an eye on the lady apparently living in a red car in the area.

It was noted that there have been a number of car accidents on Pickmere Lane. The clerk will relay the information to PCSO Wiggins.

It was also noted that there have been significant parking problems on Earles Lane.

- 9. It was noted that a Notice, advertising the current two vacancies on the Parish Council, has been posted. The Notice ends on 4 June 2020. If no call for an election in Wincham has been made, the Councillors may co-opt at the next Parish Council Meeting.**

- 10. The request from Cllr Powell that she be allowed to take a short sabbatical from Parish Council duties, due to family circumstances was noted. Cllr Powell had indicated she would resign from the Parish Council if encouraged to do so.**

Resolved that if Cllr Powell is able to take a sabbatical and return to being an operative Parish Councillor in the not too distant future, the Parish Councillors would be very pleased to retain her on the Parish Council because of her personal qualities and skill set

Proposed Cllr Barker

Seconded Cllr May

11. Sub-Committees and Working Parties

- i. **No dates were known for sub-committee meetings before the next Council Meeting.**
- ii. **The Grounds Maintenance Working Party did not have anything to report.**
- iii. **The IT Working Party made a report to the meeting.**
Three quotes have been obtained for different computer devices.
It was noted that three quotations are also required for operating systems.
- iv. **No updates were received from other Working Parties.**

12. The annual ROSPA reports on the Linnards Lane Playing Field and the Chapel Street Playing Field were noted and discussed

The different issues listed in the reports were discussed one by one, giving weight to the level of risk given to each defect. There were no issues of high risk.

It was felt that the shrinkage in the wet pour could be repaired whilst the play areas are closed.

The clerk was asked to obtain quotations for the repair of the wet pour.

Resolved that the ROSPA reports are fully noted and accepted and appropriate action will be taken, depending upon the level of judged risk.

Proposed Cllr Webster

Seconded Cllr Barker

13. The adhoc visual inspections at the Linnards Lane and Chapel Street Playing Fields were reviewed

It was noted that inspections of the play areas are not being carried out according to the usual rota. Instead whichever Councillor is available is walking through the playing fields and doing a visual inspection. Notices have been posted to say that the play areas and all the equipment are closed and that safety inspections are not taking place in the usual way. The insurers have been informed of the situation.

It was noted that the tape on the MUGA is regularly removed. The meeting noted that Government regulations were unclear over whether the MUGA could be opened, but since it is on private land, the decision over whether to open the MUGA is up to the Parish Council. It was felt that if it was opened, surfaces would be touched and might spread the virus and groups might break the social distancing guidelines.

The park benches were discussed. They are not 2m long and so it is difficult to maintain social distance when friends use the benches. Also the benches are beside the path and so passers-by are not 2m away from those sitting on a bench.

There is a parcel tie securing the gate onto Chapel Street. The equipment at Chapel Street is also taped and there is a Notice stating that the playing field is closed and the equipment is out of use. The Notice also states that normal safety inspections are not being made. There was a discussion over whether the Chapel Street playing field should be padlocked. The parcel tie has been removed once. It was felt that it should be monitored whether the current parcel tie is removed again. If it is, then it may be necessary to use a padlock.

14. The effects of COVID-19 on the Parish Council and any steps that the Parish Council might take to assist its running during the pandemic were discussed

It was noted that currently there were no additional steps necessary.

15. The effects of COVID-19 on the parish and any steps that the Parish Council might take to assist any residents or businesses were discussed.

It was noted that David Hewitt of Thor has kindly offered to provide free hand sanitiser for use of the residents of Wincham. Mr Hewitt is supplying Wincham School separately. The hand sanitiser is in one litre bottles.

The clerk was asked to check that the hand sanitiser is being produced to WHO-approved requirements and that there are appropriate labels on the bottles of hand sanitiser.

The Community Centre, the Spar and farm shop will be contacted to ask if they would welcome hand sanitiser.

All the Councillors expressed their thanks to David Hewitt and Thor for this generous gesture.

16. The possibility of the Parish Council ordering and paying for face masks was discussed.

It was noted a mask can help prevent the spread of the virus from asymptomatic carriers. In Spain, members of the public are asked to wear masks.

Cheshire West will not pay for PPE.

It was felt that the question of supplying masks to the public should be considered again if the Government advises the wearing of masks.

17. The possibility of ordering gloves for volunteers helping during the pandemic was discussed.

It was noted that there currently was a supply of disposable gloves available for volunteers.

18. A request from Annie Makepeace: "Would it be possible to apply to the Parish Council for basic expenses for the village - mainly masks and gloves and printing, £133.10 so far. Volunteers are paying for food and magazines themselves" was discussed

The meeting expressed its gratitude to Annie Makepeace. The Parish Council wanted to support in any way possible.

Resolved that Annie Makepeace be encouraged to submit a donation request for all the funds she thought appropriate to help her volunteers look after the vulnerable during the pandemic

Proposed Cllr Webster

Seconded Cllr Olive

19. Reports were invited on Village Communication.

- i. The newsletter – This has been distributed and has been received very well. All those involved were thanked for all their hard work. Having a hard copy of where to find help was extremely helpful for those with no access to a computer.**
- ii. The village website- no changes were noted**
- iii. Facebook- this is very active with the sharing of information. The number of "Likes" has increased.**

- i. All arts and performances have been cancelled. The following statement from CRTA has been received:**

There will be no promoters fee for the year 2020/21 as there will be such little activity. So the invoice you usually receive in January will not be sent in 2021.

20. Accounts:

- i. The following payments were considered:**

Resolved to settle the following accounts:

1. Northwich Town Council for			
Invoice 4181 dated 31/03/2020	£171.50		
VAT	£34.30	£205.80	
Invoice 4154 dated 23/03/2020	£97.84		
VAT	£19.56	£117.40	£323.20
2. The Information Commissioner			£40.00
Information Commissioner's Office,			
Wycliffe House,			
Water Lane,			
Wilmslow,			
Cheshire,			
SK9 5AF			
3. Playsafety Limited for ROSPA reports	179.00		
VAT @ 20%	35.80		£214.80
Unit 78			
Shrivenham Hundred Business Park			
Watchfield			
SWINDON			
SN6 8TY			

4. Simon Roberts £500.00
c/o Annette Roberts
63 St Andrews Court
Queens Road
Hale
Altrincham
WA15 9JG

5. Reimbursement of Cllr Kelly for safety tape for the playing field £12.99

Clerk salary for May 2020 35 hours @ £11.22/hour £392.70

*Proposed: Cllr Barker
Seconded: Cllr Webster*

ii. Current Net Balances were noted:

To note Current Net Balances	
Current Account as at 5.5.2020	£200.00
Business Reserve Account 1. as at 5.5.2020	£63,113.681
Business Reserve Account 2. as at 31.3.2020	£12,041.49

21. Correspondence

- 1. Correspondence regarding the annual audit by the Internal and External Auditors**
- 2. Emails regarding potential new Councillors**
- 3. Correspondence regarding hedge maintenance.**
- 4. Telephone calls regarding the footpath to Pickmere Lake.**
- 5. Emails and telephone calls relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

22. Any Other Business.

- i. A sycamore tree is growing between the fence of the Linnards Lane Playing Field and a resident's garden. The Grounds Maintenance Working Party will check if this tree is on the schedule to be removed and whether there are other trees in a similar position.*
- ii. It was felt that another online medium should be used for the next Parish Council meeting.*
- iii. The quotes for a new operating system should be included in the papers for the next Parish Council Meeting.*

There was no AGENDA PART 2

The meeting was declared closed at 9.30pm.

*Naomi Morris
25.05.2020*