



LIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the virtual meeting held on
Wednesday 2nd December 2020 at 7pm via Zoom

Present: Councillors Bunney, Hill, Hyatt, Lomax, Moore, Wilson and Workman
Also present: Val Curtis (Clerk), Ward Councillor Gary Sumner and one member of the public

1. APOLOGIES

No apologies were received as all members of the Council were in attendance.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Hill declared an interest as the Parish Council's representative on the Village Hall Committee. Cllr Hyatt declared an interest as an allotment holder in Item 11 – Allotments.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved: The Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 4th November 2020 were agreed as a true record. Due to the social distancing guidelines, the agreed minutes will be signed at the next face to face meeting

4. MATTERS ARISING

Sight line from The Street – Cllr Lomax to confirm the email address for The Village Inn as contact has not been possible. **Action – Cllr Lomax/Clerk**

Closed church yard – It is understood that the boundary wall is the responsibility of the Church, this needs to be confirmed.

Kerbside cleaning in the four main routes and drain clearing in The Street, Church Road and Bell Lane – Request for both to be passed to Cllr Sumner for action **Action – Clerk**

Gate on footpath 1 close to The Parsonage – Cllr Wilson had spoken to the owner of The Rectory about the gate that was always open for his opinion about removing it completely. The owner suggested that it be left as he considers it as defining the boundary. He didn't think it necessary to replace it as other gates were available.

Sarsen Stones – Cllr Lomax had placed 2 sarsen stones on The Triangle. A resident had confirmed that he had more available to use. Cllr Bunney suggested that sarsen stones placed appropriately would be suitable for use in Church Road to protect the grass verges. Cllr Lomax to speak to the resident. Cllr Workman offered her assistance with moving them. **Action – Cllrs Lomax/Bunney**

The Trough, The Street – To date no response with offers of help with the maintenance of the Trough had been received. Another request to be placed in the Lyden Magazine. Cllr Wilson to speak to one of the residents in The Street that helped previously. Cllr Hyatt would step in if all else fails **Action – Cllr Wilson/Clerk**

5. PUBLIC SESSION

The Member of the Public in attendance did not want to speak or raise an issue or comment. He was interested to listen to the proceedings,

6. PLANNING MATTERS

(a) To consider any planning applications:

Application: S/20/1482 (11th December 2020)

Location: The Great Western Hospital, Marlborough Road, Swindon, SN3 6BB

Proposal: Erection of a two-storey building

Application: S/20/1483 (14th December 2020)

Location: The Great Western Hospital, Marlborough Road, Swindon, SN3 6BB

Proposal: Erection of a single storey temporary modular building

Application: S/20/1484 (14th December 2020)
Location: The Great Western Hospital, Marlborough Road, Swindon, SN3 6BB
Proposal: Erection of a single storey temporary modular building

(b) The meeting noted that the following decision had been received:

S/18/2065 - Street House Farm, The Street, Liddington, SN4 0HD – Disposed

Ward Councillor Sumner joined the meeting at 8.10pm

7. WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT

Gigabit Fibre – Church Road and Medbourne Lane were not included in the current scheme. Openreach had been asked to look at these roads. The Liddington/Wanborough scheme is currently up to 61% pledged. Once target is reached the build can be started. Cllrs Wilson and Bunney offered their assistance in the discussions if any technical support was required.

Cllr Sumner has the opportunity to promote a cycle route alongside Purley Road. If it is not approved, it can be requested again later. The proposal to move the crossing is still being worked on. He requested that any data downloads from the speed signs be passed to Highways as the information received to date had proved of interest.

Swindon Borough Council to introduce a programme for extra tree planting. Parish Council to be asked for suitable locations and where they would like to see more trees planted.

Southern Connector Road – work planned to start between January and March 2021. Pack Hill and Marlborough Road entrances to be worked at the same time.

Signage for closure of Day House Lane – To be provided as part of Section 278 of M4 J15 scheme. Cllr Sumner happy to discuss with the Parish Council appropriate wording.

M4 J15 scheme moving on. No right turn into Badbury to be introduced early in the New Year.

Ward Councillor Sumner left the meeting at 8.30 pm

8. FINANCE

Resolved: Cllr Lomax proposed approval of the invoices, standing order, recurring payment and to ratify the payment made between meetings. Cllr Bunney seconded the proposal and was unanimously agreed.

(a) To approve payment of the following invoices:

- Members expenses – spare batteries, connectors & leads for speed sign - £97.95
- Members expenses – signs for the playing field - £9.99
- Administration expense – McAfee renewal - £24.99

(b) To approve payment of the following Standing Orders:

- Adams & Watt – Annual grass cutting contract – December instalment - £518.57

(c) To approve the following Direct Debits:

(d) To approve payment of the following recurring payment

- Unlimited webhosting – (18/12/2020 – 17/01/2021) - £4.19

(e) To ratify payments made between meetings

- Zoom – Standard pro monthly (December) - £14.39

(f) To receive the monthly accounts reconciliation

The Meeting agreed that the accounts were in reasonably healthy condition, however there was future expenditure that needed to be considered.

9. DRAFT BUDGET 2021-22

To review the draft budget proposal for April 2020 – March 2021

Swindon Borough Council had not provided the tax base letters due to the uncertainty over additional funding and any support to be made available to Councils as part of the Government's Spending Review. Due to tax base information not being available, it was not possible to consider the draft budget.

10. VILLAGE MATTERS

- a) To reconsider and rescind the decision made to remove the gate to Footpath 21 due to concerns raised about the safety of children.

Cllr Hyatt explained that if a parent/guardian/adult has more than one child in their care, a problem could occur if there was no gate between the playing field and the farmers field where horses were kept.

Cllr Wilson accepted Cllr Hyatt's point of view but believed that the gate served no purpose as it was constantly left open. As the footpath was fenced all the way along until the descent into the Dell, he doesn't consider it to be a danger.

Cllr Lomax believed that it was easy for children to get behind horses, which did pose a danger.

Cllr Hill suggested fencing the whole playing field or as Cllr Wilson had suggested on previous occasions that the play area be fenced off.

Cllr Workman believed that the bigger risk was crossing the road to use the play area.

Cllr Lomax suggested that the current gate be left in place whilst Cllr Wilson looked at options and costs associated with play area fencing. **Action – Cllr Wilson**

- b) To consider a request from a resident of installing a dog bin on Spinney Close Green.

The Contractor responsible for emptying the litter bins had confirmed that in recent weeks there had been more dog poo bags left in the bin, but it was not excessive. The Meeting agreed that as it was acceptable for the litter bin to be used to discard dog mess, a dedicated dog bin would not be purchased at this time. The situation with the litter bin would be monitored. **Action - Clerk**

11. ALLOTMENTS

To consider the request to transfer the sum of up to £1,440 to Bower Bailey Solicitors in respect of the legal fees incurred by the Diocese of Bristol for the lease of land to Liddington Parish Council.

Cllr Moore tabled a written report, attached to the minutes in the minute book, of the current progress made. The request for funds to be transferred in this way was standard practice, and the monies would be held in the Solicitors 'Client Account'.

Resolved: Cllr Lomax proposed to approve the transfer of up to £1,440 to Bower Bailey. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Workman which was agreed by a majority with one abstention. **Action - Clerk**

12. DEFIBRILLATOR

- a) To receive an update on any progress made from the Village Hall Committee meeting

The Chairman of the Village Hall Committee had sent an email confirming that the committee voted not to pursue any of the options for an alternative position of the defibrillator located on the wall of the Village Hall at this time. The Committee voted in favour of reviewing the location in the future as they understood that the lease for the Managed Services Solution Agreement is for a minimum of 4 years from the date of installation. In view of this and that at some point the current equipment may be changed for newer equipment, the Village Hall Committee reserves the right to review and propose a different location in the future.

Resolved: Cllr Lomax proposed that the Parish Council agree and accept the Village Hall Committee's decision. Cllr Moore seconded the proposal which was unanimously agreed.

- b) Second Defibrillator - To consider the quote received for the provision of a defibrillator in the kiosk with no power, including a locked cabinet and thermal bag. Several points were raised that the information provided did not answer. Cllr Bunney to carry out some further research and consult with Community Heartbeat Trust. **Action – Cllr Bunney**

13. LORD JOEL JOFFE MEMORIAL

Renaming of the footpath – Cllr Workman to speak to the owner of The Manor re the signage

Action – Cllr Workman

Memorial plaque/display – Village Hall Committee is favourable to the idea of it being hung in the hall. Discussions had taken place concerning the location, with several suggestions being made, some of which had been discounted as they did not provide enough prominence or visibility. Cllr Lomax and the resident to look at the locations suggested to decide on final size of format.

Cllr Lomax had spoken to Lady Joffe who had requested to see final format to check for factual accuracy.

14. BADBURY PARK

To consider providing a response to the email received from Coate at Badbury Park Residents Working Group Coordinator. The subject of a Community Governance Review is included on the agenda for the next Chairs & Clerks Engagement Meeting with Swindon Borough Council on 9th December. This will be discussed at the January meeting.

15. SBC CODES & PROTOCOLS ANNUAL REVIEW

To review and, if appropriate, provide comments on SBC Codes & Protocols. The Meeting agreed that the comments made two years ago in response to the same request should be resent and reinforced.

16. SOUTH RURAL NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE TEAM (10 MINUTES)

To review the proposed changes to the Community Safety Forum and confirm the representative from the Parish Council. The Meeting noted the changes being proposed. Cllr Wilson to continue to attend the meetings as the Parish Council representative.

17. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillors who have attended meetings on behalf of the Parish Council or who are responsible for local schemes, amenities and projects will have the opportunity to provide an update on progress made.

Playing Field – Cllr Bunney confirmed that he had carried out the fortnightly safety inspection on 6th & 21st November. It was also noticeable that there was less dog mess around. The Clerk confirmed that Wanborough Junior Football Club had requested and accepted a quote from the Liddington Parish Council Contractor for the goal mouths to be repaired at the Junior Football Club's cost.

Village Hall Committee – Cllr Hill reported that it was doubtful that any Christmas parties would be held in the Hall this year.

Town deal Board – The meeting planned for November had been cancelled. The next meeting to be held on 18th December.

Swindon Area Committee – Cllr Lomax had submitted a written report with salient points discussed at the last Swindon Committee that will be attached to the Minutes.

18. PARISH MAGAZINE

The Meeting agreed to put the following into the Parish Magazine

- Season's Greetings
- The Horse Trough
- Dog Mess – all bins that can be used
- Speed Data – planned action day by the Police

19. CORRESPONDENCE

The meeting noted that no correspondence had been received

20. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/FUTURE AGENDA

To receive information on matters not covered elsewhere & to receive future agenda items

Meeting closed at 9pm

Signed

Date.....