

MINUTES
08.12.2020
GODSHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Virtual¹ Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 8th December 2020 at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Cllr Fell - Chairman
Cllr Cakebread
Cllr O'Brien
Cllr Pomphrey
Cllr Williams
Cllr Woodward

District Cllr Emma Lane
Mrs Bev Cornish - Clerk
Two members of the public

Public Session: A member of the public thanked the Council for pursuing the issues she had raised many times about Sandy Balls with the NFNPA and with NFDC. She said she was concerned about the current Christmas lighting which was having a significant impact on the dark skies as well as on the wildlife and environment of the National Park. She also drew councillors' attention to the original conditions contained in the 1985 Section 52 Agreement which set out the conditions for the use of Sandy Balls.

District Cllr Emma Lane: Cllr Lane encouraged everyone to complete the Waste Strategy consultation which was on the District Council's website. She also asked councillors to identify and be aware of flooding in the parish following the recent period of heavy rain. She said if it related to roads, it was important to submit a report only to Hampshire Highways.

Litter Warden: Mrs Boyd said that she did not have very much to report except that again the volume of litter had not reduced despite the parish being on lockdown. There was a frequent issue of the littering of McDonalds wrappers and boxes which she believed originated from cars en route from Southampton because it was always dropped in the same place.

122.20 To receive apologies for absence: The Clerk reported that apologies had been received from Cllr Phillips due to a work commitment. Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the apology and the reason for it be accepted.

123.20 Declarations of Interest:

a. **To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers:**

No declarations of interest were received.

b. **To consider any Dispensation Requests received by the Parish Clerk and not previously considered:**

The Clerk confirmed that she had received no dispensation requests.

¹ In accordance with the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020

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124.20 To resolve to approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10th November 2020: Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Minutes be approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

125.20 To resolve to refer any business raised by the public in public discussion, and any other matters or items of information from councillors, to a future meeting or to resolve to agree on any other action: Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the matters raised by members of the public would be taken into account when councillors considered the matters to be raised with Sandy Balls at the meeting to be held on 9th December.

126.20 To resolve to note Clerk's Report providing information on recent issues and work completed: Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk's report be noted as follows:

157.19 Village Hall Sign: The planning application had been delayed due to the rejection of the site plan. The Clerk will need to purchase a site plan from a land registry site for approx. £25.

81.19 Defibrillator Training: Delayed until HM Government's instructions on gatherings is known.

Litter Warden: Feb 20 Mtg: Cricket Pitch Bin: No further progress on this.

25.20: Parking at Entrance to Newgrounds: The Clerk has contacted Sean Marsh to request a further sign.

36.20: Footpath 772: No response from the Countryside Access Team on the Footpath repair.

58.20: British Telecommunications plc EIR Request: No response has been received from BT regarding the number of visits for repairs to DSLAM Cabinet outside Godshill Village Hall, SP6 2LH.

September 20 Minutes: Public Session: The Lengthsman repaired the broken posts to the kissing gates on Bridleway 710 on Monday 16th November.

127.20 Planning and Tree Work Applications:

Planning Application: CONS/20/0690

Overbrook, Woodgreen Road, Godshill - Prune 1 x Willow tree, Prune 2 x Oak trees, Prune 1 x Douglas Fir tree: Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr O'Brien seconded and it was RESOLVED that the decision on this application be left to the Tree Officer.

Planning Application: CONS/20/0679

Jubilee Farm Cottage, Woodgreen Road, Godshill - Fell 1 x Poplar tree: Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr O'Brien seconded and it was RESOLVED that the decision on this application be left to the Tree Officer.

Planning Application: CONS/20/0695

Fig Cottage, Southampton Road, Godshill - Fell 4 x Ash Trees: Cllr Fell proposed Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the decision on this application be left to the Tree Officer.

128.20 To resolve to approve and accept the External Auditor's Report and Certificate for the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2019-20 and to note PKF

Littlejohn's comments: Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that Godshill Parish Council's AGAR for 2019-20 be approved and accepted and that no comments were raised by PKF Littlejohn.

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129.20 To approve the following payments:

£43.17 - Zoom subscription from October to December 2020.

£80.16 - Ionos 1&1 – For website hosting

£116.42 - Cracknell Timber - For kissing gate posts and postcrete for Lengthsman.

£240.00 – PKF Littlejohn – For External Audit.

Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the payments be approved.

At this point in the meeting, Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the meeting be opened for members of the public to be able to contribute to the discussions.

130.20 To consider a proposal from Cllr Woodward with regard to the ways in which Godshill Parish Council can respond to climate change as follows: Councillors considered a detailed report circulated by Cllr Woodward and detailed explanation of those proposals as follows:

a. To support the New Forest National Park Authority’s stance on climate change:

“Since the New Forest National Park was established in 2005, we’ve recognised that the climate crisis is the most significant long-term threat to this extraordinary landscape

We believe a more urgent response to the twin crises of the climate and nature emergencies is needed. National Parks across the UK are pulling together to drive change and inspire positive action. Locally, we’re now calling on our partners to take action together.

As organisations, groups and individuals, our collective actions are influencing the future of the New Forest National Park, including its nature, wildlife, infrastructure, communities and working forest.

By acting together now, we can make a positive difference to the New Forest and to the planet.”

Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Fell seconded and it was RESOLVED that Godshill Parish Council supports the New Forest National Park Authority’s stance on climate change.

b. To draft a local resilience/flood plan to identify watercourses and areas vulnerable to surface or groundwater flooding in the parish:

Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr O’Brien seconded and it was RESOLVED that a local resilience/flood plan be drafted.

c. To include climate impact as a consideration on the Parish Council’s response to all planning applications:

Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Cakebread seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Council’s response to all planning applications should include consideration of climate impact.

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- d. To engage with Sandy Balls Holiday Village on the ways in which it can reduce its environmental impact on the parish:**

Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Fell seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Council should engage with Sandy Balls Holiday Village on the ways in which it can reduce its environmental impact on the parish.

- e. To consider the setting up of a Working Group in due course to enable identified initiatives to be taken forward:**

Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Fell seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Council should set up a Working Group in due course once the Council and parish's ideas and proposals were more defined.

A member of the public said she would be interested in getting involved in some of the aspects of the plan and said she would be delighted to show councillors the plans she had for her community farm.

Cllr Fell closed the meeting to members of the public.

131.20 To consider and resolve to approve a General Reserve Policy as advised by the Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance Practitioners Guide (JPAG) (March 2020 edition): Following an explanation from the Clerk and comments from Cllr Woodward, he proposed, Cllr Williams seconded and it was RESOLVED that the General Reserve Policy be approved and that it be stated that an appropriate General Reserve figure to be held by the Council was to be set at 3 months of predicted expenditure.

132.20 Finance and Policy:

- a. Precept 21/22 - To consider and resolve to approve the draft 3 year budget and precept submitted by the Clerk:** Following a brief discussion, Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the draft be adjusted to finalise the Precept at £11,075 for 2021/22. The Band D figure was set at £48.62 which was unchanged from 2019/20.
- b. To consider and resolve to approve the Earmarked Reserves of the Parish Council:** Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr O'Brien seconded and it was RESOLVED that Earmarked Reserves to the value of £6,050 be approved.
- c. To consider requests for grants:** Following a discussion, Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Pomphrey seconded and it was resolved that the following amounts be approved. Councillors were asked to consider possible other appropriate organisations in need of assistance for consideration at the next meeting:

- Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance £150
- Fordingbridge Community First Responders £150

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d. To resolve to approve the sum of £838.91 as the Accounts for payment for December.

	£	Cheque No.
Zoom	43.17	100682
Ionos 1&1	80.16	DD
Cracknell Timber	116.42	100680
PKF Littlejohn	240.00	100681
B Cornish – December salary	339.16	100683

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Williams seconded and it was RESOLVED that the accounts for payment be approved.

e. To resolve to approve the Bank balances - Cheque and Reserve Accounts:

Balances to be Approved and Noted as at 08.12.20

Current Account: £11,077.00 Deposit Account: £581.12

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Pomphrey seconded and it was RESOLVED that the balances be approved and noted.

f. To resolve to approve the Budget to Actual Report to 31st December 2020:

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Williams seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Budget to Actual Report be approved.

g. To resolve to approve the virements between budget lines to 31st December 2020:

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Pomphrey seconded and it was RESOLVED that the virements be approved.

133.20 Outside Bodies and Representation:

Away Resorts: Cllr Fell gave a detailed report on a co-operative and productive virtual meeting held with the Chief Executive of Away Resorts. He said that all the issues raised by residents and councillors had been discussed and a detailed list of the key issues and suggestions on how to resolve them had been sent subsequently to the Chief Executive for consideration and action.

Broadband: Cllr Fell gave a brief report on the numerous emails received from residents regarding the new offer from Hampshire County Council sent to their emails of £3,000 per resident for Fibre to the Premises. He said that the first step was to check how accurate this offer was and whether it could apply to Godshill's project. Once confirmed the Council would need to check how this affected/reduced the cost of the installation as previously quoted by BT Openreach.

Cllr Fell said that he planned to send a further email update in the New Year to residents on the circulation list setting out next steps once the new offer was confirmed and then the Council would need to consider whether to request a revised offer and proceed with the project.

134.20 To resolve to note the Correspondence received: Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted:

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1. NFNPA
 - An email advising of the Full Authority Meeting on 10th December 2020 at 10 am.
 - An email advising of that the next NW Quadrant Meeting will be held on 11 January at 7pm.
 - An email advising of survey being conducted for the Partnership Plan which asks questions relating to the following:
 - some of your experiences over the last few months
 - how we can all help the Forest recover
 - what you would like to see going forwards.

The survey should take around five minutes to complete and closes midnight on Friday 22 January 2021. It can be found at:
<https://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/conservation/partnership-plan/partnership-plan-2021-2026/new-forest-snapshot-survey/>

 - An email with press release asking councils to of remind people to exercise caution as the winter months set in for New Forest animal accidents.
2. NFDC
 - An email from Cllr Emma Lane regarding District Councillor grants of £1,000 and seeking possible organisations to which a sum could be given.
 - An email advising that as part of their Coronavirus response and work to help keep the area safe, New Forest District Council has trained Covid Safety Ambassadors (CSAs) who will be working across the district from 2 December.
 3. A Parishioner – An email with issues relating to Sandy Balls ahead of the Council’s meeting with Away Resorts.
 4. A Parishioner – An email regarding the meeting of the completion date for the closure of Pound Bottom.
 5. An email regarding the promotion of the Census 2021.
 6. Parishioners – A number of emails regarding the email received from Hampshire County Council on the upgrading of broadband and guidance that up to £3,000 is available.

135.20 Any Other Business:

Community Governance L4 Course with De Montfort University: The Clerk thanked Councillors and the parish for its financial and moral support in enabling her to pass a qualification to become an advanced clerk. She said she had learned a tremendous amount from the course both from the work and from her contact with other experienced clerks across the country and hoped that the learning would benefit the parish in the years to come.

136.20 Date of the next meeting: Cllr Fell confirmed the date of the next virtual meeting as Tuesday 12th January 2021 at 7.30 pm to be held on Zoom.

With no other business, the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Members of the Council considered the foregoing in the matters in consideration of their duties: Equal Opportunities, (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability); Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety, and Human Rights.