

MINUTESFLADBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Fladbury Parish Council held on Monday, November 16th, 2020 at 7.00pm, via ZOOM

| | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| PRESENT: | Chairman I Southcott | Vice Chairman G Mills | Cllr D Day | Cllr P Palmer |
| | Cllr A Hughes | Cllr N Manser | Cllr M Neilan | Cllr T Cheung |
| | Cllr S Insall | County Cllr E Eyre | District Cllr T Rowley | |
| | Clerk L Yapp | 1 Parishioner | | |

1. **APOLOGIES** - none received
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None declared
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** The minutes from the meeting dated 19th October 2020 were approved, proposed Cllr Day, seconded Cllr Hughes – all in favour.

PARISHIONERS: There was one parishioner in attendance who wanted to draw attention to the on-going water leak at the junction with Station Road and Weston Orchard. This has been getting larger, now spreading permanently across the road, with particular concerns of this freezing during the colder weather. The parishioner had been in contact with both Severn Trent and WCC, both having been out on site, but there seems to be a debate as to whether it is a Severn Trent or WCC issue. A suggestion had been made that there is a need for a gully on the eastern side of the road just to get the water off the highway. County Cllr Eyre advised she would speak to a highways engineer, to see if there was a possibility for a gully. Chair Southcott reported that this had been an issue for many months now and getting worse.

4. **COUNTY CLLR'S REPORT** – Full report annexed to Minutes. Chair Southcott referred to the stretch of footway on Station Road, from the railway track to the A44, which WCC seem intent on 'repairing' at a cost of £46k. The original request was for a small section of footway to be repaired (using the £11,000 which the CEO of WCC had promised to be made available to the parish council last December, following the ongoing saga of the s106 contribution by Kendrick Homes) but this has now escalated and generated strong opposition by the parish council. Cllr Eyre responded that WCC officers had deemed the works necessary. Chair Southcott is waiting to hear back from an officer from WCC. Chair Southcott asked if the 'proposed' repairs were using the s106 monies, which Cllr Eyre reported it was not. Chair Southcott asked if the monies under the s106 agreement had been returned to Kendrick Homes. Cllr Eyre advised that it was still held by WCC, as part of a legal document and would not be returned until the time period had lapsed. Cllr Mills referred to reports of £1 million to be spent on 800m of cycleway, from Wyre Piddle to the Keytec industrial estate in Pershore. Cllr Eyre reported that no bids had been received supporting the Hampton to Pershore link, that both she and Cllr Rowley had requested. Cllr Rowley reported that Wychavon District Council had made a contribution but was a County Council scheme. Cllr Rowley was surprised about the amount of money it was costing, but a scheme that had received Government funding for, and would be utilised as a footway and cycleway. Cllr Rowley further reported that both he and Cllr Eyre were pushing for the cycleway between Hampton and Pershore.
5. **DISTRICT CLLR'S REPORT** – Cllr Rowley reported that Covid cases in the district were up 30% in the last 7 days, but still below the national average. Bromsgrove, which had previously reported the highest figures was now seeing a reduction in cases, with Wyre Forest, Redditch and Worcester still a cause for

concern. Wychavon was at the lower end of the reported cases but working closely with County Council. He also reported that there are further support grants available for business and the self-employed. The last Planning Committee didn't have any applications which impacted on Fladbury, but he did raise the council's attention to an application at Spring Hill Nurseries. We had not been made aware of this, and when looking at the application on-line, the clerk reported that we were not on the 'list of consultees'. The clerk would raise this with the planning officer and report back.

On the topic of Covid, Chair Southcott reported that the village hall and pavilion were now closed due to the current 'lock down' restrictions. The previous network of volunteers had been contacted and were actively making contact with the self-isolating and vulnerable to offer help and support where needed. It is hoped that some community events can be organised in the run up to Xmas, strictly abiding by any restrictions imposed.

6. FINANCE

- a) Approval of receipts and payments to 11th November 2020 - proposed acceptance of payment by Cllr Neilan, seconded Cllr Hughes and approved by all.

| | | | |
|----|------|------------------------|--------|
| SO | | clerk Salary | 380.72 |
| SO | | Clerks Expenses | 32.00 |
| | 2464 | Poppy Appeal Donation | 50.00 |
| | 2465 | Pavilion Cleaning | 170.00 |
| | 2466 | External Audit | 360.00 |
| | 2467 | Training (Cllr Hughes) | 30.00 |
| | 2468 | Lengthsman September | 144.00 |
| | 2469 | Grass Cutting | 384.00 |

Account Balances:

Current Account

(before unrepresented cheques): £37604.68

Deposit Account: £20274.10

- b) Cllr Neilan was assisting the clerk with a simplified spreadsheet to compare budget expenditure throughout the year.

7. PARISHIONERS: This was addressed at the start of the meeting

8. PROGRESS REPORTS

- (a) Lengthsman – Cllr Palmer reported the LM had been continuing to work throughout the village, keeping to the 'Covid' restricted Risk Assessment agreed back in May. The paint for the phone box had arrived but there was a split in the tin. A replacement has been organised FOC.
- (b) Defibrillator Scheme – Cllr Insall reported that she was still waiting for a replacement battery for the pavilion defibrillator, currently out of action. There has been a problem with delivery. In addition, the defibrillator battery at the Village Hall is now very low and unlikely to last for much longer. A proposal by Cllr Insall is to use the new battery (for the pavilion) when it arrives and put this in the village hall defib. as this is the one that is most used, and then to order a further battery for the pavilion.
- (c) Conservation Area – Nothing to report

(e) Traffic Calming – Cllr Hughes reported that the line marking and flashing light for the school have been ordered with WCC. Line marking will be carried out as soon as there is a long-enough dry spell with the school sign needing to have electric supply connected. Both are scheduled for early next year. The parish council had been able to secure payment for our contribution, to be made on completion. The VAS sign has been ordered and delivery expected by mid-December with a Zoom training session already organised. Cllr Hughes recent traffic counts with historic records.

9. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS/ HOUSING SURVEY – Nothing to report

10. POLICING - contacts are PC Paul Brown and PCSO Karen Kempton
(03003 333000 Ext 3408/3499)

(Also new less urgent 101 services complement 999 emergencies)

- a) PACT – The clerk had received notification of an attempted quad bike theft from a garage on Evesham Road
- b) Neighbourhood Watch – Nothing to report.
- c) Community Speed Watch – The scheme has once again been suspended during the second lockdown.

11. PLANNING:

- 20/000027 – Wrubble – Chair Southcott reported that correspondence has been received from WCC to advise that they are awaiting further reports from highways, and also on lighting and noise. It is likely that this will be dealt with by the Planning Committee in the New Year. Only one objector will be allowed to speak
- 20/02312 – Forty Winks, Lazy Lane – demolition of garage and erection of new garage with accommodation over and 2-storey side extension. This was originally approved back in May. Comparing the two applications, the only difference appears to be with some interior alterations. Cllr Day would correspond with the planning officer to check if there is anything else we need to be aware of before submitting comments (due 30th November)
- 20/02365 – The Orchards, Station Road – raising of garden / boundary wall and new entrance gates – Cllr Day reported that he could see no issues with this application and none were raised by Cllrs.

Glasshouse Liaison Group: Chair Southcott reported that an application for the gas installation will be forthcoming. EVG are now in regular communication with parishioners when tractor activity / harvesting will be taking place.

Vale Crematorium – Nothing to report

SWDP – County Cllr Rowley reported on the revised timetable

Minerals Local Plan – Examination in Public – Chair Southcott ‘attended’ the examination, spread over three days. A lengthy document had been submitted just before the examination, detailing all their modifications and suggested changes to the plan. An ‘agreed list’ of points will be produced for WCC to consider and to make appropriate changes. A further Zoom meeting is scheduled for 18th December

Planning Reforms White Paper – Chair Southcott reported that the parish council had submitted comments on the proposed planning reforms, echoing the comments made by the three joint councils: WDC, Malvern Hills and Worcester City.

Section 106 monies:

- Kendrick Homes – already covered
- Pool Garden – Clerk awaiting details of the proposals in order to check with WDC it meets criteria.
- Canoe Club – still awaiting proposals.
- Sports Pavilion – Chair Southcott had been in contact with WDC and the previously suggested improvements for the pavilion will not be allowed due to the conditions / criteria on spending s106 money. An ‘expression of interest’ will be lodged with WDC with a view of applying for funding from the Community Legacy Grant fund if this is approved

12. FOOTPATHS/TREES

Trees – Cllrs Cheung, Day and Mills had met with the Tree Officer from WDC and identified a number of tree at The Wharf that needed thinning out and had become overcrowded. This included a willow which was spoiling the view across to Crophorne Mill. It was considered that a 30% thinning programme was all that was needed. Cllr Cheung reported that he thought the willow may be a ‘memorial’ tree – Cllrs Mills is to check his records. Cllr Insall referred to a large tree with a dangerous branch *opposite the property on the southern entrance to Butt Furlong*. Cllr Cheung would take a look at this as a matter of urgency. With regard a tree at the corner of Chequers Lane which seems to have some disease, WCC highways had been involved and suggested that it be left for the time being to give it a chance. This was the same view of the Footpath Officer. An estimated cost for each of the five trees is £500 each. Chair Southcott did remind Cllr Cheung that in order to be seen to be transparent, we would need to seek further quotes

Footpaths:

- Footpath 517 – Nothing further to report
- Regarding the PROW to the ferry, there is a private sign restricting access. Cllr Mills stressed that walkers should be encouraged to use it as it is a legal right of way.

13. RECREATION GROUND/PAVILION:

- Tennis Club – Chair Southcott reported that he had not heard anything back from the Tennis Club. He has not chased them at the moment as they are not permitted to play due to lock down restrictions

14. LAND & THE NAIT – Nothing further to report

15. MY PARISH/WEBSITE/COMMUNICATIONS – Cllr Neilan reported that the new website was almost ready to go live, upgraded to be accessible as required by Government legislation

16. BROADBAND – there is an initiative to rural villages, to provide faster speed broadband with financial assistance to residents and also businesses. It was agreed that a village notice be circulated to see if there way a parishioner who wanted to get involved and take the lead on this.

17. STREET LIGHTING – WCC carried out a survey on the village street lighting back in the summer which had identified one lamp (near the school) which was deemed dangerous and removed, and a further report high lighting a number of lamps upon which work needed to be carried out. The report has been circulated to Cllrs, with an estimated ‘whole project’ cost of £7,650 (incl VAT). It was suggested that these works could be carried out over a couple of years, focussing on the priorities first. The clerk and Chair Southcott will take a detailed look at the report to work out a budget plan. A suggestion was made as to whether the street lighting could be turned off between certain hours late at night and the early hours of the morning. It was agreed that this should be something upon which we would need to consult parishioners.

18. CORRESPONDENCE – emails had been circulated to all Cllrs.

19. OTHER MATTERS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION:

- Chair Southcott reported that because of lockdown restriction Fladbury was unable to hold the annual Remembrance Day Service. Chair Southcott laid a wreath on behalf of the parish council with further wreaths from the Scouts, the Brownies, the Police and the Blore family.

20. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS – It was agreed that the next meeting would be a week earlier because of Christmas and would be held on Monday 14th December 2020 via Zoom at 7.00 pm.