

SAPPERTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 JANUARY 2021

AT 7PM VIA ZOOM

1 IN ATTENDANCE

Members of the Parish Council: Sarah Osborn Smith, Chair (SOS); Charles Houldsworth, Treasurer and Vice Chair; Sara Taylor (ST); Marcel Puyk (MP); Daniel Janocka (DJ); Barbara Maloney (BM) Clerk.

Also, CDC Councillor Julia Judd; GCC Councillor Stephen Hirst (joining later)

Apologies: Graham Marchand (GM);

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the December 2020 meeting of the Parish Council via Zoom were approved and will be signed by the Chair as soon as practicable.

3 PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public attended the meeting on this occasion.

4 CDC AND GCC COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllrs Julia Judd and Stephen Hirst provided their reports by email ahead of the meeting

4.1 CDC CLLR JULIA JUDD REPORT

Main Points

- CDC Planning Committee protocol changes – **PC regards this as concerning**. Planning applications referred to Committee can be rejected/refused. Ward Councillors are unable to support Parish Council views. Potentially political. Debate may be undermined.
- Business grants roll out continuing
- Flooding: CDC unprepared. Thames Water blamed but were not informed.
- Covid infection rates = 254 per 100,000. Vaccination being rolled out faster than whole of Europe together.
- Elections – voting to be encouraged. Postal Vote numbers good.
- Cotswold Water Park – All 177 Lakes within Park designated Site of Specific Scientific Interest (SSSI).
- Green Waste – service may be affected when general waste collections under stress – **PC expressed concern** – residents pay for this service and it should be maintained per Ubico contract.
- Rural Crime – Lambs slaughtered at Rodmarton – tragic. Police investigating
- Fly Tipping: Homeowners paying unknown operators to remove building waste can be held accountable if the operator dumps waste illegally. Publicity of implications for householders needed – householders ultimately pay for fly-tipping via Council Tax!
- Home Schooling – laptops needed. GCC donated £1,500 to vulnerable families.
- Broadband: coverage varied; many places no signal. Residents urged to complain re mobile coverage – pressure will get results. CDC has £500,000 to spend on this.

4.2 GCC CLLR STEPHEN HIRST REPORT

Main points:

- **3rd National Lockdown from 5 January 2021.**
 - Full details at www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home
- GCC Budget: The Draft Budget for 2021/22 will total more than £480 million a net increase of over £12million on 2020/21.
 - £10million to protect vulnerable children;
 - £65 million of capital investment for schools and children's services in 2021/22 bringing total expected capital investment to around £150 million by 2023.
 - £67 million set aside for highways investment – part of commitment to spend £150m on the county's roads over five years. In addition, the capital programme also includes £249 million for the M5 Junction 10 Improvement scheme.
 - Gloucestershire County Council expects to maintain one of the lowest Council tax charges. Currently third lowest council tax of any county council in England and includes Fire and Rescue costs, which are billed separately in some areas.
 - Climate Change Strategy: GCC Target to reduce carbon emissions by 80% by 2030. Switch to green electricity tariff in Sept 2019 means GCC may be carbon zero in 2021.
 - Vouchers for School Meals were issued to support eligible children over Christmas Holidays.

5 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

20/02657/FUL – JOLLY NICE CAFÉ AND FARM SHOP (JN)

No decision has been made yet on this application. JN continues to breach regulations with further work. Discussion re traffic issues: Initial planning application from JN outlined traffic management measures. These were not implemented by GCC Highways. Speed Limit reduction from 60mph to 50mph was refused by GCC Highways as being 'unenforceable'. PC views speed limit reduction as common sense whether its policed or not. PC also agreed that VASs are an effective and proactive approach.

At December 2020 Meeting Cllr Hirst suggested traffic issue should now be addressed to Roadway Planning instead of GCC Highways and PC **resolved** to audit conditions placed on all JN previous and current planning applications. Audit conducted identified 17 applications with 94 conditions attached. PC discussed difficulties with conducting such an audit and monitoring compliance. CDC Planner advised PC that NFPP states impact on Highway must be 'severe' to warrant change to speed limit or layout. Severity is measured by Trip flows, Volume and Accidents. CDC Planning Case Officer also stated that JN drive-through "far more successful than originally thought" confirming local view re substantial increase in slow moving traffic on major A Road where 3 locations in confined area require traffic to brake from 60mph to 0. PC also concerned that location is also Bus stop for school children.

PC resolved: Councillors to request meeting with JN Applicant to discuss traffic calming measures ahead of PC action re Roadway Planning. Clerk to draft letter to Roadway Planning after JN position known as previously agreed.

Councillor Hirst attempted to join the meeting but was unable to connect via Zoom

6 FM LEVEL CROSSING

After recent site visit and discussions with Landowner, Philip Hackett (British Horse Society South West Access Officer) with PC support, has written to Richard Atkinson at Network Rail again re further issues at crossing requesting **urgent action** – landowner reports dangerous practices now occurring where legitimate users are attempting to cross the railway line elsewhere and motorcycles, finding the crossing closed, are speeding back down to the bottom of the track endangering horse riders and walkers on his property.

7 FINANCE

7.1 PRECEPT SETTING: PC RESOLVED: Precept to remain same as last year - £11,500.

ACTION: RFO to submit application to CDC by 31 January 2021.

7.2 BUDGET:

RFO advised following expenses to end of financial year to be considered for Budget setting:

- Donation to FM Village Hall: £250 (Sapperton Village Hall donations complete)
- KP + FM groundwork payment both due before end of the year – approx. £1,500
- Watershed Magazine contribution
- Clerk's remuneration x 3
- Clerk put forward cost of new website for consideration in Budget

RFO advised Chestnuts in FM have been confirmed as 'sound' and therefore unlikely to require work in near future. Contingency amount already held for this purpose should it arise. Reserves at Year End will therefore be approximately £8,280

ACTION: RFO to provide Budget summary

7.3 Current Bank balances: Current Account: £372; Savings: £10,533

Outgoings:

- Clerk's remuneration - £150 p.m
- Zoom Pro version for PC Meetings – approved by full Parish Council

Accounts approved for Audit

8 CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk's Report was circulated to Councillors ahead of the meeting

9 PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

SOS - Nothing to report

ST

- Sapperton now significant Tourist Hotspot – visitor parking obstructing residents. Cyclists drive, park and then cycle. Julia Judd suggested Community Policing and will arrange for Sapperton to be added to their circuit to monitor visitors to the area during current lockdown.

CH - Nothing to report

MP

- Grit Bin has been installed on lane below the Coombes.

- Ramblers Association has identified blocked Public Right of Way BSA3 – collapsed wall to be repaired. Ramblers Assoc arranging reopening of path.

DJ

- Significant potholes - GCC Highways has repaired

10 NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7PM – VIA ZOOM

IF YOU WISH TO PARTICIPATE PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK
ON 01285 760 276 FOR ACCESS LINK AND PASSWORD

Zoom Meeting Ended: 8.35pm

These Minutes are not a valid record until signed by the Chair

Signed.....Date.....

(Chair of Sapperton Parish Council)

Minutes (60) 12 January 2020

DRAFT