

KETLEY PARISH COUNCIL TELFORD, SHROPSHIRE

MINUTES of the Meeting of Ketley Parish Council held on Wednesday 11 November 2020 via Microsoft Teams Virtual Remote Platform at 7:00pm

Present:

Councillor Sam Millward Thomas (Chairman) Councillor Hilda Rhodes Councillor Maggie Evans Councillor Joy Francis Councillor Eileen Callear Councillor Amrik Jhawar Councillor Kuldip Sahota Councillor Dave Elliott

Locum Clerk: Chris Maclean Council Team: Elisabeth Bamford, Community Centre Manager: Christian Smith

In attendance: No members of the public.

C20/088 WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to this evening's meeting of the Council.

C20/089 PUBLIC SESSION No issues raised.

C20/090 POLICE MATTERS

No representatives of the Police were present. Councillors noted the Community Surgery was held on in the Centre's car park on 24 October. No issues have been raised with the Council.

- C20/091 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr Andrew Morris (Work Commitment). Apology accepted.
- C20/092 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS None declared.
- C20/093 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 14 OCTOBER 2020 Cllr J Francis proposed and Cllr M Evans seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2020 be adopted and it was resolved that the Chairman sign these as a true record.

C20/094 COMMUNITY CENTRE

- (i) The Centre Manager advised Councillors that cover is being provided within the Centre between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday and resourced by Christian Smith and Glen Rigby. Income for the month was £2,000 down but this reflects the current situation regarding bookings. The NHS continue to use the Centre.
- (ii) Discussions being held with a potential new user to the Centre with possibility of up to three bookings a week.

- (iii) Enquiries had been received from one current user providing mother and baby support activity on the possibility of continuing her bookings, but it was agreed that these should only restart once the lockdown period ended.
- (iv) The Centre Manager advised that to date 29 breakfast club parcels had been distributed. The number being provided is increasing, potentially through wider knowledge of its provision. It had been noted that there is increased activity in the provision of parcels from Telford Crisis Support.
- (v) The Councillor surgeries would be cancelled whilst the lockdown remained in place.

C20/095 EVENTS

- (i) No further plans could be made during the current period and with the lack of certainty of what may be possible in the near future.
- (ii) Councillors considered the extent of Christmas lighting along Holyhead Road that would be possible and acceptable. The Centre Manager advised that the contractor currently in discussion would provide mock-ups to help explain what may be possible. Based on extent of lights desired, a cost estimate could be provided to allow Councillors to consider further.
- (iii) The current lighting would be placed on the Centre building and a Christmas tree was on order from Littlefords.

C20/096 GARDEN OF REST

- (i) The Locum Clerk advised Councillors that there had been a period of quiet activity with only one interment.
- (ii) The signs at the entrance had been temporarily removed and replacements would be installed.

C20/097 FINANCE

- (i) The Locum Clerk advised Councillors that the balances maintained would be circulated as there was currently an issue with online access to the bank account.
- (ii) Councillors considered the options in relation to the Precept for the next financial year and there was general agreement that the budget be set to achieve a zero % change. The Locum Clerk would present to the next meeting.

C20/098 FINANCE – ORDERS FOR PAYMENT

- (i) Payment orders were reviewed and authorisation was given by Councillors to their payment.
- (ii) Councillors reviewed the quotations for the defibrillator battery and pads and agreed these be purchased. Discussion was also held on the type of external cabinet and preference was shown for the colour to be yellow to ensure maximum visibility. Councillors agreed that it should be placed at the front of the building next to the main entrance. Councillors agreed a budget of £500 for the purchase of the cabinet.
- (iii) Councillors considered the quote for the extra security cameras. It was agreed that an alternative quote be obtained to consider the value for money.

C20/099 INFORMATION ITEMS

(i) Councillors noted the review of the Telford & Wrekin Local Plan Consultation on Issues and Options. Councillors considered the balance of green and open space and land with potential for small building development.

C20/100 PARISH MATTERS

- (i) Councillors noted the continued efforts to repair the streetlights on Waterloo Road managed by Telford & Wrekin Council. Investigations continue but it is understood that excavation will be required to locate and repair the fault.
- (ii) Cllr A Jhawar noted that the road surface on the lane from the Horseshoes public house to the Underpass had been repaired.
- (iii) Councillors considered the condition of the green space at the crossroads between Holyhead and Waterloo Road. Concerns were shared over the level and quality of maintenance. The Locum Clerk advised Councillors that he had been in contact with idverde advising of such concerns.
- (iv) Councillors noted the lack of a grit bin situated at Red Lees at the entrance to the Paddock Mound. The previous bin had been damaged and removed. Councillors agreed that this should be replaced.
- (v) Councillors noted the proposal that one of the main paths within the Paddock Mound be named Fen's Way. Councillors had no objection to this proposal and similar checks would be made with Telford & Wrekin Council.
- (vi) Cllr D Elliott noted that some of the paths were slippery and recommended that signs advising caution should be erected.
- (vii) The Mound Working Party group activity was suspended for the lockdown period.

C20/101 PLANNING

Councillors noted there had been no activity in the latest period.

C20/102 AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- (i) Boundary Signs.
- (ii) To advise Locum Clerk of further items to be considered for inclusion on the agenda.

C20/103 DATES OF SCHEDULED FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Full Council Wednesday 16 December @ 7:00pm

The Chairman declared the public session of the meeting closed at 8:00pm.

Notification of Private Session under Schedule 12a, Local Government Act 1972, the following items are likely to disclose exempt information in relation to establishment and contractual matters and that pursuant to provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded.

C20/104 PLANNING MATTERS

Councillors noted the two Provisional Enquiries relating to locations within the parish. Consideration was given to the merits of the proposals. Further consideration would be given in the event either of these enquiries proceed to formal planning applications.

C20/105 STAFFING MATTERS

- (i) Councillors considered the next steps to be taken in relation to the advertising and recruitment of a new Clerk.
- (ii) Councillors considered the salary range recognising the efforts of adjoining parishes to secure new Clerks.
- (iii) Cllr S Millward Thomas advised that he would put together the detail.

- (iv) Councillors noted the current proposal to advertise in December with
- interviews to be held in the new year. Cllr S Millward Thomas confirmed that applications would be requested for (v) submission to him for consideration with fellow Councillors.

The Chairman declared the meeting fully closed at 8:22pm.

Signed: Chairman of Ketley Parish Council

Date: 16 December 2020