**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NETTLETON PARISH COUNCIL**

**held at 7pm via Zoom on Thursday 13th August 2020**

**PRESENT:-** Cllrs Kerr, Beare, Minney, Futrell, O’Shea, Wright, Bush and Meier.

**Members of the Public.** Mr. Carter and Mr. Botterill

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **AP** |  | **ACTION** |
| 1. | **Apologies for Absence**. Cllr. Newman. |  |
| 2. | **Declarations of Councillor’s personal or prejudicial interest in any Agenda item.** None |  |
| 3. | **Chairman’s Announcements.** Cllr. Kerr welcomed Mr. Carter and Mr. Botterill to the meeting. |  |
| 4. | **Approval of the Minutes of meeting held on 9th July 2020.**  Cllr. Kerr proposed the minutes are approved. Seconded by Cllr. Meier, all those present at the meeting agreed. |  |
| 5. | **Update on actions from the previous meeting where not the subject of a specific agenda items.**  Item 5. Cllr. Kerr has emailed Streetscene at WC to order the new litter bins for Burton.  Item 9, Accounts. The Clerk has put the notices up to state that accounts are available for examination by members of the public. Also the accounts are on the website, and she has emailed the exemption form to the external auditors.  Item 10, footpath on Hillside Burton. Cllr. Kerr has heard from Martin Rose to say that this is not eligible for the consideration under the government scheme for making roads safer for pedestrians and cyclists. |  |
| 6. | **Public Participation.** See item 11b |  |
| 7. | **Planning Applications Received.**  **20/05832/FUL.** Red Roof, Nettleton. Erect an Oak framed garage with storage above. Cllr. Kerr proposed No Objection but with a condition that it remains ancillary to the main building. Seconded Cllr. Beare. All approved. |  |
| 8. | **Planning Applications Determined. None**  None. |  |
| 9. | **Motion by Cllr. Beare.** Councillors discussed the proposal to fell the 6 Ash trees which overhang the public footpath on NPC land. Cllr. O’Shea queried why they needed to be felled now and asked why we were going back on the decision made last year to leave them. Cllr. Kerr said that the reports from tree surgeons have stated that the trees all now have Ash Die-back to varying degrees. It was noted that if this work is delayed until the disease has progressed, there is likely to be a significant rise in cost because tree surgeons will no longer be permitted to climb trees and will have to use cherry pickers or cranes. Cllrs. agreed that they should be felled in the autumn this year.  Cllrs. asked what will happen to the wood that will be left on site, Cllr. Beare said it could be sold or just left for residents to help themselves to it. |  |
| 10. | **Finance Matters.**  To discuss the quotes for felling the Ash trees on NPC land. The lowest quote was from Simon Penfold. Cllr. Kerr proposed we accept Simon Penfold’s quote and to ask for a copy of his insurance policy before he proceeds. Seconded by Cllr. Bush. Approved. If for any reason Simon Penfold is not able to carry out the work, it was agreed to discuss whose quote should then be accepted at a future meeting. |  |
| 11 | **Highways.**  **a. Maintenance Report.** Nothing to report**.**  **b. Footpath route from Burton to Acton Turville.** Cllr. Meier spoke on his proposal to improve the existing public footpaths through the fields. He feels that if improved and publicised more walkers would use these paths to access Acton Turville from Burton, except when very wet in winter. It is a much safer route than walking up Hillside. Cllr. Wright commented that the ground can be very wet and muddy and he doubts that anyone will use the route. Cllr Kerr replied that the route needs to be made more accessible because it is a public Right of Way and then people can choose whether to use it. Cllr. Minney said if it is publicised a reminder should be included that dogs should be kept on lead through crop fields and those with horses in them. Cllr Kerr undertook, in his role as a Cotswold Footpath Warden, to arrange for the improvements to be made and to speak to land owners about avoiding obstructions to footpaths. Cllr. Futrell will write an article for Honeycomb once the improvements are completed.  **c. Speed Limit on Hillside, Burton.** Cllr Kerr advised that a submission has now been made to Wiltshire Council CATG committee to consider reduction in speed limit and other traffic calming measures. It was noted by Cllrs that this still needs to be pursued in addition to publicising the Rights of Way route.  **d. Felling of Trees on Tolldown Road**  Mr Carter, who lives on Tolldown Road, spoke about how distressed he and his wife are by the state of the road and verges after Wiltshire Council and adjacent land owners had all the Ash trees felled recently due to the Ash Dieback disease. He accepts that the felling was needed. However, the verges now include huge piles of wood debris which was bulldozed to the side and also much fly tipping has been exposed.  Councillors discussed the concerns. It was felt that, given the number of trees which had to be felled, it is inevitable that the area will look a mess but that it should recover naturally. However, they agreed that there are issues to be addressed and that the Cllr Kerr will write to Wiltshire Council asking them to advise on their plans, in particular regarding:   * Reinstating of passing places. There is a risk that the verges will be destroyed by vehicles pulling onto them during the winter. * Removal of fly tipping which has been exposed. If not done this may encourage further fly tipping. * Reinstating fencing to identify the boundary of highway land. * Repairs to gouges in the road surface caused by large tracked vehicles which could now be a hazard to cyclists. |  |
| 12 | **Reports on meetings & Events.**  All external meetings cancelled / postponed. |  |
| 13 | **AOB.**  None |  |
| 14 | **Date of next meeting. 10th September, 7pm via Zoom.** |  |

Meeting closed 8.07 pm