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

**held at 7pm via Zoom on Thursday 8th April 2021**

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

**Members of the Public.** Mr. Botterill. Mr Copcutt, Mr. Duffy

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| **AP** |  | **ACTION** |
| 1. | **Apologies for Absence**. Cllr. Phillip Whitehead |  |
| 2. | **Declarations of Councillor’s personal or prejudicial interest in any Agenda item.** None |  |
| 3. | **Chairman’s Announcements.**  Cllr. Kerr said this is the last meeting for Cllrs. Bush and Wright are not re-standing. Both have been parish councillors for more than 40 years and Cllr. Bush was also a District Council for several years. He thanked them for their exceptionally long service to the parish. He would like to organise a get together for them and other councillors when it is allowed. Cllrs. Bush and Wright thanked him. Cllr. Futrell would like to interview them for the website and Honeycomb. |  |
| 4. | **Approval of the Minutes of meeting held on 12th March 2021.**  Cllr. Kerr proposed the minutes are approved. Seconded by Cllr. Meier, all approved. |  |
| 5. | **Update on actions from the previous meeting where not the subject of a specific agenda items.**  Cllr. Kerr had sent out the revised list of costs for the NPC land.  Cllr. Kerr has also circulated notes on the meeting with Mr. Copcutt. |  |
| 6. | **Public Participation. None**. |  |
| 7. | **Planning Applications Received. None** |  |
| 8. | Planning Applications Determined. None |  |
| 9.  a)  b)  c)  d)  e)  f) | Finance Matters.Cllr. Kerr proposed the payment of £279.47 for the WALC membership is approved, seconded by Cllr. Futrell. All agreed. Cllr. Kerr proposed approval of the payment of £356.04 to Idverde for the new waste bins in Burton, seconded by Cllr Meier. All agreed.  Cllr Kerr will write the cheques and circulate for signature before posting.  To discuss signatures on cheques. Three of the four current signatories are not re-standing. The clerk will organise new signatories as soon as she knows who is on the new council. Cllr. Kerr said he is happy to sign any urgent cheques before the new signatories are approved, especially the one for insurance as it falls due at the beginning in May.  Cllr. Minney asked about using internet banking. Cllr. Kerr said he looked at it during lockdown but did not pursue it then because of difficulties in communicating with the bank. He agrees it is a good idea. Lloyds bank website states that approval by two people can be arranged.  Check on year end accounts: Cllr. O’Shea reported as follows:   * £10,925 in the current account and £582 in the business savings account. * She suggests that the wayleave cheque should be included as it was received in December, although only recently paid in, and the invoice for the bins should be moved to next year’s accounts as it is not yet paid. * She mentioned the payment we received in error from WC and said this may lead to an external audit, as it resulted in a turnover exceeding the £25,000 limit for no external audit. An external audit would be charged for. The Clerk to take advice from the internal auditor, as it seems unreasonable to have an audit for someone else’s mistake.   Approval of year end accounts: Cllr. Kerr said the accounts have been circulated and the AGAR forms and asked if, after the minor amendments, is everyone happy with the accounts. We have a healthy balance which may be useful for any unknown costs in the future. Cllr. O’Shea questioned the figure in Box 8 and it was agreed that it included the Idverde invoice which will be removed. Cllr. Beare thought the minus signs are confusing; Cllr. Kerr said Cllr. O’Shea can determine whether they are left in or not. Cllr. Kerr proposed approval subject to the agreed minor adjustments, seconded by Cllr. Meier, all approved.  To consider request from Wiltshire Search and Rescue for a grant. Cllr. Beare does not think it is appropriate for a parish council with a small precept to give any funding for this. Cllr. Meier said this is a service that any member of the parish may need and he would support a nominal contribution. Cllr. Webb suggested that it is discussed by the new council to see what they feel about it; Cllr. Minney agreed. This will be discussed by the new council. | Clerk  Clerk  Clerk  Clerk & Cllr O’Shea  Clerk |
| 10.  a)  b) | **Highways.**  When to advertise the Road Closure of Wood Lane. Cllr. Kerr said the notice we received is a preliminary one which states that the closure will be for about 4 weeks from mid-June. When the formal road closure notice is received it can be circulated.  To consider options to reduce the risk of further collapse of the wall on Wood Lane.  Cllr Kerr said that the cause of collapse appears to be a combination of settlement of the road adjacent to the wall and water draining into the stone wall. WC plan to repair include removing the fill under the road edge and replacing it with concrete and then rebuilding the wall in stone. Cllr Kerr thinks that there are other sections of road / wall that may fail in the future.  Cllrs. discussed the problems, for residents of West Kington in particular, when Wood Lane is expected to be closed for major repairs in June / July, and how this will affect the local farmers and residents. Cllrs Kerr & Beare had met the farmer at Church Farm, Tim Holderness-Roddam, who will be most affected to understand his options for routing of farm traffic. He is concerned about routing of lorries to and from Church Farm, in particular he usually starts harvesting around mid-July. He said that some traffic may be routed via Nettleton and some via Fosse Way during the closure. In response to concerns raised by residents about the large farm vehicles using the narrow lanes in West Kington causing damage to verges and endangering properties, he agreed to look at the locations where vehicles are very close to properties. He said that his vehicles are all within the legal length and weight limits. Councillors commented that they felt the combine-harvester used last year is bigger than in previous years, as it was getting stuck on the narrow roads.  Regarding the damage to the verges, cllrs in West Kington believe that that some of the verges are protected. The Clerk agreed to find out where there are protected verges.  Mr Duffy, who lives at The Old King William, said that Cllr Beare meet him to discuss the routing of farm vehicles during the closure, as Mr Duffy sometimes parks his car partly on the road. Also, he explained that he has posts by his front door as a safety feature for his children. He asked for clarity on the proposed route the farmer is going to take so he can move his car, but he will not remove the posts. Cllr Kerr said the farmer is working out a route when the road is closed but it should not be a permanent change. Cllr. Kerr suggested that they have a site visit with Mr Holderness Roddam and Mr Duffy to discuss the problem. He will try and arrange a meeting for next week. | Clerk  Cllr Kerr |
| 11 | **May Meetings.**  Cllr. Kerr explained that the government law permitting remote meetings ends on the 6th May and therefore it seems that the first meeting of the new PC will have to be in person. He suggested that it is sensible to book a venue where everyone can social distance. He has spoken to Marge Caie who said they can use the church in Burton.  Cllr. Meier asked whether it is unequivocal, as some Cllrs have not had their injections yet and could be at risk. The clerk explained about the court case taking place at the moment but until that is resolved the law is that we have to have face to face meetings after 6th May. It is confusing as it depends on what is happening in stage 3 but we need to prepare for a face to face meeting, within 14 days of the election. The clerk will check with Katie Fielding what the procedure is if no election is called. Nick Botterill said the paper he saw is more confusing as it says we cannot have face to face meetings before the 17th May, hence they have to be between the 17th and 24th May.  Cllr. Kerr suggested that the clerk checks out dates with the church and contacts the councillors when the new cllrs are known. | Clerk  Clerk |
| 12 | **Broadband.**  Following the presentation last month from Gigaclear, who stated they will not be including West Kington, Cllrs. discussed whether to ask Wiltshire Council to raise the issue with Gigaclear, given that Gigaclear are using funding from central government to provide / improve broadband in rural areas. It was agreed to leave it for the new council to discuss. Cllr. O’Shea said there is a problem in Smith Street. Cllr. Futrell will ask residents again if they have problems with their internet. | Cllrs. Futrell/O’Shea |
| 13  a)  b) | **Reports on Meeting and Events.**  Cllr Kerr said he had attended a meeting of the WC North Flood group on 17th March. He was told that, after two years of waiting for funding for flood resilience measures, the Environment Agency (EA) now have funds and plan to do a survey in April – May of properties in Burton which have suffered flooding in the past to determine what assistance can be offered. Cllr Kerr asked if Cllr. Minney could attend the survey with the EA.  CATG: the next meeting of this group is on the 25th May. Cllr Minney will attend to discuss the two outstanding items on the agenda which are in Burton. | Cllr Minney  Cllr Minney |
| 14 | **AOB.** Cllrs. O’Shea thanked everyone for their help over the last 2.5 years as she is not re-standing. Cllr. Beare echoed her words.  Nick Botterill thanked Cllr. Kerr for his chairmanship. It is very business-like and he has enjoyed his time at these meetings, and looks forward to meeting everyone in person at the Annual meeting. |  |
| 15 | **Date of next meeting**. TBC depending on advice from Katie Fielding at WALC. |  |

Meeting closed 8.40 pm