MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NETTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

**Held at The Chapel West Kington 7pm. 8th July 2021**

**PRESENT: -** Cllrs Meier, Minney, Howey, Kurle, Graves and Dafforn. WC Cllr. Nick Botterill. Clerk

Apologises: - Clarke, Lamb and Webb.

**Members of the Public.** None

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **AP** |  | **ACTION** |
| 1. | **Apologies for Absence**. Cllrs. Clarke, Lamb and Webb |  |
| 2. | **Declarations of Councillors personal and prejudicial interest in any Agenda item.** None. |  |
| 3. | **Chairman’s Announcements.** Cllr. Meier welcomed Cllr. Greaves as the latest co-opted NPC councillor and Cllr. Botterill from Wiltshire Council to the meeting. |  |
| 4. | **Approval of Minutes of the meeting on the 10th June 2021.** Cllr. Meier proposed approval of the minutes. Seconded by Cllr. Minney, all cllrs present at the meeting agreed.  |  |
| 5. | **Update on Actions from the Parish Council meeting minutes where not the subject of a specific agenda item.** All actions are on the agenda. |  |
| 6. | **Public Participation. None** |  |
| 7. | **Planning Applications. PL/2021/05517: Erection of a new poly-tunnel at West Kington Nursery.** Cllrs discussed the planning application and the concern some residents have about the height of the new screen hedging described in the application, as it is currently a long way off the height required to properly screen the new building. Cllr. Dafforn proposed No Objection, but to add to the comments resident’s concerns regarding the hedge and the need for it to be maintained at the minimum height necessary to screen the building once it was mature. 2nd by Cllr. Kurle. All agreed. **Planning Applications Determined. None.** |  |
| 8. | **Finance Matters.** 1. To approve the quarterly payment to West Kington Chapel for rent £60.00 Proposed by Cllr. Meier, Seconded Cllr Greaves. All agreed
2. To approve the payment for hiring St Marys Church for the Annual Parish Council meetings 17/5/21 £25.00 Proposed by Cllr. Meier, Seconded Cllr. Dafforn. All agreed
3. To approve payment to Karen Sayer, our internal accountant for £78.00 Proposed by Cllr. Meier, Seconded Cllr. Howey. All agreed
4. Refund Cllr. Meier for paying the ICO invoice for £40. Proposed by Cllr. Minney Seconded Cllr Kurle. All agreed
5. Cllrs discussed the contract for emptying new dog waste bins in Burton and agreed to ask for them to be emptied every 2 weeks, Cllr Minney will monitor them to see if this is appropriate.
6. Precept review for the next 5 years**.** Cllr Meier explained the process of setting the precept each year and explained that with the unknown costs for issues raised with CATG or if we will have to pay for the Parish Steward the NPC should consider doing small increases in the precept over the next 5 years. He said that the precept has not changed for several years so they have a small amount of discretionary funds. He will bring some information on stepped increases to the next meeting. It was agreed to look at precepts for other parish councils of a similar size at future meetings. This will be discussed further when they receive more information and figures from other parishes.
7. Grant application from Wilts Citizens Advice for discussion. It was agreed to put a hold on any discretionary grants, Cllrs agreed they would prefer to support local groups. Cllr Meier proposed if we get requests from outside groups we explain we are not able to help at the moment. All agreed that the finances need to be stronger before doing any discretionary grants.
 | Clerk |
| 9. | Highway Report. **Snow Plan.** Cllr. Dafforn will finalise the plan and it will be presented at next month’s meeting for approval. Everyone on the Emergency Plan have agreed to be on the list including residents who have helped in the past. Cllrs. Dafforn, Greaves, Minney, Meier and Webb agreed to be on the Snow Plan Committee.**Grit Bins.** Cllr. Dafforn has a list of bins from WC and cllrs have checked and confirmed the locations of all of the grit bins in the parish and which ones needed refilling. Cllr. Dafforn will collate the information and send it to WC, so the bins can be refilled if necessary. The Parish Steward will be asked to clear the ones covered in brambles. Cllr. Meier gave a vote of thanks to Cllr. Dafforn for all the work she has done on this.**Wood Lane** Cllrs. discussed the issue of subsidence on this road and discussed whether to ask for a weight limit on this lane, WC were going to do repairs to improve the road and stop the subsidence, they are now rebuilding the wall and doing repairs to the road but not the major subsidence works. Cllrs are aware of the homeowners concerns, when they discussed whether a weight limit would work as it will affect farm vehicles and HGVs that have a right of access to use it. Cllr. Botterill said the WC would have done a survey before deciding not to do the major works to stop the subsidence. He offered to look into the plans and the work they are doing and what they expect the life span will be. The movement of farm traffic is one reason WC do not put in many weight limit restrictions on roads. Cllr. Botterill will report back when he has all of the information from highways. | Cllr. Dafforn |
| 10. | **Defibrillator in NPC phone box.** Cllr. discussed the possibility of putting a defibrillator into the telephone box in Nettleton. All Cllrs. agreed in principle to supporting this idea. Cllr**.** Kurle will contact the British Heart Association and will apply for funding when their grant scheme is re-opened. |  |
| 11. | **NPC & Environmental Issues.** As lead on this item Cllr. Howey has looked into this and has some ideas on what the NPC can do to help WC and the parish to be carbon neutral by 2030. In the short term one thing the parish can do is identify which verges can be protected to promote biodiversity and protect rare flora and fauna. Cllrs also discussed the pros and cons of the WC trial policy of only cutting the main road verges twice a year. It helps the environment but the lack of visibility on the narrow roads in certain areas can make it dangerous for walkers, rider and drivers. Cllr. Howey will work with the WC Protected verge officer on how parishioners could help identify relevant verges in the parish and will report back at the next meeting. Cllr. Kurle asked where walkers, riders and cyclist go to get out of the way of vehicles if the verge is overgrown. Councillor feedback to WC will be made in due course on the new verge cutting policy and Cllr Meier and Howey will bring some additional proposals to the next meeting on how NPC can support the WC nett carbon neutral by 2030 target.  | Cllr. Meier & Howey |
| 12.  | **Report on availability of Zoom in the Chapel.** Cllr. Meier said there is neither any wifi available or sufficient 3/4G signal for internet access so we cannot offer Zoom to members of the public, or pull up any other documents such as planning applications for discussion at meetings. Cllrs. agreed to look for other sites for future meetings but will continue using the Chapel for the time being. |  |
|  | **AOB.** Cllrs. approved the payment to WALC for 3 cllrs training**.**Cllr. Dafforn has circulated a spreadsheet of highway issues to cllrs.Cllr. Meier asked for a discussion on how to communicate with parishioners on reason verges are being left uncut.Cllr. Botterill asked if a digital map would help with highway items**.** |  |
|  | **Date and Time of next meetings**. 12th August 20221 7.00pm at West Kington Chapel |  |

**Meeting closed 20.42.**