

WATTISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
VIRTUAL MEETING USING ZOOM PLATFORM
MONDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2021
7.30 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor Geoff Wade (GW) (Chairman)
Councillor Michael Elflain (ME)
Councillor Cynthia Penn (CPn)
Councillor Rick Meyer (RM)
Councillor Ian Dobson (ID)
Councillor Caragh Pell (CPI)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Christopher Garman (Parish Clerk) (CG)
County Councillor Jessica Fleming (JF)

No public present.

21/017 PUBLIC FORUM

No public present.

21/018 REPORT FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

- a) JF's report had been previously circulated and the contents were noted. JF spoke about the plans for community engagement for the new hospital in Bury St Edmunds. There was a discussion about the posts for the SID which are still to be installed.
- b) RM's report had been previously circulated and the contents were noted.

21/019 APOLOGIES

There were apologies from Councillor Sarah Goodchild which were accepted.

21/020 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

21/021 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None.

21/022 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2021 had been previously circulated.

It was resolved that these were an accurate record of the meeting.

21/023 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a) CG advised that the faculty application for the church clock project was still in progress. Also, CG advised he was still waiting for a site visit from Trevor Pollard for a quotation for the repairs to the access route to the clock.
- b) There was a discussion about the continuing issues with flooding on Walsham Road, Wattisfield by Limes Equestrian.

21/024 COVID-19 SITUATION

There was an update on the support service. It was reported that there had been no calls since the last meeting.

21/025 HIGHWAYS, TREES AND CHURCHYARD

- a) GW advised that the schedule of works for the trees on the recreation ground, village green and in the churchyard was still work in progress.
- b) ID advised that the signage for the defibrillator had now been delivered and will be fixed in the coming weeks.
- d) CG advised that the Quiet Lanes initiative is moving forward and spoke of the next stages in the process.
- e) It was noted that concerns with various hedges was now in the hands of SCC Highways.
- f) It was mentioned that there were serious potholes in Bobby Hill which have been reported to SCC Highways.

21/026 ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

- a) The issue of a cheque for the following payment was considered:
£200.00 to Birketts LLP – church clock faculty fee
It was resolved that a cheque for this payment can be issued.
- b) The appointment of an internal auditor for 2020/2021 was considered.
It was resolved to appoint Malcolm Saunders as internal auditor.
- c) The income and expenditure to 31 December 2020 against the budget was reviewed and noted. The bank reconciliation with the bank statement was considered.
It was resolved to confirm that the bank reconciliation agreed with the bank statement.

21/027 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) The situation with existing and recent applications were noted.
- b) The situation with planning enforcement at Dunhill Farm, Wattisfield, at Elm Tree Place, Walsham Road, Wattisfield and at land adjacent to Meadowside, Walsham Road, Wattisfield was noted.
- c) Planning applications DC/21/00312, DC/21/00340 and DC/21/00341 relating to Street Farm, The Street, Wattisfield, IP22 1NS were considered.
It was resolved to advise MSDC that there were no objections.
- d) Planning application DC/21/00122 relating to the Common Room at Victoria Gardens, Wattisfield was considered. There was no objection to the changes and extension to the building but there was concern about the planned changes to the parking and the planned removal of the hedge.
It was resolved to advise MSDC that there was no objection to the changes to the building but there was concern about the removal of the hedge with the suggestion that the parking was redesigned.

21/028 VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

The draft copy of a March newsletter was reviewed. However, it was decided that during lockdown it was inappropriate to have door to door deliveries. It was decided to postpone the launch for a further month.

21/029 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence had been previously circulated and there were no items needing review.

21/030 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

There was a discussion about setting a date for the annual litter pick. It was decided to defer this until lockdown had been lifted.

21/031 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 15 March 2021 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Christopher Garman
Parish Clerk
22 February 2021