

HUCCLECOTE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14TH DECEMBER 2020
VIA ZOOM AT 6.30 PM

Present Councillor Pugh (In the Chair)
 Councillor Stevens
 Councillor Morgan
 Councillor Bentley
 Councillor Mrs Bentley
 Councillor Mrs Blackwell

In attendance Councillor Robert Vines (County)

20/140 ACCEPTED APOLOGIES

- i. Councillor Mrs Heyden
- ii. Councillor Edge
- iii. Councillor Rammohan
- iv. Councillor Paul Smith (Borough)

20/141 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY AND THROUGH THE CHAIRMAN

Due to unforeseen circumstances the Chairman is unable to attend a scheduled web-based meeting with Highways England on 13th January 2021; Councillor Stevens agreed to attend in his place. He attended the online GAPTC AGM, a presentation was given by the Environment Agency on flooding, and a resolution for parish councils to continue holding online meetings was put forward.

The Chairman wished everybody a safe and happy Christmas and a happy New Year, he thanked members for their contributions during a very difficult year; thanks were also expressed to volunteers and Tewkesbury Borough Council for their support.

20/142 QUESTIONS FROM PARISHIONERS

Residents of Arlington Road asked why trees had been cut back so severely along the Wotton Brook, Councillor Bentley explained this was part of the annual maintenance programme and the contractors had received instructions to remove any low branches overhanging footpaths and watercourses; the trees will start to re grow next year.

Correspondence was received from a resident regarding anti-social behaviour on open space at the rear of the village hall. Members considered removing the benches where youths meet but were reluctant to at this stage. The Clerk will inform the local PCSO and ask for patrols to increase, warning notices will also be put on the benches.

Members went on to discuss gatherings and anti-social behaviour at the skate park on Coopers Edge, it was agreed to ask the consortium manager to turn off the flood lights at 19:30 to help discourage the activity.

20/143 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 18th November 2020 were approved and will be signed by the Chairman retrospectively at the next face to face meeting.

20/144 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Bovis Homes provided a programme of works to complete roads and other outstanding maintenance work on Coopers Edge in 2021; they have also surveyed and repaired street lights on their developments; the Clerk will follow up work with the other housebuilders.

20/145 BOROUGH / COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

Councillor Robert Vines – The County Council continues to operate under COVID conditions, the number of cases in the county has spiked recently however the vaccine is soon to be rolled out. Food vouchers are available for families with children who are entitled to free school meals, details are on the website.

Councillor Mrs Blackwell – The Borough Council remains busy and staff are working hard to keep on top of things, measures are in place to support those struggling with homelessness. Refuse dates for the festive period have been published and additional blue bags for recycling are available.

20/146 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Blackwell declared that as a member of the Tewkesbury Borough Council planning committee she would not participate in any discussions relating to planning matters.

20/146 COVID 19

Age UK newsletters were distributed at the end of November; further copies are available from the parish office.

Members will meet with a representative from Ecclesiastical on 15th December to discuss their new premises and the provision of benches and other facilities for staff and residents.

20/147 PLANNING

Councillor Stevens attended a seminar to view the proposed changes to the planning system as outlined in the White Paper - Planning for the Future; members were briefed on some of the changes and the area categories that will be used.

a) New Applications

- i. 20/00608/FUL – Land North of Perrybrook (amendment). The erection of 47 dwellings and associated vehicular access, public open space, landscaping and other associated infrastructure. Plans were circulated to members before the meeting. Following discussion it was proposed, seconded and resolved to reaffirm the council's original objection and concerns.

b) Decisions

Nothing to report

c) Enforcement report

- i. 20/00081/ENFC Horsbere Lake – Further clearance work has taken place on the site to remove the silage clamp.

20/148 PINEHOLT VILLAGE HALL

a) Clerk's report

The Clerk updated members on the current hall bookings and the Christmas opening hours. The decorator will work over the Christmas break and Allcoopers will replace the faulty CCTV camera this week.

b) Village Hall COVID risk assessment

The risk assessment was reviewed and approved, members agreed that under the new Tier 2 regulations the hall could open safely to groups that offer supervised activities for children and provide support. Some indoor sport activities could also continue provided there is no social interaction before, during or after the session.

c) Kitchen refurbishment

Members discussed whether a decision could be made to proceed with just two quotes to fit the new kitchen as it had become very difficult to obtain a third, the delay could result in paying more for the materials. Standing Orders state that three quotes should be obtained for contracts between £1000 and £10000, it was agreed to firstly seek advice from the monitoring officer and GAPTC.

20/149 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

a) Outstanding issues

Members were grateful for the offer of help, from a resident, to assist with the speed monitoring along the Hucclecote bypass. The clerk will enquire with the PCSO when the speed guns could be available and what signage and equipment they provide.

Details of the A46 closure were noted and published on the website.

20/150 PLAY AREA

a) Inspection report

The monthly inspection had been undertaken and minor matters noted. A quotation from Greenfields to replace two infant swings, two rubber shrouds, for greasing the roundabouts and to strip down and look at repairing the Wicksteed spinner was accepted.

20/151 FINANCE

a) Accounts for Payment

	Chq	Net	VAT	Gross
i. Intocleaning (Nov) – Cleaning		48.65	9.73	58.38
ii. Fine Turf Services – Grounds maintenance		66.50	0.00	66.50
iii. GAPTC – Training		15.00	0.00	15.00
iv. Greenfields Ltd – Bin installation		149.00	29.80	178.80
v. Mr J Crumpton – Hire charge refund		116.00	23.20	139.20
vi. Amazon – Misc		4.98	1.00	5.98
vii. Tesco – Misc		7.08	1.42	8.50
viii. Supanet – Broadband	DD	11.66	2.33	13.99
ix. British Gas – Service contract	DD	26.73	5.35	32.08
x. SWALEC – Gas supply	DD	68.00	0.00	68.00
xi. SWALEC – Electricity supply	DD	88.00	0.00	88.00

Payment of the accounts was proposed by Councillor Pugh and seconded by Councillor Mrs Blackwell.

b) Draft budget 2021/22

Members had before them a finance report detailing the end of year forecast and a draft budget for 2021/22. The budget included money for projects including outdoor fitness equipment, possible BMX track and repairs to landscaping at the village hall; consideration was also given to purchasing a defibrillator.

The budget for 2021/22 will be agreed and the Precept set at the January 2021 meeting.

ACTION CLERK

20/152 MISC

a) Website upgrade

Details were noted, a decision was deferred until a future meeting.

Meeting closed at 19:45

Next meeting 18th January 2021