**FYFIELD AND WEST OVERTON PARISH COUNCIL 6 – 2019/20**

Minutes of the **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on the 16th March 2020 at 7.00pm in the Kennet Valley Hall.

**Present:** Cllr S Nichols (Chair), Cllr J Drew, Cllr D Woolley, Cllr G Emberlin, Cllr A Miller, Cllr J Turner, Cllr L Davies, Cllr L Staddon, Cllr A Baring & Cllr J Hallett.

**Apologies:** Cllr M Dissanayake, Unitary Cllr J Davies & PCSO M Camilleri.

**In attendance:** S Roberts (Clerk) and one member of the public.

**Declarations of interest:** None

**Dispensations:** None

1. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS:** The minutes of the January meeting were approved and signed as a true record.
2. **WILSFORD COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING PROJECT – Alex Hickman**

This item was postponed until the Council are able to meet in person at the hall again.

1. **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**
* The meeting scheduled for May was postponed until further guidance and legislation is received from the Government in relation to holding meetings during the Covid 19 pandemic.
1. **TRAFFIC/ROAD SAFETY/POLICE (JT)**

West Overton kerb request – the Council were asked to consider a request from the owner of a thatch cottage in West Overton following repeated incidents of damage to the roof to install kerb-stones on the pavement in line with the edge of the roof. A site visit has taken place with Martin Cook and the owner has agreed to cover the cost direct. The Council agreed to support the request.

Frog Lane – a request for yellow lines at this location was not supported by the Council.

Frog Lane – a local resident has experienced flooding on his land. It was agreed to support the resident’s request and to write to Wiltshire Council to request they take responsibility to clear and maintain the Storm Sewer. **Action J Turner**

Ivy (Eckhard) Lane – pedestrian safety concerns have been raised by local residents and school parents at its junction with the C38. The layout of the junction restricts driver visibility on entering the lane and there have already been several near misses. Cllr Jill Turner has taken this forward to CATG and it is now on their list for future consideration.

North Farm – the request for warning signs on the A4 for horses crossing the road has not been prioritised by CATG for this financial year, it could however be progressed quickly if the Council agreed to fully fund the project which in this instance would be between £500 and £600. Cllr J Turner agreed to discuss this further with North Farm. **Action J Turner**

*Please see full report attached.*

1. **EMERGENCY RESPONSE (JT)**

Covid 19 –

The Council discussed ways in which to support the community during the pandemic.

Volunteers would need to be sourced, a leaflet drop carried out to contain contact details and support available.

Cllr S Nichols agreed to co-ordinate with Cllrs L Staddon & A Baring as contacts for Fyfield, Cllrs J Drew, J Turner & J Hallett for Lockeridge & Cllr A Miller for West Overton.

1. **DEFIBRILLATORS (JT & MD)**

The Clerk is in the process of obtaining quotations from electrical contractors for installation. **Action Clerk**

BT has kindly agreed to provide free electricity for the telephone box in West Overton.

*Please see full report attached.*

1. **TELECOMMUNICATIONS (AM)**

A letter has been sent to Danny Kruger MP for Devizes to highlight the lack of mobile phone coverage in our Parish and to request intervention from Parliament.

1. **PARISH ASSETS (GE)**

The repairs to the fencing at Taylors Green play area in Fyfield have not yet been carried out.

Green Infrastructure & Open Spaces Survey – the Clerk agreed to complete.

The idea of putting village maps on the parish noticeboards was supported.

1. **PLANNING (DW)**

The Dene – following agreement at the last meeting to explore the use of Sarsen stone on the edge of the Dene as an appropriate measure to prevent unauthorised parking and access, conversations have taken place with North Farm and The National Trust. Concerns were raised by North farm about introducing foreign lichen and warned against using imported stones.

ICO – The Council agreed unanimously to reject and appeal the ruling from the ICO to comply with a Freedom of Information Request.

1. **RIGHTS OF WAY (LD)**

The tent is still in situ at Fyfield, the idea of contacting MAPAG to remove and store it was discussed as a possibility if the owner does not return.

1. **WEBSITE (JT & SR)**

The website is now live and generic emails have now been created but due to difficulties getting these up and running successfully they are not yet in use. Many of the key areas have been updated. It was agreed given the current pandemic to fully publicise the website and utilise it as part of a combined approach of getting vital information out to the parishioners.

1. **PEACOCK FIELD (MD)**

Following advice from our solicitor negotiations have begun with the agent to agree the terms of the Transfer Deed. Full details are in the report attached. The Council agreed this was sound advice and once negotiations are complete with the agent the Parish Council will need to formally agree the terms prior to instructing our solicitor.

1. **YOUTH CLUB (SR)**

No report

1. **TRAINING (JD & SR)**

Cllr J Drew and the Clerk have recently attended training courses.

Cllr J Drew raised the question as to whether there should be an allowance for reclaiming expenses for councillors. The Clerk agreed to investigate further. **Action Clerk**

1. **REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES**

**Kennet Valley Hall (JD)** – report attached

**Marlborough Area Board (JT)** – report previously circulated by JT

**Avebury World Heritage Site Steering Group (SN)**

**Kennet Valley School (JT)**

The school has recently had an OFSTED inspection.

Please see attached report.

1. **FINANCE (DW)**

The accounts for the year to March 2020:

 Balance carried forward from last year: £7823.00

 Total receipts for the year to March 2020: £57728.85

 Total payments for year to March 2020: £54155.79

 The available cash book balance at 16 Mar 2020: £11395.84

Sign Cheques:

The following cheques and invoices were approved & signed:

Retrospective

1266 Innov8Sportz – January Youth Club £80.00

1267 Horsey Lightly – Peacock Field search fee £190.08

1268 S Roberts – Clerk Salary Feb 20 – March 20 £809.12

1269 S Roberts – Clerk expenses Feb 20 – March 20 £147.99

Current

1270 Bruce Thomas – Litter picking £130.00

1271 Friends of the Ridgeway £15.00

1272 Innov8Sportz – February Youth Club £80.00

1273 SLCC – Membership 2020/21 £58.50

Graham Kitchen has kindly agreed to carry out the Internal Audit this year.

1. **COMMUNICATIONS (AB)**

Items to be added to the next edition of UKN:

1. Cancellation of Annual Parish Meeting.
2. Details of new website.
3. Advert for a new Councillor.

The meeting closed at 7.30 pm.

This is the last page of the minutes.