

Minutes of the remotely held meeting of the Clarbrough & Welham Parish Council on Monday 14th September 2020

Present: Cllr Gibson (Chair), Cllr Avery, Cllr Baines, Cllr Done and Cllr Palfreman

Others: Mrs Davies (Clerk), District Cllr Ben Sofflet, Mr Oates (Rights of Way Warden) and members of the public

1247/20 To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies received and approved from Cllr Willcock.

1248/20 To receive any Declaration of Interest in any items on the agenda

Declaration of interest received from Cllr Baines for planning application – 8 Church Lane.

1249/20 To suspend the meeting for open session for members of the public to speak and to receive reports from the District & County Councillors, PCSO Airey and Mr Oates (Right of Way Warden)

District Cllr Ben Sofflet reported that following the recess, the District Council is now having face to face meetings at Bassetlaw by special requests; some staff is also returning back to the offices in Queens Buildings.

You might have seen in the press about the new planning white paper that has come out from Government; we are waiting for the planning officers to read through and see how it will work at the local level. It is putting a lot more assumptions on everything being approved; there are three designated areas – growth, renewal and conservation; the assumption is in favour of approval for applications in any growth or renewal areas. This takes away all the local controls and powers which will mean that the Neighbour Plans will need to be looked at again; as will the Bassetlaw Local Plan. The building targets will come down from central government so it is a recentralisation; a bad thing especially in the rural areas.

Lastly, also in the press is County Council is looking at moving into an Unitary Authority. All the District and Borough Councils are against it; County council is in favour of it; this will go up to MP Robert Jenerick to approve if we go ahead with this or not. If this did go ahead then Nottinghamshire would be second largest Unitary Council following Birmingham population wise. We would lose the local link. Once I get the data back from the planners; then I will share the information.

Mr Oates gave his Right of Way report as follows:

Mr Oates had received two reports of rotten ditch boards in the parish, these are part of the series of problems we have had over the past 12 months; these have been reported to the County Council but nothing has been done as yet.

Mr Oates has spoken several times to Graham Bowden who has taken over from Laura Summers; but not as yet been able to meet him; to enable him to go through the reports and see if they are going to attend to any of the problems. Some reports are safety matters and some are dangerous.

Market Hill is currently closed to walkers and all traffic for re construction of the worst areas. It has been many years of fighting for these repairs; the lane will closed for 12 months to allow the land to reconsolidate.

There are now maps of Clarborough & Hayton's Rights of Ways on the website.

Mr Herdman; Editor of the parish newsletter gave the following report:

The newsletter is now back in circulation; the big problem as the moment is the rising printing costs; which are £450.00 per issue. More requests for advertising would be helpful.

The village hall remains closed due to the two members resigning; this leaves only four members to manage the hall. Mr Herdman is helping out a Chair and is in contact with A.C.R.E working towards re opening but with the recent Covid situation; this has been put aside until we have sufficient people to help with all the checks that need to be carried out ; we can't see being open again till Easter 2021. Meanwhile, visual weekly inspections of the hall are taking place.

1250/20 To approve the minutes of the meeting held 20th July 2020

Cllr Done proposed to accept the minutes of the meeting held 20th July 2020 as a true record; this was seconded by Cllr Baines and resolved by the Council. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

1251/20 To receive updates on any actions from the previous meeting

Min 1245/20 –The Chair reported that the hedge has not yet been cut back – to chase A1 Housing

1252/20 To receive reports from any other meetings attended

No other meetings attended.

1253/20 To receive play area inspection reports

The Chair carried out a litter pick around the play area and sprayed all the equipment; someone had smeared chocolate on all equipment which had to be cleaned off.

The social distancing advice notices keep getting ripped off and the Chair keeps replacing them. Observation is that no one is taking notice of the guidelines; we have carried out the actions that the Government has advised the Parish Council to do.

It was noted that the car park seems to be used to carry out drug dealing. The car registration number has been taken and passed onto the police.

The grit bins require topping up before they will be required.

1254/20 To consider costs for painting the play park benches

The Chair asked if the two old benches in the play park could be tidied up and painted. After discussion, Cllr Avery proposed that the chairman should obtain some quotations with a capped amount of £450.00 for the work; this was seconded by Cllr Baines and resolved by the Council.

1255/20 To consider planning applications below and note any planning correspondence**Application: 20/00730/FUL**

Proposal: Residential development of 42 dwellings

Location: Canal Turn A, Welham Road, Retford

Consideration – no objections but to include comments

Cllr Baines did not take part in following application

Application: 20/01095/HSE

Proposal: Erect single storey rear extension

Location: 8 Church Lane, Clarborough

Consideration – no objections

After consideration, Cllr Done proposed not to make any objections as above; this was seconded by Cllr Avery and resolved by the Council.

1256/20 To consider quotes for Little Lane repairs and grass cutting

Grass cutting – the Chair has spoken with the grounds maintenance contractor regarding the quote for tidying up Little Lane and then carrying out regular grass cutting thereafter; after a lot of discussion with the contractor; the Chair suggested the best thing to do is for the Parish Council to tidy it up ourselves and then get the contractors to come out and requote just to maintain the area instead.

Alternatively, we try get the County Council to tidy the area up – but this wouldn't be easy. Cllr Avery offered to obtain some further quotations for the tidying up of the area.

At this point the meeting timed out and the Council re logged in to continue.

Little lane repairs - the Chair gave a report on the history of Little Lane - it was previously tarmacked around 40 years ago by Nottinghamshire County Council; and then 10 years ago they carried out some repairs; but in-between the repairs ; all the ash felt is now starting to come up again. The Chair measured the area that needs repairing which is around 120 square mtrs all together. The Chair asked Mr Oates (Rights of Way Warden) to explore the possibility of the Parish Council taking on the repairs with support from the County Council; hopefully with a contribution from them. Mr Oates obtained a response from County to say they would allow us to do the work and would also look at making a contributing. The County Council's criteria would be that the Parish Council obtains three quotes, plus information of the specification of the work repairs. The Chair has received some quotations but still waiting for other contractors to get back to him.

Once the quotation are received; then it is up to the Parish Council to consider if it wishes to continue to do the work itself; or try to push the County Council to do it. The County council have already said the as the Lane is a bridleway; then it only has to maintain it with a bridleway surface and not a footpath.

To be considered at the next meeting.

1257/20 To consider insurance renewal for 2020/1

Cllr Avery proposed to accept this year insurance renewal; this was seconded by Cllr Palfreman and resolved by the Council. The insurance is the second year of a three year policy.

1258/20 Finances - to approve payments and receive financial update

The Clerk previously circulated copies of the financial reports up to the 31st August 2020, plus copies of the bank statements and budget figures.

Cllr Avery proposed to note the finances and approve the following payments; this was seconded by Cllr Palfreman and resolved by the Council.

- 1) Wages & p.a.y.e £203.33 (SO)
- 2) Holmes Groundcare Maintenance – 2 grass cuts £418.33
- 3) P Gibson – various expenses £80.56

1259/20 To receive any updates on the Flood Prevention and Flood Management Strategy

Cllr Avery reported that work has been commissioned by Nottinghamshire county Council to undertake a number of natural flood management projects. More than 30 possible projects had been identified but land owner consent was required for each one to proceed. A register of such projects had been suggested and this would be pursued. There was no progress to report on the engineered scheme to construct a culvert.

The Flood Wardens had a contact with the Southwell flood project to pursue what lessons could be learned from their experiences of winning resources to prevent flooding.

The Chair expressed concern that clearing the beck grills in the event of a flood alert was not resolved. Cllr Avery agreed to raise this with BDC and try to find a solution.

1260/20 To consider community litter pick

The Chair reported that he has been asked to arrange a community litter pick; this could be possible if everyone adhered to social distancing. The Chair will have to ask the District Council first to see if he can borrow the equipment first and then he will let the Councillors know.

1261/20 To consider WI tree planting

Cllr Baines asked the Council if the Woman's Institute can plant an oak tree in the Parish Pasture for its 60th anniversary; which is June 2021. In principle there would be no objections. The WI would need to consult with the Parish Pasture group (Cllr Willcock) regarding the locations

1262/20 To consider this year's Christmas lighting event

The Chair said with the current Covid situation and restrictions; the Council is not able to plan a Christmas lighting event.

1263/20 To report any Highways/Rights of Way or Service Faults

No reports received.

1264/20 To receive any correspondence or information for future agenda items

For information:

- Cllr Baines reported that the WI will put on hold the Senior Citizen's Christmas party this year

Next agenda:

- Little Lane repairs

1265/20 Time and date of the next Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held remotely on the 19th October 2020 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.