

Corston Parish Council

Chair: Councillor John Bravin

Clerk: Alan Jenner

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MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD BY ZOOM STARTING 7pm WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY 2020

ITEM NUMBERS ARE THE SAME AS ON THE AGENDA

1-4. Opening of the Meeting, Councillors present, apologies for absence and members of the public present.

JB as Interim Chair opened the meeting. All Councillors are present being James Bravin (JB), Richard Blows (RB), John Twist (JT), Gary Breckon (GB), Susan Charles (SC), Katharine Evans (KE), Georgina Wynne (GW) and Ward Councillor Duncan Hounsell (DH). One member of the public is present who is Linda Morgan. No apologies for absence received as all Councillors are present. JB welcomed everyone and referred to his note emailed to Councillors and Clerk, this afternoon, on how the meeting would be conducted including if a Councillor had a conflict of interest on an agenda item this should be raised and then the Councillor would go into the waiting room. No conflicts were identified for any item.

5. Consideration of amendment to Standing Order to permit a virtual meeting.

It was resolved that the amendment to the Standing Order proposed by the Clerk be adopted subject to adding in the words suggested by JT in his email of 27/04/20 when he commented on the draft. Clerk to finalise amendment and post on the website.

7. The nomination and election of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Corston Parish Council

JB was elected as Chairman and RB as Vice Chairman by a unanimous vote of Councillors.

8. Councillors of lead and supporting roles for Parish Council tasks: (JB)

JB referred to list in Council minutes for meeting 14032019 of roles taken by individual councillors in the absence of a clerk. It was resolved that all these roles are reassigned back to the clerk from now on.

JB referred to the other tasks in the same minutes that Councillors agreed to take on which are not those normally done by the Clerk. All Councillors confirmed that they were happy to continue in those roles.

JT added that he has not taken on any of these roles as he intends to stand down as a Councillor but will continue in post and as helpline controller through the Covid 19 crises.

9. Saltford Ward Councillor's Report (DH)

DH has circulated his report on 9th May. If any member of public would like to have a copy of the report then he can be contacted by email and will provide a copy.

He added to the report that Pixash Axe lane recycle centre may open next week.

Covid 19- a temporary morgue has been set up. 300 graves dug at Haycombe but hopefully none of this will be needed although the situation remains one that is very serious.

JB understands Govt raising 2 Billion to fund cycle tracks. JB shares a picture. He wonders if there could be a track from where the former Kings Arms is found on the A39 down to the Wheatsheaf.

After discussion Councillors invited DH to raise with BANES if it could consider the feasibility of a footpath and cycle path alongside each other in that area.

10. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Corston Parish Council meeting held on 15th March 2020

Minutes approved.

11. Matters arising from the Minutes of 15th March 2020 (AJ)

Item 5

Linda Morgan offered to put on an event in the village. Could be a virtual meeting if it is to happen say in the week of 22nd June. LM will put a proposal together as to how it will operate and get feedback from the Council. Use recognisable local person to chair. Say week 22nd June would give time to prepare and publicise it.

Item 13 Clerks report:

Internal Audit will be covered later in the meeting under 13 c.

New Clerk, Alan Jenner appointed on 18th March 2020.

Defibrillator: Has been checked by SC and she is happy to continue this for now.

Item 14 Playground Inspection Report

This will come up again later in the meeting.

JT will send Clerk his annotated report.

Signs faded and need printing again. Clerk to talk with JB and this can be done.

JT signs on gate he has sourced one appropriate for dogs

Item 17 second issue

KE spoke of the eco projects especially for an Orchard. Councillors support the aim of rewilding and there is money available for a suitable project. KE will get in touch with Priston PC through Nick Mould who have undertaken a Orchard project. She will report to Council further at a later meeting and then it will be discussed what site(s) are suitable and then how it will be presented to the village to establish the support for the proposals suggested.

12. Coronavirus issue and review of impact on village and (community helpline and support (JT)

JT reported on the helpline and review of volunteers. It was resolved that the helpline should continue until the next meeting and will then be reviewed. Noted that Kate Measures has been circulating a quiz for the village. Council are grateful for all the generous help being shown by many for the village.

There was also considered the Village Hall Committee proposal to make the hall a business hub for villagers to work other than at home. This was considered but no resolution was passed to participate in it. It is not something that the Parish Council needs to be involved in and there are concerns, especially about the insurance issues on Covid 19, in setting up such a service for the community.

13. Financial Business

a. Review of 2019/2020 accounts – Annual Governance and accountability return 2019/2020

Discussion of this is postponed until Clerk has been able to find documents needed to complete accounts. RB will assist and expects that the problem of location is on transfer of drives online for storage. Clerk reports has given time limits he is working too to get draft accounts to Council for approval to release to internal audit.

b. Approval of income and expenditure from 15.03.2020 to 13.05.2020 as set out in the table below.

Council approved this.

c. Internal Audit- progress

See comments on 13a

d. VAT reclaim

See comments on 13a

e. Bank mandate

Similar problems being experienced as before with changing mandate. The Clerk is asked to investigate process of change of bank to Unity Trust and report back.

f. Review of the Parish Council's annual insurance

It was resolved to accept the three- year agreement from Penn Insurance (for AXA) subject to the clerk establishing that it does cover for Covid 19 claims. If the policy does not cover claims from Covid then an alternative policy needs to be sourced.

14. Planning applications

Clerk's report noted by Council. 19/95314/FUL Brookside, Wells Road, Corston-alteration and refurbishment of Coach House-Permitted

15. Review of meetings attended by Councillors and future diary dates

JB: attending environs committee who want evidence of any enforcement action.

GB: Village hall committee meeting was cancelled no date yet when it will be held.

SC: St Teresa's have two possible Covid 19 residents and have one death reported.

16. The Clerk's report

16 a overgrown hedges in the slip

Council resolved that JB will speak to one owner of a hedge, GW to another and SC to the third. The proposal will be that all three agree to pay for a cut twice a year by Colin on his quote that has been obtained or must themselves cut back their part of the hedge by 29th May 2020. The Parish Council can coordinate the instruction of Colin for the cut but must be paid by each owner for their share.

Depending on the discussions Council may need to hold a virtual meeting on this one issue as it has been an on-going one for many years to the dissatisfaction of some parishioners who use the slip. There is a health and safety issue due to brambles for people using it and therefore a resolution to this issue has to be achieved.

16 b Fly tipping in Meadlands

The Clerk is to write to the Council reporting the current concerns and push for action. Clerk will take up to date photographs to support his letter.

16 c Projector in the Village Hall

The idea of a projector in the hall is agreed but there is needed three quotes now, an updated one from Cherry Vision, also the current provider quote and another provider. All quoting for the same services and then a decision can be made. Clerk to action a formal process and report back with the results of the quotes obtained for consideration at a later meeting.

16 d the playing field access policy

Clerk to walk the field and use visual inspection to complete his review of the draft policy. Make any changes and then it to be published on the website and on notice board.

16. e Playground repairs and maintenance

Clerk will take the lead and JT will hand over his work to date. There is an inspection report that will need action. JT happy to meet the Clerk to show him the playground area to assist in the handover.

16 f Corston Road Signage and markings

It was resolved that Clerk will contact BANES with proof of payment and pursue completion of the road marking work that has been paid for.

16 g Cancellation of the Corston Country Fair

It was noted that this would produce a shortfall in income from the donation of £1500. RB reminded Council that in the precept application it was anticipated that this income might not occur. The budget is based on any expenditure must be covered from the income in the precept so there are no fiscal implications with the absence of this fund other than slightly less surplus in the bank at year end.

16 h Marie Curie requests for funding and from others

It was resolved that the Council will not give to these funding requests and the clerk is authorised to decline them when they arise.

16 i Lighting in the Slip

It was resolved that the LED light in Angie Carter's light be replaced when needed and there will be one final £40 payment and then no more.

16 j maintenance of the Valley Fields

Photo of the brook in the Valley Field was shown as the winter rain produced a lot of sediment. Needs dredging again as the bank is being eroded. James Wynne did it before. GW to approach him to establish if he will do this again.

17. Banes local plan partial update. (JB)

JB is monitoring this. BANES are back to the drawing board on the local plan and it will be sometime before a new draft is available for consideration.

18. Future meetings and agenda items:

The following meetings were agreed as set out in the Agenda. A decision can be made if the meeting needs to be by a virtual process when preparing the Agenda for that meeting.

- Wednesday 15th July 2020
- Wednesday 16th September 2020
- Wednesday 11th November 2020
- Wednesday 13th January 2021
- Wednesday 10th March 2021
- Wednesday 12th May 2021

Meeting closed at 10.30pm

Signed Date

Councillor John Bravin

Chair Corston Parish Council

Email copies via the Parish Council's Newsletter to: Corston Parish Councillors, Saltford Ward Councillor Duncan Hounsell and approximately 50 Parishioners. A copy will also be displayed on the Parish Council's notice board.