

LATTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

7 July 2020

held remotely (via Zoom) at 7:30pm

Councillors present:

Cllr P Rawsthorne (Chairman)
Cllr M Pritchard

Cllr B Hurst
Cllr R De'witt

Cllr D Lloyd (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr K Johnson

Others in Attendance: Wiltshire Councillor Jones

Public Question Time: No questions were raised

Councillor Question Time: No questions were raised

MINUTES

20.00 Election of Office

Due to COVID-19, under the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, the Government gave provision that Councils can carry forward their current Council format for another year. Chairman of the Council to remain as Peter Rawsthorne, Vice-Chairman of the Council to remain as David Lloyd. Members APPROVED and Councillors Rawsthorne and Lloyd accepted the positions.

20.01 Acceptance of Office

Councillors Rawsthorne and Lloyd will sign their Declarations of Acceptance of Office as soon as possible.

20.02 Apologies for Absence

All Councillors were present via Zoom due to Coronavirus (Covid-19) restrictions. Cllr Hurst had technical difficulties during the meeting with intermittent connection.

20.03 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

20.04 Dispensations

No requests for dispensation were received.

20.05 Minutes of the previous meeting

Members considered the minutes of 26 May 2020. The minutes were ADOPTED as a true record of the meetings and were signed by the Chairman.

20.06 Co-option to Vacancy

Members considered the application from Kevin Johnson. The matter was put to the vote and Members unanimously RESOLVED that Kevin Johnson be co-opted onto the Parish Council with immediate effect. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed, witnessed by all present, and Councillor Johnson joined the meeting.

20.07 Wiltshire Councillor Jones Update – Main Points:

- Currently all of efforts by Wiltshire Council are directed to the containment and work around Covid 19 recovery.
- The hub set up to answer all matters relating to Covid now runs Monday to Friday. All additional work resulting from Covid has been managed and manned by existing WC staff placing enormous pressure on existing services and departments.
- All Highways matters including CATG are currently suspended as highways staff are redirected to Covid related matters such as pavement widening, cycleways and pedestrian safety measures.
- Wiltshire Councils financial support, (not directly provided by Central Government) runs between £50-80 million, it is hopeful much of this will be reclaimed, Wiltshire Council will be challenged to say the least and in crisis, if not adequately supported by Central Government. Funds. Possible non-recoverables will be free car parking, unpaid council tax and any other such items not authorised by Central Government.

- If there is good news, Wiltshire Council have been prudent in investments, unlike some local authorities who have invested in commercial property now in rapid financial decline. That said WC has a very low level of reserves (£15 million) which are already in jeopardy from the current expenditure rate.
- The disastrous handling of the 5-year Housing Supply is escalating as developers take advantage of the recent appeal loophole. Developers have already sought and been successful in obtaining permission for 80 houses at Lyneham and 200 at Malmesbury, previously these would have been rejected. The planning department is seeing a huge upsurge in applications in areas where Neighbourhood plans were previously made as these will have to be considered as less important than the housing shortfall.

20.08 Clerks Report – Members NOTED:

Wiltshire Council and CATG

November PQT – Parish Stewards

Verges and Boundaries weeds, branches and shrub tidy – Request to Parish Steward.

Parish Steward attended w.c.22 June – started on the list of tasks including the two footpaths leading off from Gosditch. Next visit end of July. Members AGREED to CLOSE.

Gully Clearance

Requests to clear the gullies in Gosditch from junction with The Street to Limes Place up to the Church and the whole length of the old road (The Street) from the roundabout (leading off to Fairford) down to the next roundabout. This has not yet been actioned by WC

December PQT request for replacement 30 MPH signs

WC has confirmed an instruction has been made to replace the signs.

Community Area Transport Group (CATG)

CATG meetings are not taking place at present. Outstanding items are: 19.76 request from Cotswold Vets Ltd, to erect a highway direction sign on the roundabout indicating where they are located in the event of an emergency and 19.93 Solar Farm Donation – Water Eaton

19.113 Gosditch Sign

Members agreed to purchase new sign – delay due to lockdown should be received soon, members NOTED the cost has increased to £52.00.

19.115 Play Area and Equipment

As this is an agenda item, Members AGREED to CLOSE.

19.120 Grass Cutting Contract

Letter sent to PCC request a sum of £1,250 per annum for 2020 – 2021 grass cutting.

As this is an agenda item, Members AGREED to CLOSE.

New Defibrillator Pads

Pads received and in place, the defibrillator battery is registering low and needs to be replaced. Members NOTED that the Council does not have a maintenance contract in place for the defibrillator and have the opportunity to purchase the defibrillator. Councillor Rawsthorne proposed and it was AGREED that an Extraordinary meeting would take place to discuss the way forward.

19.128 – Village Recreation Hall Development

Members have asked WC Cllr Jones to call in if required, whilst Councillor Lloyd agreed to draft a letter of support from the Council. Discussions took place as to whether a new community hall should take place. Clerk to check information held and advise Councillor Pritchard – Clerk email sent to Councillor Pritchard – Item CLOSED

19.142 Dumping of Garden Waste

Clerk contacted tenant of field, who was not aware of the problem. The sign offered by Mr Johnson was put in place. An alternative sign to be put in place by Councillors Johnson and Pritchard Item CLOSED.

20.09 Community Infrastructure Funds

Members NOTED that the Council has CIL funds of £16,735.63, this funding can only be used for specific purposes: the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area. Members discussed possible projects: outdoor gym equipment, repair/enhancement work. It was AGREED to ask residents for their thoughts and ideas via a newsletter, Facebook and notices.

20.10 Play Area and Village Maintenance

Members NOTED the report. Councillor Johnson volunteered to empty the waste bin on the Play Area. Members NOTED the updated 'to do' list, works completed: the placement of 2 x Play Area signs and the reassembling of the zip wire.

At the May meeting, Members agreed to organise Community Working Parties to address all the maintenance work required in the Parish. This was to be arranged via Facebook and notices, for when Covid-19 distancing restrictions were reduced.

The tasks are:

- a. Placement of a warning sign on play equipment
- b. Wet pour treatment to see-saw area
- c. Treatment to Barton seat and benches
- d. Address issue with venting holes on frame of football goal (on grass) to prevent snagging
- e. Gate between Play Area and Jubilee Garden to be back in place
- f. Removal of fly tipping from sites
- g. Replacement/Repair to gate post to the Jubilee Garden (Savills)
- h. Flagpole rust treatment and repainting
- i. Maintenance work to bench located at Preaching Cross
- j. Cleaning of Bus Shelter
- k. Cleaning and painting inside of Defibrillator Kiosk and erection of signage
- l. Parish Noticeboard to be secured to Bus Shelter
- m. Weeds/dead plants to be removed from Parish Planters and Village entrances
- n. Placement of new Gosditch street sign (when arrives)

Members NOTED that the enquiries regarding sand blasting of benches was not successful.

Following discussions, it was agreed that Councillor Rawsthorne would update the list with additional details and liaise with Councillor Pritchard and volunteers. Promotions within the Community via Facebook for volunteers and newsletter. For the tasks not completed by volunteers, 3 x quotes from a self-employed handy person would be obtained, costs to be met from CIL funding.

20.11 Gosditch Speeding

Councillor Hurst asked what could be done as a lot of traffic through Gosditch is exceeding the 30mph limit. Councillors discussed the possibility of 30mph repeater signs – clerk to contact WC Highways engineer for advice. In the past the Council has given residents bin stickers, Clerk to source a new supply. This issue to be included in newsletter – see min. ref. 20.09.

20.12 Twitter

Members NOTE the report and considered whether to keep the link to the community Twitter group. The Community Facebook page created in late 2019 has been well received and is managed by Councillor Pritchard. Since March 2020, the Council also has a more interactive website for residents to use. Following discussions, Members RESOLVED to close the Twitter account. The Clerk to arranged for the closure.

20.13 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019-2020

Members NOTED and considered the Certificate of Exemption AGAR 2019/20 Part 2. As the Parish did not exceed a gross income or expenditure of £25,000, Members RESOLVED to certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review under section 9 of the Local Audit (smaller authorities) Regulations 2015.

20.14 Financial Accounts & Bank Reconciliation

Members NOTED and APPROVED the list of payments to 29 May 2020. The Council has been accepted for online banking and a debit card has been applied for. A cheque for £18.52 dated 2014 has been cleared – bank enquires revealed that cheques do not go out of date.

20.15 Planning Update

Application	Details
20/04029/FUL	At: North Farm, Water Eaton, SN6 6JT Application: Conversion of existing outbuilding for use as holiday accommodation and/or purposes incidental & ancillary to residential use
Members RESOLVED to make no objections but raised concerns that due to age of building there may be asbestos in roof material, the Council assumes a survey is taking place.	

20/04906/PNCOU	At: Eysey Manor, Eysey, SN6 6LP Planning Proposal: Notification for prior approval under Class Q for a proposed change of use and conversion of Agricultural Building to 1 dwelling (use Class 3)
Members RESOLVED to make no objections but raised concerns that due to age of building there may be asbestos in roof material, the Council assumes a survey is taking place.	
20/04261/FUL	At: Gloucester House, 4 Church Farm Road, Latton, SN6 6FQ Planning Proposal: Change of Use of Land to Residential Garden
Members RESOLVED to make no objections but requested that a condition that no permanent buildings be constructed in the future on this area.	

Members NOTE the WC Briefing Note on Housing Land Supply, see Wiltshire Councillor Jones report at min.ref.20.07.

20.16 **Village Recreation Hall Development**

Members RECEIVED a verbal report from Councillor Pritchard – main points were:

- Mr Oram is pursuing a resubmission which is slightly different
- The number of houses is to be reduced and second access road has been removed
- The height of Village Hall is to be slightly increased to accommodate badminton

Wiltshire Councillor Jones reminded Members that he has been asked to call in if required, whilst Councillor Lloyd has agreed to draft a letter of support from the Council. Discussions took place as to whether a new community poll should take place. Clerk to check information held and advise Councillor Pritchard.

20.17 **A417 Missing Link Update**

Members NOTED the letter from Highways England relating to the outcome of the autumn consultation. The letter confirms that the feedback received will be used to inform further design and development work on some elements of the scheme. There was no reference to noise mitigation.

20.18 **Adoption of the Minerals Local Plan for Gloucestershire**

Members NOTED the adoption of the Minerals Local Plan for Gloucestershire (2018-2032). This applies to Eysey and Down Ampney gravel extractions.

20.19 **Councillor Updates**

Speed Indication Device: Councillors Rawsthorne reported that the SID is up and running, following the advice received from the manufacturers regarding sensitivity levels. The June results have been published on the website, posted on Facebook and included in the newsletter. It was noted that more lorries are passing through.

Speedwatch and Lorry Watch: Councillor Johnson volunteered to take on the Co-ordinators role. Councillor Rawsthorne to liaise and arrange for information to be passed to Councillor Johnson.

Community Facebook: Councillor Pritchard reported that there are currently 104 members, with active posts almost daily. Dog mess is a prime concern amongst the members, and what can be done to stop it. An article in the proposed newsletter was agreed, explaining steps that can be taken, as evidence is required to prosecute. Councillors Lloyd and Pritchard volunteered to put the newsletter together.

20.20 **Exclusion of the Public and Press**

Members AGREED that public and press be excluded from the meeting under the Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings) Act 1960, due to the confidential nature of the following item.

20.21 **Grass Cutting Contract**

Members NOTED and considered the letter received from the Church Warden regarding the grass cutting contract. Members AGREED for the Clerk to contact the contractor and report back to the next meeting

Meeting Closed at 9.21pm