

Parish Council of Alfrick and Lulsley

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held at 19:30hrs on Thursday 23rd July 2020.

Under the provisions of : The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, the meeting was held electronically using ZOOM software.

Councillors and members of the public were advised of access arrangements in advance.

Present: Chair; Cllr B Martin

Cllrs: Ms C Bradley, R Ashton, A G Cooper, A Crockford, E Mutter.

C. Cllr P Tuthill, Dist. Cllr Ms S Rouse, Dist. Cllr P Whatley, D Bradley (Parish Tree Warden), G M Brewin (Clerk)

Apologies; Cllr Ms B Brown, T Clarke, G Lowe.

Visitors: none

Public Question Time prior to the formal meeting; None

Reports: County & District Councillors,

County Cllr, P Tuthill reported on the activities of the Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS, the Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service and answered questions on WCC activities.

District Cllrs Ms S Rouse and P Whatley reported on the activities of the MHDC during the epidemic emergency noting that in the area the rate of infection was considerably below the national average.

Verbal reports from; Footpaths' Warden, Tree Warden - report attached, Village Hall, Community Shop.

The formal meeting commenced at 19:20

AGENDA

1.

Members' Apologies for absence

The apologies for absence from Cllrs Ms B Brown, T Clarke and G Lowe were accepted.

Declaration of a vacancy on the council

The Chair advised that he had received a letter of resignation from Cllr Ms B Brown. The council noted her resignation and asked the clerk to put in process the co-option of a replacement. Members asked the clerk to write to Ms Brown expressing their thanks to her for her contribution to the life of the village .

The council now wishes to co-opt a parishioner to fill the vacancy left by Cllr Brown's resignation.

It is hoped that a candidate for co-option will come forward by the next meeting on 24th September. Those interested in joining the council are asked to contact the clerk to the council for details.

2.

Members' Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest in agenda items.

3.

Confirm the minutes of the last monthly meeting held on 27/02/2020 (circulated in advance)

The minutes had been circulated in advance, were agreed as true record and confirmed by the Chair.

4.

Financial Matters;

- a) Approve the Council's Accounts 2019-20 - Circulated in advance, and note auditor's report.
Approved and noted.
- b) Approve the formal Annual Governance Statement - Circulated in advance.
Approved
- c) Approve the formal Annual Statement of Accounts - Circulated in advance.
Approved
- d) Note the following payments made by the clerk under the 'Delegated Actions' procedure since the last meeting.
11/03/2020 R Wilks Lengthsman, £273.60 inc vat
23/03/2020 Clerk - Expenses, Jan - March £295.44
23/03/2020 Alfrick Village Hall, Meeting Expenses £13.50
23/03/2020 D Bradley Tree Warden, £290.52 inc vat
23/03/2020 Clerk, Expenses - Virus Helpline £220.80
24/03/2020 R Wilks, Lengthsman £460.80 inc vat
27/04/2020 WCALC, Subscription £463.33 inc vat
27/04/2020 Came & Co, Insurance £578.46
11/05/2020 MCB Landscapes, Playing Field Maintenance £90.00 inc vat

26/05/2020 MCB Landscapes, Playing Field Maintenance £90.00 inc vat
08/06/2020 Duffy Regan, Audit £50.00 inc vat
08/06/2020 MCB Landscapes, Playing Field Maintenance £90.00 inc vat
06/07/2020 MCB Landscapes, Playing Field Maintenance £90.00 inc vat
09/07/2020 MCB Landscapes, Playing Field Maintenance £90.00 inc vat
All noted

5.

Planning and Environmental Matters; -

- a) Consider a response to; Application No, 20/00943/FUL, The Grange Alfrick, Change of use, and extension of pigsty to one bed holiday accommodation.
After a brief discussion it was agreed: 'This council supports this application as it brings into use redundant buildings and would contribute to the general wellbeing and economy of the parish.'
- b) Note the delegated response 'No Comment' to;
Application No. : 20/00276/HP 5 Orchard Lea, Alfrick, Single storey rear extension, new pitched roof over existing garage, porch to front and orangery to rear.
noted
- c) Note the delegated response 'This council is keen to support the retention of historic buildings in the community and thus supports this application.' to; Applications Nos. 20/00358/HB,20/00359/LB Church Cottage, Lulsley, Demolition of single storey extensions and construction of new two and single storey extensions, including associated repairs to existing retained structures.
noted
- d) Note the delegated response 'This council supports this application.' to; Application N20/00764/HP, Lane End, Green Street, Lulsley, Side and rear extensions to existing dwelling for additional accommodation.
noted
- e) Review status - Clay Green Farm development. There was nothing to report on this matter.
- f) Cllr Ms C Bradley to report on the Alfrick Pound and Jubilee Spinney projects and environmental issues.
Ms Bradley gave the council a verbal report of current environmental issues and noted that with the relaxation of the quarantine measures it was hoped to recommence the working parties at both sites in the Autumn.

6.

Committee on New Public Facilities.

The report of committee Chair, Cllr A Cooper is attached. see appendix a.
Councillors confirmed their commitment to this project and looked forward to having details of the costs involved in the near future.

7.

Highways and Footpaths. Clerk to report.

The clerk noted that resurfacing work was under way on Hill Road Lulsley and a local intervention on the state of Whitehouse Lane had appeared to be successful. The problems of overhanging hedges at various locations was raised. He noted that the best way to secure a response was a direct posting on the 'Report it' section of the WCC website.

8.

Playing Field. Clerk to report.

Work on the ditches had been delayed until the Autumn to avoid environmental damage to the area.

9.

Clerk's Report -

- a) Actions from the previous meeting. These had been completed.
- b) Correspondence received. All items had been circulated to members and actions taken accordingly.
- c) Lulsley Broadband Project. Some £90k in government grants had been identified but further work has been delayed by Openreach requesting a review of the properties involved and has provided a new, enlarged list. Of the 62 addresses on this new list, 15 already have FTTP or FTTC fast connections of which 10 were additions at Knightwick and one is 5 miles away in Tedstone Delamere. 3 properties should be added, at Lulsley Court and Ravenhill Farm.
The Openreach proposal has been rejected and another telephone discussion or site visit requested.

10.

Items for the next meeting. Particularly ref 6 above.

11.

Confirm the date of the next meeting; Thursday 24th September 2020 at 19:30 hrs. on ZOOM - agreed.

The meeting closed at 21:21 hrs.

Minutes confirmed

appendix a

106 Facilities update 22.7.20

I thought it might be easier if I sent my report by email rather than give it on the zoom meeting.

As I told you at the last PC meeting I attended, the 106 committee decided that there were three projects that would benefit the village the most which we aspired to get with the money available.

As 106 money cannot be used for improvements, just new equipment etc, it was decided that building a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) would be of benefit to all. It would have a 5 aside football pitch, tennis court, basketball and we hope a cricket net. Obviously, the existing tennis club will move onto this, then we hope that perhaps the football club will take some time on it and there is someone in the village who would organise walking football. This is to be sited roughly where the existing tennis court is.

A children's play area to be put in the playing field.

A selection of outdoor exercise equipment arranged round the perimeter of the field, linked by a tarmac pathway to enable people to take exercise on the field throughout the year, even when it is wet.

With have confirmed with planning that No Planning is needed if we keep below 4 metres, and we have had a survey undertaken to ensure that there are no surprises in the area under and around the projected MUGA. The installers have assured us that they can deal with manhole covers.

This week, we have had two companies visit to discuss our needs and measure up so we can get a precise quotation. We will not get anything back for two/three weeks. These companies do all the items mentioned, so it is one stop shopping. Because of COVID 19, raising additional money for the project is extremely difficult, thus we have taken the view that we have given the companies a budget which will require some fundraising, but a sum I believe would be achievable in a reasonable space of time. That budget is £90K.

Separately, we had had quotes of £53k for the MUGA, £28k for the exercise equipment and £50/60k for the children's play area. These were always going to have to be reduced, but they were the Rolls Royce of everything.

We await the quotes.

We are now turning our thoughts to what happens when it is built and how does it run.

The MUGA on VH land will be subject to a lease from the VH to the PC subject to a peppercorn fee. We will sub let it to a newly formed A&L Sports Club, or such, whose committee would have at least two members from the PC plus other interested parties.

It would cost, but that would have to be decided when built and setting up the club.

The Children's play area and exercise equipment will be open to use 24/7 and 365 days a year. It will be subject to weekly, monthly, annual checks and be a part of the VH insurance policy.

Thank you.