

Frankley Parish Council

Thursday 15 April 2021

Zoom Meeting at 1930 hours (due to COVID19)

MINUTES

Present: J Gwinnett (JG) N Bailey (NB)
J Jarrard (JJ) P Smith (PS)
P Morgan (PM) K May (KM)
M Sherrey (MS)

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed those present and thanked them for joining the Zoom meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

The Declaration of Interest form was not signed off due to the meeting being held via Zoom. Those present confirmed there was nothing to declare.

3. Public Session

There were no members of the public in attendance.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The approval of the previous Minutes was proposed by JJ, seconded by JG.

5. Chairman's Report

5.1 The bus shelters were discussed; a road closure notice is required to attend to the drainage problem on Frankley Hill Lane. Due to vehicles speeding through the water held on the surface of the road, which we have been complaining about for two years, the shelters are falling into a state of disrepair, as they are open faced onto the road. A request for new shelters will be submitted to the new County Councillor following the elections in May 2021.

5.2 The speed restrictions on Raven Hayes Lane were discussed – the dragons' teeth and signage are effective, however there have been six accidents since 24 January 2021 on Church Hill and Raven Hayes Lane. KM advised that the Worcester County Council could claim from the drivers' insurance regarding the damaged sign post. Pictures were sent to Highways and the incident reported, however no reply has been received. Following the elections in May 2021, an email is to be sent to the new County Councillor who, in turn, needs to speak to the Police Commissioner.

5.3 The Chair raised the ownership of the Pound, by the barns. The residents in the barns are happy to help restore the Pound, with an offer of restoring the wall from a resident and the owner of Lower Hill Farm to clear up so the area can be used to house a notice board for the Parish Council. Contact is to be made with the Highway Engineer to request a land search be made regarding who owns the land. If no response is received, KM/MS will action. If the land belongs to Birmingham City Council, they should be maintaining it or an asset transfer be requested. Plan: ascertain ownership – if common land, will revert to District, after which a letter from the District Solicitor will be required advising that the Parish can take ownership (register as Parish Council land). A request is to be submitted to the new County Councillor enquiring if funds are available for a noticeboard for the Pound. Some funding will be required from the Community – KM to be consulted with.

5.4 Fly tipping – cameras are positioned within the Parish - not by a Parish Councillor but by a resident who wants to stop fly tipping. If footage is found, then contact KM/MS who will put forward to prosecution. An offender needs to be caught so the matter can be taken to the local Press to raise awareness as a deterrent.

"Don't Litter Our Future" is a national organisation who, under the FOI act request from Councils how much had been paid in fines issued for fly tipping. BCC issued £440,000 in fines although not all monies had been collected. During COVID, the fines dropped to £220,000. BDC's response to the FOI request was "no data". MS advised that fly tipping fines are to be increased.

If cameras are successful, then more will be purchased. Assistance is required for Eddie, who is the only Enforcement Officer. Wythall is top of the agenda for catching fly tippers, then Winwood Heath, followed by Frankley. Divisional funds have been requested to monitor boundaries – Hagley, Client and Romsley.

6. Finance

- 6.1 The bank statement and reconciliation spreadsheet were sent in advance of the Zoom meeting. PS and JG confirmed their satisfaction with the details.
- 6.2 The year end accounts will be prepared for approval at the May AGM, together with a review of Risk Assessments and the Asset Register. NOTE: The May AGM will take place face to face in the Church Hall – a COVID Risk Assessment has been prepared and will be shared prior to the meeting. Please ensure you wear a face covering, hand sanitise, maintain social distancing, do not unnecessarily touch / share items.
- 6.3 JG is to speak to CALC regarding the need for a Data Protection Officer, following Brexit. POST MEETING NOTE: A Data Protection Officer is no longer required. Action: To be discussed at AGM.

7. Planning Matters

- 7.1 KM provided a brief update on planning matters.

8. Outside Meetings

- 8.1 None attended.

9. County Councillor Update

KM took an active part throughout the meeting, providing updates as required.

10. Correspondence

VE day memorials were discussed, which cost in excess of £200 each. Concerns were raised regarding items being stolen

11. Any Other Business

CALC had enquired whether all Parish Councillors wished to receive minutes by email – the general consensus was no.

The church wall was discussed. Boulders are being stolen from walls in Client.

JJ asked if anything could be done regarding the barrier along Ravenhays Lane as it is now sticking up in the air and was more of a distraction than a roadside barrier. It has been hit countless times by vehicles. JG to contact Richard Clewer.

12. Items of Parochial Interest

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The meeting closed at 20.20.

NOTE. Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime and Disorder, Health and Safety and Human Rights.

Distribution:

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Karen May | | Margaret Sherrey | |
| John Gwinnett | (Chairman) | Nancy Bailey | (Acting Clerk & Councillor) |
| Jane Jarrard | (Councillor) | Pamela Morgan | (Councillor) |
| Phil Smith | (Councillor) | | |

Dates for future meetings:

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|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Thursday 13 May 2021 (AGM) | St Leonards Church Hall at 19.00 |
| Thursday 15 July 2021 | |
| Thursday 14 October 2021 | |