

Frankley Parish Council

Thursday 14 January 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)

Apologies: M Sherrey

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed those present. Whilst meetings are held via Zoom due to COVID, Councillors should maintain their professional conduct.

Apologies were received from M Sherrey.

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.

The Chair utilised the public session to provide an update on NHW. BDC fined a fly tipper £600. The Council has spent £100,000 on fly tipping in the last 12 months – a lot of work goes on in the background. A £600 fine is not a big enough deterrent. There are only two Enforcing Officers over Redditch and Bromsgrove.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

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

5. Chairman's Report

- 5.1 The bus shelters were discussed; now that the bus is back up and running, the shelters will require maintaining. JG suggested painting the inside of the shelters a lighter colour – the Lengthsman is to provide a quotation for the works. The Parish will cease providing shelters once these reach the end of their life. KM enquired about ownership of the bus shelters, as there may be funds available to maintain the shelters. With heavy rain recently, large puddles were evident by the bus shelters. JG is to send a video of the flooded area. KM will speak to Highways and R Clewer.

Flooding towards the service station is also to be captured and sent to Highways. Previous works were unsuccessful in stopping the flooding.

6. Finance

- 6.1 The bank statement and reconciliation spreadsheet had been sent in advance of the Zoom meeting. JJ and JG confirmed their satisfaction with the details.
- 6.2 Whilst details of the precept had not been received, the Chair outlined his concerns with raising the precept during difficult COVID times. It was proposed that no increase be applied, this was seconded by PS. BDC has acted on the lowest increase possible in order to maintain services.

7. Planning Matters

- 7.1 Housing for the District is to remain at 374 per annum, however there is only three years land supply available whereas it is statutory to have a five year supply. Future housing will be built around existing infrastructure and motorways.

If 2% of the Green Belt is removed, it could result in 2700 houses which is the size of the development at Bentley Paunchfoot.

8. Outside Meetings

- 8.1 NB joined the December CALC meeting by Zoom.

9. County Councillor Update

K May outlined that COVID 19 cases were at 655 cases per 100,000 in the district. The R number is not dropping and it is a challenging time. The currently lockdown may continue potentially to March 2021. The Atrix Centre will be used for vaccinations – anticipating 2000 per day, 8am to 5pm, 7 days a week.

KM signed off the restrictions to speed at the crossroads. It may take 9 months for the works from start to finish.

10. Correspondence

JG enquired whether the Parish would be interested in defibrillators, which cost from £800 to £2500. A grant of £200 is available. Due to the spread of the Parish two would be required. Training would be needed and a safe place of storage to prevent theft.

Even in the current COVID climate, the Parish is within 8 minutes of an ambulance route from the Hollymoor depot. It was agreed to put the defibrillators on hold.

11. Any Other Business

The empty grit bins in Pound Lane and Frankley Hill Lane were discussed. KM is to enquire whether grit bins can be filled by BDC, rather than the Parish funding the grit. The bin in Yew Tree Lane is to be relocated in the future. The gritter lorry is evident in the local vicinity when the weather forecast is for snow / ice.

KM is to transfer £250 divisional funds to pay for a push along gritter for the Lengthsman to use along the footpaths within the Parish. Highways are to inspect the path leading from Frankley Green Lane to the bus stop (on the side of the Nique).

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:

Thursday 15 April 2021
Thursday 13 May 2021 (AGM)
Thursday 15 July 2021
Thursday 14 October 2021