

St Peter the Great County Parish Council

Minutes

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on **Thursday 8th October 2020 at 19:30** via Zoom **remote video link** due to Covid19 social distancing restrictions.

Present: Chairman Cllr. Mr. A. Tucker, Cllrs. Mr. A. Tidy, Mr. J. Renshaw, Mr. P. Walters, Mr. R. Knight, and. Mr. D. Saunders, Mrs. L. Murray (from Agenda item 3), and Dr. D. Tibbutt.
Also present: City and County Cllr. Steve Mackay, the Clerk, one member of press.

10320 Apologies for Absence: Cllr. Mr. M. Johnson

10420 Declarations of Interest: None

10520 Adoption of Minutes: Council agreed to adopt the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 10th September 2020 as a true record of events. The Chairman duly agreed to sign the master copy when possible, held within the minute book.

10620 Public Participation: No comments.

10720 Reports from District and County Councillors:

- a. City and County Cllr. Mackay had submitted a written report covering County issues. The report was verbally presented to Council and covered matters relevant to the Parish including:
 - i. Installation of walking and cycling bridge over Hams Way.
 - ii. The installation of a new section of infrastructure at Carrington Bridge.
 - iii. An update regarding the pedestrian bridge over Broomhall Way.
 - iv. The Worcestershire Royal is out of special measures.
 - v. Broomhall Green – The latest update from Cllr. Mackay is that the County Council will not allow this area to fall under Village Green status as they feel they can secure this piece of land without such measures. Cllr Tidy requested it be placed on record that the County Council response is disappointing and confirmed that it is not the intention of the Parish Council to acquire or change the ownership of Broomhall Green but merely to change the status of the land to a ‘Village Green’. Cllr. Tidy to provide further information to Cllr. Mackay on the subject of Village Green status.
- b. City Cllr. Johnson had submitted a written report covering City Council issues. The report was noted by Council.

10820 Matters Arising & Action Sheet: Matters arising from previous meetings not covered elsewhere in the Agenda.

- a. Gym Equipment. Phase 1 of 4 has been completed. Phase 2 will require agreement from the landowner regarding placement of gym modules.
- b. Bins. The Clerk is awaiting further information from the City Council regarding provision of replacement bins for the Play Area in Tesco play area.
- c. Anti-social behaviour (ASB). Multiple Nitrous Oxide cannisters have been found and vehicles have been driven at speed around St Peter’s Baptist Church car park. Cllr. Renshaw gave a verbal report regarding a recent meeting with the Clerk and the City Council Detached Youth Team Manager. It was confirmed at the meeting that the incident is being dealt with by the Police as part of an ongoing investigation and that a crime risk assessment is being undertaken on the Baptist Church car park with results to be made available to the Parish Council. It was also suggested that an article to spread knowledge and awareness regarding canister use be publicised in Newslink. Cllr Renshaw has written

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this piece and it will appear in the next edition. Cllr. Mackay confirmed that the issue with canisters is City-wide.

- d. Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS). Cllr. Saunders and the Clerk met earlier in the day to download the latest data from the unit. The Clerk gave a verbal report while sharing the latest information on screen. Although the results have not been fully analysed yet, an initial review showed that the fastest recorded speed in the last month was 55mph and that the 85th percentile speed was 32.7 mph. The Clerk and Cllr. Saunders to review data and report back to Council.

10920 Travellers and Park Security: There have been several recent breaches in park security at Power Park and Grasshopper Park by Travellers accessing the green spaces.

- a. It was confirmed that park security work has started and that bollards have been installed in Battenhall Rise and earth works have started at Trefoil Close. Further expenditure is planned on further park security measures.
- b. The Chairman has written to Robin Walker MP to request an investigation into the current process which seems to favour Travellers rather than residents and park users, and to request an update following a recent Government review of this process.
- c. Cllr. Renshaw has received a response from a letter already submitted to Robin Walker MP (written as a parishioner, not a Councillor). The response states that Robin Walker is aware of the situation, that the consultation exercise is complete, and the proposals are being reviewed.
- d. The Clerk confirmed that a request has been submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner to ascertain what is the current strategy for dealing with unauthorised encampments and driving on public footpaths.
- e. The Chairman reported that through communications with Cllr. Mackay and County highways, it has been confirmed that all Worcestershire pedways are for sole use of pedestrians and cyclists. This would indicate that anyone driving a motor vehicle over a pedway in St Peter's would be breaking the law. The Chairman suggested it may be beneficial to install signage in high priority pedways and duly requested Cllrs. Knight and Tidy suggest pedways that would have maximum impact.
- f. Council expressed disappointment in the Police response to reports made about Travellers driving on footpaths and unauthorised access to public open space. Once Council have formal confirmation regarding ownership of the parks and open spaces from the City Council, the Chairman proposes that Council formally write to the Police to inform of the correct ownership status and to encourage the Police to act appropriately in future instances of violations of the law.

11020 Finance:

- a. The Clerk presented a verbal financial report detailing latest income and expenditure including the precept received from the City Council. The current reconciled balances were reported as £107,721 in the Community account, £1650 in the Newlink account, and £48,459 in the Money Market savings account. It was noted that the Newlink account should be kept in place for the current period but is most likely superfluous given the new Newlink arrangements. The Clerk is yet to acquire a purchase card from HSBC to serve the community account.
- b. Council approved the following payments, including those made since the last meeting under delegated authority.

Amount	Payable To	Reason for Payment
£638.42	HMRC	Deductions
£72.35	DCK Accounting	Payroll

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£95.92	Clerk	Zoom fee 12 months
£100.00	Clerks + Council's Direct	Print + online membership

11220 Clerks Report: To receive a report from the Clerk on correspondence to the Council and other pertinent administrative matters.

- a. A communication regarding the Housing Methodology consultation.
- b. The Police and Crime Commissioner Town and Parish Survey.
- c. St Modwen Homes have had Phase 1 of a development on land North of Taylors Lane approved for 36 dwellings by the City Council.
- d. A communication from a resident enquiring about the new Norton Hopper. The Clerk was able to provide this information to the resident as previously obtained via Norton Parish Council.
- e. A communication from a resident regarding trees being removed in Power Park. The Clerk was able to respond to confirm this was due to the bridge installation works taking place by the County Council.
- f. A further communication to suggest tree planting to mitigating the bridge works once complete.

11320 Budget: The Chairman outlined the budget setting process for 2021/22 and called for Councillors to submit suggestions for inclusion. The Chairman proposed to reconvene the Budget Working Party in November with the intention of reviewing budget lines and preliminary formation of the precept request.

11420 St Peter's Festival: Cllr. Renshaw confirmed that the Festival Working Party will be reconvened with the first meeting planned for Monday 12th October at 19:30, Zoom details to be confirmed by the Clerk. It is hoped that some form of event can be held during 2021 but there is concern regarding the impact of Covid19. The working party will be tasked with establishing a date for confirmation if an event of any nature can be held or not.

11520 Parish Warden service: Cllr. Tidy gave a review of proposed changes to the City Council Parish Warden service. Council has received a renewed SLA from the City Council that contains several unexpected major alterations. The proposed changes mean Council must seek agreement with Warndon Parish Council on level of operative, accept a change from two Wardens to one, incur a price increase, and agree to a 12-month service cancellation clause. Cllr. Tidy suggested that the Lengthsman Scheme should be carried out by the Parish Council to ensure it is completed, this would also enable the Parish Council to reclaim financial assistance for essential maintenance from the County Council.

A meeting with Warndon Parish Council has been agreed for 20th October 19:30. Cllr. Tidy to report back to Council following the meeting.

11620 Newslink: Cllr. Tidy gave a verbal report regarding the new format of the Newslink Parish Magazine. The Editor has confirmed the specification of the Page Turn account required to enable the magazine to be published online. The Chairman confirmed that Council is open to invitations for a new Newslink portfolio holder.

11720 Strategic Principles: Council adopted the Strategic Principles as previously circulated and reviewed.

11820 Highways, Developments & Planning:

- a. Broomhall Way Pedestrian Bridge. Covered in 10720 above.

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- b. Broomhall Green. Covered in 10720 above.

11920 Portfolio Holder Reports:

- a. Cllr. Tidy's proposal to establish a Village Hall working party was accepted by Council.
- b. St Peter's Village Hall Association (SPVHA). Cllr. Tidy gave a verbal report regarding attendance at the SPVHA AGM during August. Godfrey Benson has retired from taking bookings for SPVHA and a new volunteer has been sourced from the local community.
- c. Cllr. Walters suggests it may be beneficial to hold a PACT meeting via Zoom. Cllr. Walters to contact Cllr. Mackay to progress the suggestion.

12020 Date of Next Meeting: The date of the next Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as Thursday 12th November 2020 at 19:30, via Zoom.

Signed.....

Chairman

Date.....