

Lower Sapey Parish Meeting

Minutes of a meeting held Thursday 13th August 2020 at St Bartholomew's Church, Harpley commencing at 7.30 pm

Present: Ashley Jones (Chairman), County Councillor Ken Pollock, M. Alexander (Clerk), R. Wilks (Parish Lengthsman) and 10 members of the public.

Apologies: S. Younge (V/Chairman), District Councillor C. Palethorpe and 3 members of the public.

1. Minutes of a meeting held 5th March 2020: The Minutes were agreed and signed as a true record. Proposed J. Jones, seconded H. Rigby. All agreed.

2. Appointment of Parish Clerk: The Chairman welcomed M. Alexander to the meeting as the new Parish Clerk. S. Everitt was thanked by all those present for her work as the previous Parish Clerk.

3. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes: It was noted that the June 2020 Parish Meeting was cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions.

4. Approval of the Annual Governance Statement 2019-2020: The statement was read out to the meeting by the Clerk. It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by A. Everitt, that the statement be approved. All agreed.

5. Approval of the Statement of Accounts and Exemption Certificate 2019-2020: The accounts and exemption certificate figures were read out to the meeting by the Clerk. It was proposed by Margaret Griffiths, seconded by S. Rigby, that both be approved. All agreed.

6. County & District Councillor Reports: County Cllr K. Pollock had sent a report to the Clerk which will be circulated and uploaded to the website. Matters discussed included:

- Hollybush Lane closure for bridge repairs by Worcs CC from 24th Aug for 15 days.
- Flooding in the Teme Valley
- Economic recovery during Covid-19 pandemic
- 5G Worcs CC broadband connectivity project – it was agreed that the Clerk should send a letter to Cllr Pollock outlining current actions to date, concerns raised and a request for assistance. H. Rigby to send the Clerk information about actions to date.
- Development in Hope Lane / s.106 funding – it was agreed that the Clerk should send Cllr Pollock information regarding local concerns so that he can look into the matter.

7. Parish Lengthsman Scheme: The Clerk confirmed that Worcs CC has had R. Wilks confirmed as the Parish Lengthsman for Lower Sapey. The Clerk is to confirm the budget available, thought to be £1700.00 p.a.

8. Planning Matters: No applications had been received.

9. Parish Matters: The following matters were discussed –

- St Bartholomew's Church – new heaters are now in place but the ceiling needs repair as it is falling in places, which will be expensive to repair. Options are being explored to make temporary repairs and a risk assessment is being drafted re public usage. The building is currently closed to the public.
- Sewage concerns – MHDC Regulatory Services are now dealing with the matter having been contacted by the Clerk. It is not thought to be Rooftops properties.
- Hollybush Lane – the road closure notice was noted (see note 6)
- Harpley Big Breakfast will be held on 12th September at 10am at St Bartholomew's – contact C. Connolly for details.
- Speeding concerns at the junction of the Stourport Rd – the Clerk will check options with Highways to slow traffic down.

10. Date of the next meeting: The next meeting will be held on 10th December at 7.00 pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.00 pm

Michelle Alexander
Clerk