

**MINUTES OF INKBERROW PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON LINE VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 17TH
FEBRUARY 2021**

Present: Councillors Jane Neal (Chairman) Christopher Burdett, Rodger Fooks, Dinah Griffin, Anthony Hopkins, David Hunter, Richard Jordan, Robin Lunn and Mrs Audrey Steel.

In Attendance: Janet Cresswell Clerk, Robert Wilcox RFO and William Hunt Press Officer.

DEMOCRATIC 15 MINUTES PUBLIC QUESTION TIME. Residents of Sands Road were present and expressed strong objections to the planning application 21/00131/FUL regarding the floodlighting in particular.

2693. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** Cncllr Richard Jordan expressed a none pecuniary interest in planning application 21/00196 and his interest was recorded in the Declaration of Interest book.

2694. **MINUTES.** It was Agreed the minutes should be signed as a correct record.

PROGRESS REPORTS. Highways. Commencement of work on Footpath 643 continued to be pursued. A complaint had been received re the state of the grass verge in Sands Road. It was noted that the flooding in Withybed Lane had slightly improved following the cleaning of drains but the drain capacity was in question. The document regarding the traffic speed control on the A422 was supported and the PC would express their appreciation for the work involved in preparation of the document. A complaint had been received about vegetation obstructing the pavement in Stonepit Lane. The Chairman would ask the owners to remedy this. **Lengthsman.** The Lengthsman would be reminded that the pavement from The Old Bakery to the junction with Stockwood Lane was currently unsafe for pedestrians with pushchairs etc. and he would be asked to cut back the vegetation which was now narrowing the path. The Lengthsman would also be asked to cut back vegetation obscuring the view looking up Stockwood Lane from the Sands Road end. Clerk would ask that both tasks be carried out before the School recommenced after half term. The decision regarding the Lengthsman's proposed hourly rate increase would be made at the March meeting. **Neighbourhood Plan.** It was noted a new member had joined the team and a meeting was being arranged for 9th March. **Legal Document re SCI.** No progress was reported. **Refurbishment of Telephone Box.** Everything was in hand awaiting the opening of the Covid shutdown. **Dissolvement of ISLA.** It was noted that in the event of dissolvement of ISLA the Bowls Club could take control.

2695. **ALLOTMENTS.** It was reported that a pothole at the entrance required repairing and that a request had been made for one of the water housings to be moved following a minor accident. It was noted that the plot holders were happy to carry out repairs themselves and that some of the work had already been started. In regard to the pothole at the entrance to the Allotments, the PC agreed to carry out this work. It was Agreed the Parish Council would cover the cost of any materials required to enable the repairs to be carried out by the tenants within the Allotments.

2696. **POLICE REPORT.** There was no Police report. Cncllr David Hunter had been in contact with West Mercia Police at Doitwich and advised that due to staff shortage no reports would be given at the present time.

2697. **REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR.** Cncllr Anthony Hopkins reported that the chevron on the Worcester bend had been repaired and a survey carried out in regard to its efficiency. More accidents had occurred over the Christmas period. Regarding the Pinhills area of Earlscommon Road, the damage the high level of water running down this road was causing serious erosion and would be difficult and expensive to repair. It was not known when this work could be carried out. In the meantime, Cncllr Anthony Hopkins agreed to request warning notices regarding the state of this area of road be put in place. The County part of the 2021 Council Tax was expected to increase by 2.5% with £3m spent on Covid -19 related matters. Numbers of Covid-19 cases reported within the Wychavon area were reducing considerably with all primary GP's carrying out vaccine injections.

2698. **REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR.** Councillor Mrs. Audrey Steel advised that there would be no increase in the DC element of the 2021 Council Tax. Discussions continued regarding the Boundary Reviews and it was likely that 2 Councillors would be lost with rural areas not being affected. In regard to the 106 money (£1,200 inc. VAT) needing to be allocated before the end of February on cycle related projects and with the PC not wanting the cycle racks near to the Village Hall, Heather Peachey (Officer in charge at the DC of 106 payments) had agreed with the Football Club and Cncllr. Mrs Audrey Steel that cycle racks should be installed near the Sporting Club's Pavilion. The Clerk was directed to contact DC asking for an extension of time in order that other suggestions could be considered.

2699. **FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.** The RFO had circulated the report and balance sheet. It was noted that £1010 was now overdue from the County Council in regard to repayment of the Lengthsman accounts. It was Agreed the following outstanding accounts be paid: Clerk £444.06, RFO £144.94, Parfitt Services £50, Wychavon DC 30p, Zoom subscription £11.99, Lengthsman £100, Cncllr Rodger Fooks (Allotments sign) £14.84, Christmas Tree electricity £70, Information Commissioner £40.

2700. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS.** **21/00196 M. Pashby, Great Nobury Farm.** Change of use of an agricultural paddock into garden to serve the residential property of Great Nobury Farm. It was Agreed the application be recommended for approval. **20/02886/HP/LB Mr. T Harris, Basket Cottage,** Holberrow Green. Single storey ext. Relocation of stone retaining wall. It was Agreed the application be recommended for approval but attention should be given to drainage. **21/00124/FUL Mr & Ms R and J Wofford. Twynnings Meadow, Stockwood.** Change of use of a redundant agricultural outbuilding as a holiday-let. It was Agreed the application be recommended for refusal as the approach track was totally unfit for purpose. **2100169/FUL Mr. C Ward. Land at Dogbut Lane.** Erection of 6 stables, one store shed, one tack room. To be erected on a concrete base with access by a hard sanding track. Plus change if use of land to equestrian. Variation of condition 7 planning 17/0105/FUL to allow business use. Clerk to seek more information re variation. **21/00131/FUL Inkberrow Football Club.** Football & Cricket Ground, Sands Road. To install 4 floodlighting columns (2 on each side) of the football pitch and associated electrical equipment. To place two 50 seat stands to the North of the existing clubhouse, install a 1.8m green fence and footpath. It was Agreed the application be strongly recommended for refusal and ask that the application be considered by the DC full Planning Committee and that a PC Member be present and given the opportunity to speak. Reasons for recommending refusal were: Inkberrow from choice is a dark sky village with no street lighting except at a pedestrian crossing in the High Street and low cast flood lighting at the Tennis Courts. The car parking spaces included in the application are not true. A large part of the car parking belongs to the PC and is used by all other clubs in the village and numerous activities at the Village Hall. Parking already causes problems for the

residents of Sands Road who also have to deal with their drives being blocked, bad language, litter and people urinating on the grass verge on match days. The PC received a number of objections to this application from residents of Sands Road whose homes would be directly affected with the proposed flood lighting. It is considered such a proposal would be totally inappropriate for this site. The site is on the top of hill and the lighting would be seen from miles around. Members of the PC are concerned that should this application be approved, bringing more players and supporters – predominately not living in or even near the village – into Inkberrow, it will bring a great deal of stress to residents whose country village would be considerably deteriorated.

2701. **DATA PROTECTION.** Clerk and Chairman would check the PC requirements.

2702. **DRAINAGE AT THE VILLAGE HALL.** Cncllr Rodger Fooks read a letter from the ICC – it was noted that the drainage pipes were only domestic size and that flooding had been increased since the new Play Area had been opened. It was noted the PC do not own any of this area and that the ICC is a self managing trust and should the Trust fold, it goes to the benefit of the Village, not the PC. However, it was considered useful if the appropriate building regs. were obtained. Cncllr Mrs. Audrey Steel agreed to obtain the appropriate Building Control Regulations for further discussion at the next meeting.

2703. **WI REQUEST.** It was Agreed that the request for the WI to retain their 100th Year Celebrations signs for another year be approved.

2704. **AFTERNOON TEA CLUB REQUEST FOR DAFFODIL PLANTING.** It was Agreed the Afternoon Tea Club's request to plant daffodils under the trees on the Green in Chestnut Lane be approved.

2705. **FURTHER COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC.** Following a reference to the Football Club Planning Application and the proposed lighting, it was noted that the Tennis Club lighting was substantially lower than the lighting proposed by the Football Club and was not placed on the top of a hill. In reply to the parking, a Football Club representative pointed out that Stewards were always present on match days and that the Surgery had given permission for their parking area to be used on match days. A representative of the Football Club reported that the problem with the verge in Sands Road was when an urgent flooding problem had arisen. The Football Club would reinstate the verge as soon as the weather permitted.

Signed.....Date.....

