

SUCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Held on Monday 13th DECEMBER 2021 at 7.00 pm in Suckley Village Hall

Present: Cllr R Hill (Chairman), Cllr P Whatley, Cllr P Griffiths, Cllr J Green,
Cllr C Luton, Cllr L Devenish

In Attendance: Mrs D Taylor (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr A Lewis

- (a) Cllrs were reminded of the need to complete/update their Register of Interests
- (b) Declaration of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) in items on the Agenda – or -
- (c) Declaration of Other Disclosable Interests in items on the Agenda falling within the terms of para 12(4)(b) of the Code of Conduct.

No requests had been received by the Clerk for any Dispensations relating to items on the Agenda. (Sec 33 of the Localism Act 2011)

The Chairman then adjourned the Meeting for Public Question Time/Participation

No members of the public were present

100/21 SCHEME OF DELEGATION – Local Government Act 1972 (Section 101)

The Clerk had circulated a proposed scheme of delegation (as advised by Worcs Calc) to all Council members. Two areas of delegation for Council decision making were considered :-

- (a) **Decisions of the Council**
 - (i) Decisions/actions required between scheduled meetings of the Council to be delegated to the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman (and Vice-Chairman) of the Council OR via virtual advisory meetings
 - (ii) Decisions/actions taken under this delegation to be reported to Cllrs and minuted at the next Council Meeting.

However, the Clerk can still decide that an extraordinary meeting of the Council be called to deal with any urgent matter.

- (b) **Planning Delegation to the Clerk**
 - (i) The Clerk to arrange for relevant papers to be circulated to all Cllrs who should respond with their comments to the Clerk as soon as possible, so that the Council's response can be sent to MHDC's Planning Department within the prescribed consultation period.
 - (ii) Comments made under delegation to be reported to Cllrs and minuted at the next Council Meeting.

However, the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman may decide that an extraordinary meeting (i.e. Planning Meeting) of the Council be called to consider the matter – or - that the matter be referred to the next Council Meeting, whichever is appropriate.

The Council Resolved to adopt the above two areas of Delegation. Proposed by Cllr P Whatley and seconded by Cllr C Luton, and given an unanimous vote of approval by all Cllrs present.

101/21 PURCHASE OF VAS CAMERA

The Clerk had circulated to all Cllrs the quotation she had received from Stocksigns for a Smiley (Battery Operated) Speed Indicator Device. This was identical to the VAS being purchased by Alfrick & Lulsley. The total price (inc VAT) was **£3,249.00**, but the Council could claim back the VAT of £541.50 giving a net price of £2,707.50. The Council Resolved to purchase this VAS at the sum quoted. Proposed by Cllr L Devenish and seconded by Cllr J Green. The Clerk to contact Co Cllr K Hanks who had agreed to fund the purchase of this camera for Suckley. Cllr Richard Ashton from Alfrick & Lulsley had very kindly agreed to continue with providing stats and analysis for Suckley from the new camera. After some discussion, the Council agreed that the best solution to the use of the old VAS camera would be to keep it permanently sited opposite the Nelson as a speed reminder/warning, (subject to the agreement of Alfrick & Lulsley PC) but no stats to be collected from it.

102/21 FINANCE

The following cheques were approved for payment - proposed by Cllr P Whatley and seconded by Cllr C Luton :-

- (a) **Playing Field** P Nightingale – Suckley Playing Field mowing & maintenance – June to Oct 2020 and June to Oct 2021 - £235.00; D J R Services (D J Reynolds) – Topping Playing Field - £105.00
- (b) **Accounts to 30th November 2021** – were approved. (These included amended expenditure headings). Proposed by Cllr P Griffiths and seconded by Cllr J Green

103/21 CLERK'S SALARY

The Council considered the review of the Clerk's Salary for 2022/23, in accordance with her Contract of Employment, and Resolved that the Clerk be upgraded to SCP 27 on the LC2 scale. This would equate to an annual gross salary of £8,470.80 (a gross increase of 46p per hour). Proposed by Cllr P Whatley and seconded by Cllr L Devenish. The Council voiced their appreciation of the all the work done by the Clerk for the Council.

104/21 PRECEPT 2022/23

The Clerk together with the Chairman had produced a spreadsheet forecast up to 2025/26, keeping the Precept at the current level of £14,309 up to that date. This assumed a range of percentage increases between 3 – 5% over the next 4/5 years, but gave a framework for the Council to work with. After some discussion, the Council Resolved that the precept for 2022/23 be kept to £14,309 (i.e. no increase). Proposed by Cllr P Griffiths and seconded by Cllr L Devenish. The Clerk to inform MHDC.