

## **Kimbleworth and Plawsworth Parish Council**

Minutes of a meeting of the Kimbleworth and Plawsworth Parish Council held remotely via Skype, on Thursday, 14 May 2020 @ 7:00pm.

**Present:** Councillors – Cole, Craig, Jackson (in part), Kendall, and Rippon; and County Councillor Wilson.

**Also in attendance** – John Kelly (Parish Clerk).

**1. Welcome:**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Apologies for Absence:**

Cllr Hilland, Cllr Walker (Lillian), Cllr Walker (Lisa) and PCSO Luke Payne offered written apologies.

**Resolved:** *Apologies were approved by the Council.*

**3. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:**

Cllr Craig declared an interest in item 6(c).

**4. Minutes of Council meeting – 09 April 2020:**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 09 April 2020 were approved as a true record by the Council.

**5. Police Report:**

No PCSOs were in attendance. PCSO Payne asked that the most recent PACT report for April and the Chester-le-Street Newsletter (May edition) be read out (acting as his update). PCSO Payne also provided a brief update on matters relating to increased fly tipping at Plawsworth; an increased police presence at Changing Lives due to an increase in incidents; and quad bikes in the area. Cllr Cole read key points from the update – all councillors advised they had read the PACT report and newsletter.

## **6. Parish Matters and on-going items:**

[Councillor Jackson joined the meeting.]

### **a) County Councillors Report**

Councillor Wilson advised he would speak to DCC Highways again regarding the multi-use paths on the A167 (that have no streetlights). DCC have assessed there is no cause for concern on the unlit stretch of A167 and lights will not be added along the road, at this moment in time. It was suggested that the road is not the only concern for risk but also the path itself (eg between cyclists and walkers). Councillor Wilson stated he has previously had calls to move the crossing at the Red Lion rejected. However, he will investigate the detail of this (the rejection) and whether further sites can be explored for speed vans on the A167. He will also contact DCC again regarding Ugly Lane, which is not adopted but maintained as a public footpath. DCC had advised in late March that they would inspect the lane when it was safe to do so (when Coronavirus restrictions were relaxed) and that time may be now. Councillor Wilson was pleased that all fly tipping near to the allotments at Woodland Terrace had been collected by DCC. In his final update, he advised he is happy to assist with this months' agenda item 6(h) by enquiring on the feasibility on the project with both Assets and the Clean and Green Team at DCC. He stressed that the Parish Council will need to be clear with a plan of what they would like to do with the historic feature (water trough). It was suggested that a future bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund may be suitable to assist with any finance required.

**Resolved:** *Councillor Wilson will update on all reported issues at the next meeting.*

[Councillor Wilson left the meeting.]

### **b) Community Centre Report**

Cllr Kendall advised the centre remains closed except for the production of hot meals on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the Food for Thought project. No further update available.

**Resolved:** *Nothing to resolve.*

### **c) Planning Applications**

Application reference DM/20/00954/TCA was discussed – tree works on Wheatleywell Lane.

**Resolved:** *Durham County Council subsequently approved this application and no comments were offered by the Parish Council.*

### **d) Allotments**

The Clerk advised the working group will meet virtually (due to the Coronavirus) on Thu 21<sup>st</sup> May and Thu 28<sup>th</sup> May, to review the tenancy agreement and discuss future inspections.

**Resolved:** *Council to note update.*

### **e) Highways and road signage**

There will be a part road closure in the parish at Wheatleywell Lane and Prospect Terrace, Plawsworth (lights in place) for ten days from 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020. There will be no vehicular access to Prospect Terrace.

**Resolved:** *Clerk to request further information from County Councillors on which residents should be consulted on road closures and on which aspects; and then update the Council on the response.*

#### **f) AGAR update**

The Clerk gave an update on the end of years' (2019-20) finance and advised on the bank balance, any ringfenced money and reserves. The internal auditor will be assessing finance and governance in the coming weeks.

**Resolved:** *The Clerk will pass all relevant paperwork to the auditor this week. The Council will then look to approve the end of year accounts and AGAR for 2019-20 at June's meeting.*

#### **g) Coronavirus support**

The Clerk gave an update on the Food for Thought project including the hot meals provision at Nettlesworth Community Centre. Statistics and costings were provided to the Clerk just before the meeting began, which meant the Council did not have time to consider this item prior to the meeting. Therefore, the item (to discuss a donation) was deferred to the following meeting.

**Resolved:** *Deferred to June meeting.*

#### **h) Spring/ water trough at the roadside, Nettlesworth entrance (west)**

The feature on Sacriston Road dates to at least the 1800s, as found on historic maps. There have been some early indications of volunteers including two chartered engineers.

**Resolved:** *The Council agreed to support this project and provide resource to create a landmark of this feature, subject to finance and a feasibility study (which can be brought to a future meeting).*

#### **i) Grant Applications**

- No applications.

**Resolved:** *Nothing to resolve.*

#### **j) Training**

- No update.

**Resolved:** *Nothing to resolve.*

#### **k) Correspondence**

- Allotment fencing query from resident – items of old fencing from one plot are protruding onto resident's boundary and are unsightly. These items have gathered over some time.

**Resolved:** *Correspondence noted; to be discussed in detail at the Allotment Working Group in May, and decision to be added to June agenda.*

### **7. Financial Matters:**

#### **a) Payments**

**Resolved:** *The following payments were agreed (and invoices will be signed by the Chair at the next meeting held in person):*

- (1) The sum of £305.09 be paid to J Kelly (Clerk service, 1<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> April, 34 hours)

(2) The sum of £7.98 be paid to J Kelly (noticeboard magnets and HP ink)

## **b) Receipts**

**Resolved:** *The following receipts were noted and will be signed by the Chair at the next meeting in person:*

- PAYE (to HMRC) April hours, May submission (£76.40)
- Printer subscription with HP - see item 7(a)2. above (£5.49)
- Noticeboard magnets - see item 7(a)2. above (£2.49)

## **c) Bank statements and direct debits**

**Resolved:**

Statements checked and signed by the Chair:

- February 2020 – received at April meeting and since signed by the Chair
- March 2020 - received at this meeting and since signed by the Chair
- April 2020 – statement unavailable – to be deferred to next meeting.

Direct debits (and standing orders) checked by the Chair:

- Information Commissioners Office – checked on February statement and since signed by the Chair
- Anglian Water – checked on March statement and since signed by the Chair
- HMRC (quarter 3 and quarter 4 payment plus August deficit) – checked on March statement and since signed by the Chair
- HMRC (April payment) – checked on March statement (paid 1<sup>st</sup> April) and since signed by the Chair

## **8. Date of Next Meeting**

11 June 2020 to commence at 7.00pm.

*The meeting terminated at 8.32pm.*

**Chairman**

**Date**