

Bucknell Parish Council Meeting

Via Microsoft Teams

13 July 2020

MINUTES

Present at the meeting

Cllr Andy Parsons (AP), Cllr Chris Wells (CW), Cllr Alexander Bowden (AB), Cllr Neil Wainman (NW), Cllr Derek Hedges (DH)

In attendance

Sue Mackrell (clerk)

Cllr Ian Corkin (CDC)

Cllr Lawrie Stratford (OCC)

John Kightley – member of the public

1. **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Order 3.1 to enable meeting to be held remotely via Microsoft Teams due to the Covid 19 pandemic lockdown measures in place.
2. **RESOLVED** to note that there were apologies from Cllr Peck and Cllr Messenger.
3. **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the previous meeting
4. Matters arising not covered on elsewhere on agenda:
 1. Emergency Plan – SM cannot find a copy of the EP. Cllr Wainman has a hard copy which she will pick up for next meeting's agenda.
 2. Dorchester Master Plan – NW been unable to forward a response. Cllr Corkin will update later in meeting. **ACTION NW**
 3. School transport issues still pending. LS will pick up and talk to transport officers re safety of children attending school by bus with social distancing measures and/or arrangements to make the Bicester Road safer for children to cycle to school. **ACTION LS**
 4. AP will meet with Paul Wilson and DH to discuss quality of road repairs on Bainton Road. **ACTION AP and DH**
 5. New posts are in position for signs on B4100. Signs to follow.
- AP has written to Victoria Prentis regarding Jasper von Thor's presentation on Ardley EFW site. No response as yet.
5. **RESOLVED** to note the report delivered by Cllr Corkin.
 - Viridor Liaison meeting – still waiting to hear that Viridor have received the report from Environment Agency. When received, a virtual meeting will be convened.
 - Dorchester Master Plan - This is in for consideration at the moment. It impacts several surrounding parishes, especially Middleton Stoney and Ardley. Bucknell will be affected but to a lesser degree. There is a gap in the traffic assessment of the masterplan which doesn't seem to include impact from the growth of Bicester itself and so officers and planners not yet satisfied with the plan. Won't go to committee until at least August.

There should still be some S106 monies for Bucknell from the NW Bicester Plan for traffic calming.

- Reorganisation - Local Government reorganisation is back on central Government's agenda. A White Paper – Recovery and Devolution – to be announced soon. Locally, there has been a joint letter sent to the Local Government Minister from all the local leaders who are looking to engage positively. The pandemic has left local government finances in a very sorry state and it is recognised that some drastic measures need to be taken to recover.

RESOLVED to note the report delivered by Cllr Stratford:

- Regarding the reorganisation of local government, the pandemic has focussed attention on how to spend resident's money and the joint letter from the leaders recognise that multiple layers are not the way forward or in anyone's best interests.
- LS, as lead for Public Health, has been concentrating on pandemic issues, working with the NHS, District and City Councils, communities and care homes. Originally £1m was budgeted for PPE, which quickly increased to £2m and more. Testing residents and staff at care homes has increased. It will be a very difficult task to balance the budgets this year, with massive increases in spending and reductions in income.
- Active Oxfordshire – encouraging cycling and walking. OCC bid for £600,000 to improve cycling and walking ways. Only awarded £300,000 but still committed to deliver the original brief priced at £600,000.

6. Landscaping Issues:

- a) Bus shelter – This has been driven by Sheila Wallington. The painting has been done by Barry, and local children have added designs to the bench depicting experiences of lockdown. It is looking very good. BPC wishes to formally thank Barry and will write to him accordingly. **ACTION SM**
It took more paint than originally anticipated and so it was **RESOLVED** to recompense Barry for the cost of paint from receipts to be provided.
- b) Bench – John Kightley had been asked by Sheila Wallington to provide a plan for the installation of a replacement bench originally inspired by the 75th Anniversary of VE Day since the planned celebrations could not take place because of lockdown.
Sheila has already purchased a bench at a cost of £200.
Price of installation awaited from Richard Powell.
This has all been done with the best of intentions although not in accordance with Parish Council regulations. Under the circumstances and in the spirit of community support it was **RESOLVED** to recompense Mrs Wallington for the full cost of the bench and to write formally to her to thank her for her work. **ACTION AP**
It was further **RESOLVED** not to pursue the purchase of a soldier silhouette for the bench since it was not intended to be type of war memorial, (which is already at the rear of the church) but a recognition of the 75th Anniversary of VE day. A plaque with suitable wording will be purchased and put onto the bench. **ACTION AP**

The siting of the bench might cause issues since it is land owned by Sanctuary Housing. They have given their permission but it is not clear if the bench would be considered their property or if there would be issues regarding maintenance. It was **RESOLVED** to write to Sanctuary to see if they would agree to a lease or licence arrangement for the land, with the rental amount being given straight to the Royal British Legion. **ACTION AP**

Further quotes for the fixing of the bench will be sought using the plan that Mr Kightley produced, with his kind permission. A contractor can be selected by email around all councillors. **ACTION AB**

- c) Other landscaping issues – Dave has rotivated, seeded and planted the area around the bus shelter and will look very pretty once established. BPC wishes to thank everyone involved.

7. Standing agenda items:

- o Thames water and village flood water. AB still waiting for response from Thames Water and will chase this week. **ACTION AB**
- o Ardley Incinerator – Cllr Parsons has written to Victoria Prentis and is awaiting a reply. Recommends that Jasper von Thor’s presentation is cut down before delivering to Victoria Prentis. Need to chase Cllr Corkin for a date for next meeting of liaison group.
- o Traffic Calming. Nothing further. Cllr Parsons to meet with Paul Wilson re road repairs and speed indicator. **ACTION AP**
- o Trigger Pond parking. Pub now starting to reopen. Need to keep a watching brief on the situation.

8. Planning: no applications received.

Responses to planning applications 20/01423/F and 20/01470/F submitted between meetings.

9. Finance:

- a. **RESOLVED** to note no payments made between meetings.
- b. **RESOLVED** approve the following cheque payments:
 - i) Mrs S Mackrell £326.56 clerk salary x 2 months
 - ii) Microshade Business Consultant £60.00 internal audit
 - iii) Mr C Wells £95.84 website hosting
 - iv) Bucknell Village Hall £42.80 broadband connection
 - v) Mrs S Wallington £200.00 bench (awaiting proof of purchase)
- c. **RESOLVED** to note bank balances as at 24.06.20
 - i) Community acc £17,411.24
 - ii) Savings acc £1,334.00

10. **RESOLVED** to note OALC update.

AOB – Cllr Bowden offered thanks on behalf of PCC for the contribution to the churchyard maintenance.

Declarations of interest, omitted from agenda in error: Cllr Bowden as neighbour of Trigger Pond.

RESOLVED to use Microsoft Teams to lodge all parish council records including emails. Cllr Wells and SM to organise.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING MONDAY SEPTEMBER 14 2020