

Bucknell Parish Council Meeting

Via Microsoft Teams

14 Sept 2020

MINUTES

Present at the meeting

Cllr Andy Parsons (AP), Cllr Chris Wells (CW), Cllr Neil Wainman (NW), Cllr Derek Hedges (DH), Cllr Stephen Messenger (SM), Cllr Alexander Bowden (AB) (Joined at 20:20)

In attendance

Sue Mackrell (clerk)

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, Cllr Stratford and Cllr Corkin.
3. **RESOLVED** to note declarations of interest from Cllr Bowden as a neighbour of the Trigger Pond and Stan's Land.
4. **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the previous meeting
5. Matters arising not covered on elsewhere on agenda:
 1. Dorchester Master Plan – NW still working on a response. Cllr Corkin will update later in meeting. **ACTION NW**
 2. School transport issues still pending. To go back to LS for follow up. Now children back at school the situation is even more acute with potential road safety issues in Bicester schools. CW will draft an email to be sent to LS by AP. **ACTION CW/AP**
 3. AP has not yet met with Paul Wilson and DH to discuss quality of road repairs on Bainton Road. **ACTION AP/DH**
 4. Bench – AP has written to Mrs Wallington thanking her for her hard work and explaining the Parish Council's restrictions in terms of financial outlay. £200 cheque to be approved at this meeting and forwarded to her to reimburse her for the bench.
6. **RESOLVED** to note the report sent via email by Cllr Corkin:
 - I have chased Viridor again re a virtual liaison meeting. If they do not respond this time I will escalate. David Periam is now back at OCC, which I think will be helpful in terms of continuity
 - Dorchester's masterplan will go to committee in October. You are aware from my email last week that a £25k contribution has now been secured for Bucknell, to top up any contributions that may come from NW Bicester development. The plans remain unchanged for B430 junction and all parishes have now objected to the Middleton Stoney bus gate.
 - Comet bus service remains suspended for the moment.
 - CDC in year savings, needed to cover the C19 related spending not (yet?) covered by HMG were approved last week. They are relatively modest, but

the challenge for FY21/22 is very considerable and that work is now underway.

- There is still a very credible threat from a C19 resurgence, especially as we go into the autumn/winter.

RESOLVED to note the report sent via email by Cllr Stratford:

- ***Covid-19 Update.***

Locally cases are rising again, mostly in the 18 – 30 aged group, and we are concerned as students return to universities, particularly those new starters, ‘fresher week’.

The issue of ‘testing’ continues to give some concern. Availability to test close to home is a significant challenge, added to people seeking a test when they do not have symptoms. Also, there is a national problem with laboratories being able to handle the volume.

We have weekly engagement calls with our care providers, including care homes, to do what we can help keep people safe.

We are concerned about a ‘second wave’ and the new rules, 6 persons gathering etc. should help.

- ***OCC Revised Budget***

Given the authority must end the financial year with a balanced budget it has been necessary to carry out an in-depth review of our current spend etc.

Whilst in the early days we were assured by central gov. that we would be ‘re-imbursed’ with all Covid-19 costs, and have been assured of approx. £30million, we are still anticipating a shortfall of approx. £15million. We are looking to make changes now giving us time to minimise impact as best we can. In some areas we have made saving because we weren’t able to deliver services due to Cov-19, however other services may have to be delayed.

- ***N W Bicester development***

We have been given a very high-level schedule to deliver the necessary ‘tunnels under the railway as part of the growth of the ‘eco-town’.

Some preparation work is due to start this autumn, with the major work, where the rail service will have to cease is scheduled for Spring 2023.

Note there are to be two ‘tunnels’, one for vehicles and one for pedestrians and cyclists.

COMMENTS : SM to find out about the S106 contribution for traffic calming mentioned by Cllr Corkin in terms of how much other villages are allocated. **ACTION SM**

7. Landscaping Issues:

- a) Bus shelter – Nothing more to action. Item can now be taken off the standing agenda items.

- b) Bench –AP to write to Sanctuary Housing to request permission to site the bench on their land. **ACTION AP**
 AB to obtain quotes for the installation of the bench and bring back to next meeting. **ACTION AB**
- c) No other landscaping issues

7. Standing agenda items:

- a) Thames water and village flood water. AB still waiting for response from Thames Water and will chase this week. **ACTION AB**
 There is still no answer with regard to amounts of leachate in the sewers. There are reports that the sewers in Bicester are not working properly...could this be having a knock on effect on Bucknell?
- b) Ardley Incinerator – There has now been communication between Jasper von Thor and Victoria Prentis. **RESOLVED** to liaise with JVT to produce a more succinct and powerful document for presentation to VP and for her to take up with the Environment Agency. AP will contact JVT and arrange to produce something that can be supported by the Parish Council. **ACTION AP**
 Liaison meetings - Need to keep applying pressure in order to get these meetings going again. NW will contact IC directly. **ACTION NW**
- c) Traffic Calming. Nothing further. Cllr Parsons to meet with Paul Wilson re road repairs and speed indicator. **ACTION AP**
 SM to enquire as to how Wendlebury and Chesterton managed to get a 20mph approval from Thames Valley Police. **ACTION SM**
- d) Trigger Pond parking. Pub now starting to reopen. Problems gradually reappearing. Now that New Row has been resurfaced, there is a possibility of revisiting the lining of the road with white or yellow lines. AP to talk to Paul Wilson about road markings. **ACTION AP**
 Stan’s Land – tree cutting has taken place. AP to write to brewery again to see if they are intending to buy it **ACTION AP**

8. Planning: a) 20/02232/F 14 Middleton Road. Extension of garage. **RESOLVED** that there is no objection in principle but BPC would wish to see any works carried out to be sympathetic in style and finish to the surrounding buildings. NW to draft a response for SM to send to CDC. **ACTION NW/SM**

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) Mrs S Wallington £200.00 bench
- c. **RESOLVED** to note bank balances as at 24.08.20
 - i) Community acc £16,318.34
 - ii) Savings acc £1,334.00

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

AOB –

- DH reports that repairs and maintenance has been carried out to the village notice board and asks that BPC contributes to the costs. **RESOLVED** to agree in principle subject to amounts being confirmed.
- SM reported that OALC had sent out a communication regarding the holding of meetings in person. OALC's recommendation is not to meet in person but to continue to hold virtual meetings.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING MONDAY NOVEMBER 9 2020