

Filkins and Broughton Poggs Parish Council

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the Parish Council on 9th December 2020 at
7.30 pm

	<p><u>Present</u> Cllr Irwin-Singer, Cllr Robbins, Cllr Jones, Cllr Ford, Cllr N Walsh, Cllr Tridgell Members of the Public: None</p>	
	Clerk reminded all present of the protocol for virtual meetings.	
58/21	None	
59/21	Adjournment for public None	
60/21	Apologies for Absence: 60.1 Cllr S Coul	
61/21	Declaration of Personal, Prejudicial and Pecuniary Interests 61.1 None	
62/21	Minutes 62.1 Minutes of the meeting 4 th November were accepted by a show of hands and signed. It was confirmed that the minutes were signed. 62.2 Matters arising: None	
63/21	<p>Planning, Cemetery & Highways:</p> <p>63.1.1 20/03242/FUL – Lane End House - Application has been received by WODC, 24.11.20, but as yet has not been circulated.</p> <p>63.1.2 20/02096/FUL & 20/02097/LBC Fox House – approved</p> <p>63.1.3 20/02517/FUL – Oxleaze Farm – awaiting decision.</p> <p>63.1.4 20/02903/LBC & 20/02902/HHD – The Old Bull – awaiting decision</p> <p>63.1.5 20/03334/S73 – Vine Cottage – awaiting decision</p> <p>63.2 Cemetery- Gravel path & trees – Cllr Jones reported he had received one quote and has someone else looking on Friday. First quote was £1900. Awaiting 2nd quote.</p>	
64/21	<p>Village Matters:</p> <p>64.1 CLP update – Had email exchange with new Chairman, all of the committee have been contacted by T Smallbone and spoken to at length, Cllr Tridgell will meet with her in the new year for a handover and meetings will start via Zoom. 2 committee members do not Zoom but they will find a way around this. A single draft document has been constructed including talks with the committee members. This will be circulated to them and they will split into pairs to work on a subject each – they will then move to public consultation.</p> <p>64.2 Telephone Box – It was highlighted that we are still holding Village of the Year Funds which we can use for village projects. It is proposed that we could use some of this money for the telephone box. 4 companies have been contacted – one has come back with a quote, the other asked for photographs and no response. The other two have not replied. The quote received is to take it away, refurbish and deliver back. £4.5k plus £1k for transport but he is not able to do the works until October 2021 for delivery back in mid-November 2021. K6 parts for all items replaced would be £2k- if all needed to be replaced.</p> <p>The two groups who are interested using the phone box for were contacted for more details regarding their plans and R Martin responded on behalf of the Book Club suggesting working with PC and he saw costs as £750 for sand blasting, £500 on parts, money to be fundraised for any extra items above the amount the PC will pay, and he will reply on volunteer labour. It will not be sure what parts we will require to replace the glazing until they are removed as to the condition of the frames. The inside of the</p>	

Signed:

Date:

door is wooden and the concrete floor can remain. Cllr Jones sand blasting price is fine. He expressed the view that it has been tatty for 20+ years and whilst we would like to improve this if we consider other projects in the village that we need to do the box might be seen as low priority- but we have now purchased it and we either hand it over for a community project and provide a budget or we see to it ourselves, so we put it into a better state. The paint is peeling so needs sanding down and there does not seem the need to go too far with it. The proposal from R Martin is generous and well presented and it is a positive suggestion. How long will it take if relying on volunteers and fundraising. It is also designed around being a book library. We cannot sit and do nothing we can do the minimum now – just repainting and replacing the glass. If we start down the line of a community project the concern is that the price could escalate and there would be no time limit – in a few months, we could be looking at a much larger bill. The alternative is that we make it neat and tidy – there is no reason why we cannot leave it empty, as – for instance Langford have done. It was also suggested in the current Covid situation keeping/handling/exchanging books in there would not be a good idea. Cllr Jones proposed we make the box neat and tidy, with books not in there until later in 2021. This was agreed. The monies for paint, glass etc will come from the Village of Year money. Paint kit £119, glazing approx. £80 if no more is broken. It was agreed we will provide an initial budget of £500 to make it wind and watertight and re glaze where necessary. When this is done, we will decide on its further use. Agreed by all. This will be started when the weather turns in the Spring.

64.3 Pyrus Trees outside Bulls Close – OCC own these trees and land. Ed Whorwood has reported back and he refuses to remove them. They will top them and reduce them radially for 2m to 1 m in mid-late January. This will be re-assessed in the summer. It is against OCC policy to remove trees. I asked about damage to cars and accidents- he says OCC will deal with them. He will not even take them away if we replace them with something else. Clerk will let interested parties know.

64.4 The Gassons Grass cutting – Cottsway own the land and after many emails they are now contacting their Grounds Maintenance Contractor and the Service Charge Manager and would let us know if they are able to cut the grass at least 3 times a year starting April/May. We are awaiting a response. We have still budgeted for cutting this grass as a contingency.

64.5 Grass cutting Grant – Cllr Jones and Robbins marked the map with the areas the Groundsman cuts and this has been overlayed on the OCC map. Virtually all the grass is already cut by us, this has been agreed with Cllr Jones. The grant is all or nothing - £1073. The groundsman will be provide with the updated map in March when he starts back so he knows what he is responsible for. OCC have been informed we cannot do the splays on the A361 and they will continue doing these. The grant will more than cover any extra hours the groundsman needs. Contract to be sent to Cllr Irwin-Singer to look over.

64.6 Transport Working Party - Some recent communications through concerning transport. There is a new speeding task force being established across the County and will support community groups going forward. There is also an established group which has become more active – 20's plenty – they look at where to put maximum speed limits. With the departure of Julian Alder and Paul Floyd who led the group previously from the village, Rachel and Lee Avery have confirmed that they are happy to get this going again Cllr Ford will have a meeting with them and become more involved and see if these are relevant to the village. See if anyone else wants to be involved. Cllr Tridgell asked if they could not only focus on the Burford end of the village is also remarkably busy with little signage. Cllr Tridgell will ask if anyone up that end wants to get involved. Cllr Irwin-Singer raised that he had been approached by the Ashforth-Smith's concerning the "Filkins" sign at that end of the village which still has not been replaced. We will investigate this. Cllr Jones asked about the white gates being erected in surrounding

	<p>villages – Grafton, Langford, Little Faringdon have all been done. Usually down to the village, as with Kencot – Cllr Jones will investigate.</p> <p>64.7 Villager Bus Service – Information was put on the website when it closed again. This will not be re-instated while we are in Tier 2.</p>	
65/21	<p>External Liaison:</p> <p>65.1 RAF Liaison Meeting- Very busy during Covid minutes will be made available when published. There have been some issues of flooding in Black Bourton and Clanfield. One area raised there was a reduction of training exercises operating overhead – this was because when they took off, they went to commercial airports that were shut. These will resume here in 2021 but there will be no increase. If we notify of any events they will try and accommodate us by not overflying the village at those times. More personnel are choosing to reside outside of RAF Housing which means there are more staff commuting. MOD has decided their staff are more flexible and will support home working in the future. B4477 was upgraded to a priority route for gritting so this should always be done more often than other routes.</p> <p>65.2 We have a new leader for WODC, and Cllr Ford will contact her to introduce herself as she has with Cllr Coul and Cllr Handley.</p>	
66/21	<p>Finance:</p> <p>66.1 Clerk has circulated the cheque list for 15th November to 2nd December and this has also been posted on the website. Clerk went through the list of expenses which included antivirus software for the laptop Clerk’s and groundsman’s wages and OALC Training. Current account balance £16954.69, deposit account £45,178.75 less uncashed cheques and allocated cash leaves a surplus of £30,416.56 so far. Village Centre account only one payment to SSE for electricity- COIF account £1383.06, current account £21,752.09 showing a surplus so far of £13,326.15. Now Hayes Palmer grant cheque has cleared payment will be given over to St Filica Society.</p> <p>66.2 Precept figures final draft – sheet was circulated and is also online. We do need to ensure we have some surplus – but we could act differently in future and instead of adding to the surplus we could ring fence the value of the precept as our surplus and then make anything over that available to spend. This would mean we can continue with the process of updating the streetlights and making them more economical for us to upkeep. This was agreed with any money surplus from the precept. Cllr Irwin-Singer emphasized we need to consider what funds we can use or allocate monies for the upkeep of the village centre. £700 has been received in donations towards the streetlights in Hazells Lane.</p> <p>Referring to budget figures 2021-22 – suggested precept is £18500. VAT refund has been increased to deal with the works at the Village Centre where we are using our own money. Grass cutting grant of £1073 has also been included. £600 has been added to expenditure for additional Groundsman work after his contracted time ends. Village expense item has been split for clarity. £1600 added for cemetery project- this should be enough. £200 added for grass cutting at The Gassons if we take over and CLP £500 as things will be moving forward. This does show a surplus, but this is reliant on the VAT refund if the works for the Village Centre are submitted before the end of the year. Given this uncertainty it is the right way to approach it this year and look to no increase for 2022/23. Clerk is also investigating reclaiming VAT on donations. All agreed the precept would be £18500 for 2021/22 as we are planning on spending money in the</p>	

	<p>village. We should also include a “value for money statement” in the precept report. Precept mostly spent on regular expenditure. Section 5.1/5.2 will be re-written to include external auditors’ expectation that 1 years precept is kept in reserve.</p> <p>66.3 Clerk asked if she could attend a course on 23rd February the value being £50 split with Alvescot. Agreed.</p>	
67/21	<p>Matters relating to Parish Council & Village Centre Trust properties:</p> <p>67.1 Museum shed update- Cllrs Irwin-Singer and Robbins met in the flat garden . Several questions were asked specifically if they require power which they do. Cllr Irwin-Singer asked the museum to think about all the alternative sites before we go down this route. This is a very expensive project and we asked them to fully explore ECT, Methodist Chapel. However, they are keen to go ahead. Cllr Irwin-Singer will go back and give them parameters for them to tailor their proposal to us. If it is built on our land it will become our shed the piece of ground at the back is 17mx16m. The land is very untidy and being used as somewhat of a dumping ground, so it does need to be tidied. It will be a couple of months before we have a clearer view of whether it will go ahead. Other issues raised concerned the need to consider the constant upkeep over a long number of years ahead. Cllr Tridgell asked if the shed is our we cannot afford to put our money into something someone else needs. All we would do is insure it we would not be responsible for any upkeep. It will cost us nothing, the museum will pay for planning.</p> <p>67.2 Post Office update- Cllr Ford is continuing negotiations – the latest is there is now no-one to take over and no mobile service with capacity to come. That may change and they will update as it does. The only way now is a Community Band Contract be taken on. The process would be the same as an individual – Cllr Ford has spoken to the Village Shop, but they are not interested in taking on such a contract. They would be interested in some additional services if practical. Parcel drop and pay zone are all third party services as is to Royal Mail parcel delivery so they may pursue them. If they do, we have told them we will support them in any way we can. We have now exhausted all the Post Office Contract avenues. We now must go back to them and ask them to remove their equipment, alarm and safe with them. Is the post office big enough for the museum- no probably not. We will discuss later, what we, as Trustees, want to do with the area.</p> <p>67.3 WODC Grant application which Charlie Payne submitted has been successful. We must send details of partnership funding, invoices and then they release the grant. Cllr Robbins will be managing the project. We also have two other possibilities of funding. Clerk to write to him with our thanks to him for raising a significant amount of money.</p>	
68/21	<p>Next Meeting will be held on 11th January 2021. Then every 2nd Wednesday of the month.</p>	