

## Filkins and Broughton Poggs Parish Council

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the Parish Council on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at  
7.30 pm

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|       | <p><u>Present</u><br/>Cllr Irwin-Singer, Cllr Robbins, Cllr Ford, Cllr N Walsh, Cllr Jones<br/>Members of the Public: Cllr S Coul, Robin Higham, Alan Heath</p>   |  |
|       | Clerk reminded all present of the protocol for virtual meetings.  |  |
| 79/21 | <p>County &amp; District Councillors Report:<br/>Cllr Coul apologised for not attending the last meeting. Two main projects at WODC – Budget- WODC finances after COVID-19 are not as good as they were but they are in a good position where they can deliver a balanced budget with no increases. Elections- WODC are having elections and the logistics are challenging with people sitting in Polling Stations. Filkins will also hold PC Election. Covid lockdown- still supporting shielding residents and those who have lost jobs. Planning some quite robust conversations after recent dealings. Lane End House will be going to Committee for a decision.<br/>Thank you for your support and ongoing issues is much appreciated. The proper process must be followed when alterations are done. Cllr Coul left the meeting.</p>  |  |
| 80/21 | <p>Adjournment for public<br/>80.1 A Heath was attending for the Village Shop taking on the old Post Office rooms. They are in desperate need as they do not have a lot of room for the vegetable orders and is indispensable. They would also like to increase their range of goods and would like confirmation, if possible, they can have the rooms on a permanent basis as they would like to make some alterations which will involve spending some money.</p>   |  |
| 81/21 | <p>Apologies for Absence:<br/>81.1 Cllr Tridgell</p>  |  |
| 82/21 | <p>Declaration of Personal, Prejudicial and Pecuniary Interests<br/>82.1 None</p>   |  |
| 83/21 | <p>Minutes<br/>83.1 Minutes of the meeting 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 were accepted by a show of hands and signed. It was confirmed that the minutes were signed.<br/>83.2 Matters arising: ECT will pollard willows at environment pond on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021.</p>   |  |
| 84/21 | <p>Planning, Cemetery &amp; Highways:<br/>84.1.1 20/03242/FUL – Lane End House. Our letter of objections has been received by James Nelson. We have also commented on the planting scheme which was submitted late as there was not enough detail in the first application. There were no details on what was going to be planted. Fruit trees will be fine in leaf but not when they drop their leaves. James Nelson has confirmed in writing it will go to Committee and Cllr Coul has been thanked. It is too late for February so may go to March Planning Meeting. Robin Higham entered the meeting.<br/>84.1.2 20/02517/FUL – Oxleaze Farm – approved<br/>84.1.3 20/02903/LBC &amp; 20/02902/HHD – The Old Bull – approved<br/>84.2 Cemetery- Gravel path &amp; trees – Cllr Jones reported he has received one quote although 3 people have come to look at the works. One person has come back and said it is too much work. 4<sup>th</sup> company came out on Friday and says he will quote by the middle of the week .Work to include trim trees so path is clear; lift path out and cut down tree roots; lay hardcore, gravel board and gravel down to sundial; cut trees back on left hand side outside as overlapping the graves so trim these back. Probably 3-4 days work involved. Quote from Parkfield tree Care is £3100 + VAT. 2<sup>nd</sup> quote is approx. £2700 + VAT. £1600 is in Budget but was put forward that we allocate using the Village</p> |  |

Signed:

Date:

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|       | <p>of the Year monies towards this as it is a Community Project. Should have all quotes for March meeting – we can then look at the finance. Cllr Irwin Singer commented that this shows another example of all the financial demands placed upon the Parish Council and expenditure that comes with all the assets we are responsible for – we will have to do this a long time since we spent any money on the Cemetery. We need to ensure we budget for projects in the future. We ought to be taking greater care of the Cemetery. It does justify the increase in Precept when residents can see projects being carried out. Recently we have done Vale Wood, Hardcastles Field, War Memorial, Street Lighting rolling plan and we are undertaking Village Centre, telephone box and the Cemetery.</p>  |  |
| 85/21 | <p>Village Matters:</p> <p>85.1 CLP update – Cllr Tridgell will report at next meeting – she will be working on this next week. Teresa Smallbone, CLP Chair, has reported there are many discussions taking place but she would welcome a direction from Cllr Tridgell on the parameters and expectations on reporting between CLP and PC. If Cllr Tridgell is unavailable for a period, due to other commitments, another Councillor should deputise.</p> <p>85.2 The Gassons Grass cutting – Clerk is still awaiting a response from Cottesway after several emails. This should start in March so we are hopeful for a response. Cllr Jones reported the man giving the quote for the Cemetery next week will also quote for The Gassons grass as well so we have a price.</p> <p>85.3 Grass cutting Grant – All forms have been submitted and they have been accepted. Grants will be paid in April. Clerk will furnish the new map to Cllr Jones and Robbins so they can liaise with Les Goward before he starts work in March.</p> <p>85.4 Street Lighting – Quote received for lights 7, corner of Holloway Cottage and 8, Rouses Lane. Price for both is £994.83 including new bracket on Holloway Cottage. These are cheaper as there are no metering works involved. Clerk has contacted Joanne Russell who lives in Holloway Cottage and she has given permission for the works on the light and new bracket as long as the wall is made good. David Page has confirmed this will be done. We have this expense covered in the budget and therefore it was proposed we proceed. All Councillors agreed. Clerk will contact SSE.</p> <p>Chris Carter, of Colvin &amp; Moggridge entered the meeting.</p> <p>85.5 Pyrus Trees outside Bulls Close – Clerk asked Chris Carter to look at the trees as to which trees would be suitable. Present trees are approx. 35 years old – problem is falling fruit and the trees are near the end of their lives. The double flowered wild cherry would be a good substitute as it does not have fruit. There is not much choice in small trees. It will be a little larger than those there, but they are native. The problem with planting is the services in the verge which would need exploring with OCC. If stumps of old trees are just ground down below the soil level the new ones will have to be planted in a different place. Pulling roots out where there are services is not a good idea. The northern tree is very cramped, and it is advised it to be replanted next to the Bulls Close Wall or just the other side of the wall if possible. It is better to buy a tree that is not too large as it will take better. Wild cherry trees form the avenue of trees from Filkins Hall down to the back entrance on the B4477. They grow to about 24 ft so will create a little more shade on the front gardens of properties close by. Cost of each tree will be approx. £100 bare rooted plus staking, guard and compost for planting in Winter/early Spring. Barcham Trees grow in containers and they can be planted at any time of year but will cost a little more. We will consult with the residents of Bulls Close. Chris Carter was thanked for his advice. We will liaise with OCC on removal of trees. OCC said they would trim then in January and meet with us in February. Clerk has approached and asked for some dates to meet with him. We will look to replace these trees at the end of the year and consult residents after our meeting with OCC which we hope will take place in March.</p> |  |

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|       | <p>85.6 Gassons Allotment site- Clerk awaiting response to request for longer term on the lease.</p> <p>85.7 Path Warden – We used to have a path warden, Roger Chitty but a replacement could be found when he gave up. As everyone is walking so much more and it may be the time to re-visit. Clerk will be write article for newsletter.</p> <p>85.8 Village Sign – Clerk has approached OCC who will replace the Filkins sign at the North end of the village but they need a photograph of the original sign in position. D Blackett has been approached for a photo which she will try and find. But we ask anyone with a photograph to send it to the Clerk. It maybe in the photo book that the Museum printed.</p> <p>85.9 Goodfellows Yard access- R Higham is in discussion with Nick Lawson, Ernest Cook Trust concerning public right of way.</p> <p>85.10 Goodfellows - white bridge needs some refurbishment. Clerk has contacted OCC and James Freeman will assess when in the area.</p> <p>85.11 The Gassons Ramp- no update WODC still being chased. Cllr Could will be asked to look into.</p> <p>82.12 Bund - Lawrence King proposed a meeting in February now suggests we wait until after lockdown. Dates to be circulated to Cllr Robbins and Irwin- Singer. Bund has been working well. Ben Morley stated that he was very pleased as the water never reached the arch of the bridge.</p> |  |
| 86/21 | <p>Finance:</p> <p>86.1 Clerk has circulated the payment list for 12<sup>th</sup> January to 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021 and this has also been posted on the website. Clerk went through the list of expenses which included wages, SSE Maintenance Contract, and the first instalment to Burford Building Contractors. The last payment has not been made yet – as it is a large amount the Clerk has paid £10 to check the bank details are correct – which has been confirmed and if all agree the 2<sup>nd</sup> payment is set to be authorised. All agreed. Current account balance £25023.85 deposit account £35190.82 less uncashed cheques and allocated cash leaves a surplus of £25,468.96 so far. Village Centre account one payment to SSE for electricity in Post Office rooms- COIF account £1383.06, current account £22,876.86 showing a surplus so far of £14,346.92. S Gould has donated her payment for caretaking towards the Village Centre works. Clerk has thanked her for this. Burford Building Contractors has been paid from Parish Council funds. Village Centre contributions should be transferred over for next payment and also donations from Swimming Pool.</p> <p>86.2 Laptop needs to be upgraded to Microsoft 365 which is an annual charge of £79.99. This was agreed.</p>   |  |
| 87/21 | <p>Matters relating to Parish Council &amp; Village Centre Trust properties:</p> <p>87.1 Museum shed update- Cllr Irwin Singer reported he has had an email from the Museum. Before Xmas he wrote to Museum Officers and asked for a proposal – they have written to say they are working on it and asking what agreement they are being asked for. We need to know what they want to do and envisage. Cllr Irwin Singer will ring Peter Gray to discuss.</p> <p>87.2 Post Office update- The equipment has been removed by the Post Office and the keys were given to the shop to use the room on a temporary basis. The Post Office have said there is still the possibility in the future we could have a, maybe, once a week service, which does not need a base so could operate in the shop if acceptable.</p> <p>87.3 Use of Post Office rooms – Cllr Irwin Singer reported the Village shop have written and proposed they taken on the rooms and provide a service for the village. We do not have any other interested parties for the space unless we employ Moore Allen to find someone. The spirit of the Village Centre is supporting the Community; the Village Shop has been invaluable to the village and we should look to allowing the shop take this on a</p>  |  |

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|       | <p>formal basis. The shop is happy to pay the rent and would appreciate a decision as soon as possible. We will look at reviewing the rent and go back to Shop Committee within the week. The shop will be happy to accommodate anyone who will provide a Post Office service within the shop. Alan Heath also stated they are now fundraising for a village bench to be put with the other one outside the shop if permissible.</p> <p>87.4 Refurbishment – All the structural work and first fixings have been completed. Plaster is drying and black jack has been put over the floor. We will try and get a heater in to dry quicker so it can be painted. The builders will then return for tiling, toilets etc. For the care of the building, they suggest a pump in the basement not to dry it out but to reduce the level down to around a 1 ft. Work is progressing as expected and should be completed by the end of March. There have been no problems with the access to the playground.</p> |  |
| 88/21 | Next Meeting will be held on 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2021.  |  |