

CLIFTON-UPON-TEME PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a virtual meeting of the Parish Council held Thursday 4th March 2021
commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors J. Bowden (Chairman), A. Henry (Vice-Chairman), R. Henry and B. Gilbert.
Also present: County Cllr K. Pollock, District Cllr C. Palethorpe and J. Johns.

Welcome: The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the Clifton Hill Helpers for their continued support to the community. Thanks also to those who delivered Roses for Valentine's Day.

110.20 Apologies: Councillors C. Haywood, J. Collins.

111.20 Declarations of Prejudicial & Pecuniary Interests / Councillor Dispensations: Cllr B. Gilbert on matters relating to the Primary School and Village Archives.

Democratic Public Time: No matters for consideration.

112.20 To agree the Minutes of a virtual meeting held 4th February 2021 – The minutes were agreed as a true record. Proposed Cllr Gilbert, seconded Cllr Bowden. All agreed.

113.20 District & County Councillor Reports: Reports to be uploaded to the website as circulated. Cllr Palethorpe reported on the following matters –

- Litter Picking Scheme award
- Census 2021
- Natural Networks webinar 17th March
- SpaceHive – Crowd Fund Worcs
- Worcs CC – new Children & Young People Plan to get involved with.

Cllr Pollock reported on the following matters –

- Covid 19 update for the county
- Council Tax update for Worcs CC & draft budget figs
- Worcs CC Highways report on spending
- Local matters – Tenbury flooding, Divisional Funding, Highways matters

114.20 Financial & Governance Matters:

114.20.01 Payments were approved as per the schedule circulated plus an additional £6.85 for postage.

114.20.02 Parish website – the Clerk continues to progress this with B. Higgins next week and will circulate a further demonstration link shortly for feedback. It is hoped to go live during March.

114.20.03 Village Maintenance Plan – a proposal had been circulated by Cllr Gilbert for consideration. It was proposed by Cllr Bowden, seconded Cllr A. Henry that £5000.00 p.a. should be set aside as a village maintenance budget (excluding the Lengthsman Scheme work). A Maintenance Working Group to be set up with Cllrs Bowden, Gilbert & the Clerk, to have delegated authority to spend up to £250.00 per month within this budget. All spend to be reported to the following PC meeting. The maintenance budget to be reviewed after 6 months. The Clerk to ensure that all works are carried out with permission of or by the appropriate authority as required. The proposed floral decoration works to be progressed by the Working Group as per the current Maintenance Plan. All agreed.

114.20.04 Football / Bowls Club Agreements – Cllr Bowden reported that a previous Bowls Club agreement had been found but new versions would be needed going forward before the s.106 project

completion. Clerk to set up meetings with both Clubs as soon as possible.

115.20 Parish Matters:

115.20.01 Village Archives – Cllr Gilbert had circulated a draft proposal for consideration. A redecoration quote has now been received but the meeting noted that Councillors need to see the proposed agreement with the School before agreeing to progress matters further. Cllr Gilbert agreed to circulate a draft agreement shortly and it was agreed that Cllrs Bowden and Gilbert progress negotiations accordingly, including the length of term for the agreement as the proposed 5 years seems too short a period – 10 years would be more appropriate? The meeting agreed £5000.00 budget expenditure on the project in principal subject to the agreement with the school being approved.

115.20.02 Women’s Institute Open Meeting to be held 13th March with a topic of ‘Re-Wilding’.

115.20.03 Footpath Notice Board – Cllr Bowden has taken delivery of the new notice board but will need R. Wilks to help erect it. The existing notice board will remain as a public board for village notices.

116.20 Section 106 Matters:

116.20.01 Four Acre Field Project – a site meeting with MHDC Project Officer has been agreed for 11th March. Cllrs Bowden & Gilbert, the Clerk and C. Hurley to attend. Proof of site ownership is being progressed by the Clerk in line with the funding offer by MHDC. A report on the Sensory Garden had been circulated by Cllr Gilbert and was noted by the meeting. Letters of thanks have now been delivered to the CFAF Team as agreed.

116.20.02 Village bus shelter – the land ownership query is being progressed by the Clerk. We also need to establish whether there is a need for a shelter, but there is money allocated within the s.106 agreement.

117.20 Planning Matters: Cllr Gilbert had circulated a report on the SWDP meeting attended which was noted by the meeting.

118.20 Highways Matters:

118.20.01 Parish Lengthsman – the Lengthsman has replaced x3 litter bins on the recreation field and x1 in Manor Rd as requested.

118.20.02 The hedge opposite the school has now been cut back off the footpath.

118.20.03 Lovells development – the grass verges / tarmac pathway idea is with Highways for consideration.

118.20.04 The option to link footways within the village (Hope Lane to Pound Lane) – Cllr Bowden to progress.

118.20.05 Road closure notices - noted as circulated.

118.20.06 Footpath closure notices – Cllr Bowden has contacted Worcs CC Countryside Service re local issues, including permitted diversions across farmland.

119.20 Councillors Reports & Items for Future Agendas: Cllr Bowden thanked Cllr A. Henry for doing the planters for the village which look lovely. The planter opposite ‘Enderby’ may also need replacing now? Cllr Gilbert to arrange water for planters via the school. The W.I have also offered to help with local planting and maintenance. Thanks to everyone who took part in litter picking, especially Cllrs A. & R. Henry. There are now 15 Volunteers including some doing their Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Scheme.

120.20 Next virtual meeting to be held Thursday 1st April 2021 by Zoom invitation.

Meeting closed 20:35

M. Alexander
Clerk

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