

# The Parish Council Meeting of Fitcham cum Appleton Parish Council

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Held virtually via Zoom

Present:                      Geoff Kilham                      Richard Gray  
                                    John Beasley                      Ann Beasley  
                                    Terry Allen                        Mark Dorr  
                                    Robert Walden                    Cllr. J Moriarty  
                                    Gill Welham – Clerk

**05.01.01 Welcome from chairman and apologies for absence**

The Chairman welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the meeting wishing everyone a Happy New Year. There had been no contact from Cllr Stuart Dark from Norfolk CC.

**05.01.02 To receive declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**05.01.03 To approve and sign minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020**

The minutes were approved as a correct record by all. As the meeting was 'virtual' it was agreed the Clerk should sign them remotely on behalf of the Chairman and Parish Council.

**05.01.04 Matters arising from the minutes**

01.09.07 d) The Clerk had written to Highways regarding placement of SAMS unit and they had agreed to place an extra post in Abbey Road, however the PC would have to purchase the post brackets and fittings. The Clerk had placed an order with Westcotec which was due to be delivered in January.

**05.01.05 Public question time**

No members of public had entered the meeting. All access codes are published on the Agenda and placed on the website.

**05.01.06 Reports from councillors**

Cllr Moriarty was invited to speak and he stated he had nothing specific to report but added that West Norfolk Council had been unsuccessful in its application for £21m from the Government's £830m Future High Streets Fund to invest in the future of King's Lynn. Unfortunately King's Lynn was not one of the towns selected for inclusion which he felt was a lack of vision.

The Chairman enquired if the council staff were working from home. JM advised that councillors were not allowed into the building and if visiting, the staff member would meet with councillors outside. To aid social distancing, some members of staff had moved into offices in the Town Hall and others were working from home. He also asked if tasks were being held up. JM felt the staff were doing quite well and were mostly 'on the ball' with their tasks but it was easy to use Covid as an excuse if things were going wrong.

**05.01.07 Finance**

a) The Clerk had forwarded the Financial Report prior to the meeting advising what cheques needed approval for payment.

553 Gill Welham (Clerk Salary)	197.98
554 HMRC (Clerk Tax)	29.40
555 St Mary's church (annual donation)	150.00
556 Play Inspection Company	114.00
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Total Expenditure	£491.38
Balance in current account	£3,866.02
Balance in business saver account	£363.98
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- b) The latest draft budget was reviewed and appeared that currently the PC looked to be reasonably healthy however it was also agreed the need to roll over unused budgeted funds to put in place a reserve for playground maintenance as the council was aware that refurbishment of certain items of equipment and the fencing needed attention.
- c) Precept:  
Having discussed the need to ensure funds were available for Playground maintenance, it was felt that to increase the Precept by a small amount each year was preferable to a large increase the following year which would not sit well with the residents of Flitcham. It was therefore proposed to increase the Precept by £100 this year. This was unanimously agreed. The Precept that would be requested therefore would be £3,600 plus the £30 Council Tax Support Grant. **Action: Clerk**  
JB would explain the reasoning behind this in the next Newsletter. **Action: JB**

#### 05.01.08 **Playground Inspection Report**

The Playground inspection had taken place and the report distributed to all councillors. It had also been posted on the parish website. It was noted there were several areas of moderate risk that would need attention in the near future. The Clerk was asked to send the report to Playdale for their comment and to request a quote for the replacement/repair work to be carried out. **Action: Clerk**  
GK also had a contact that he would request a quote for work to be carried out and to upgrade the fence. An idea of prices for repairing the wood fence, or perhaps replacing with an alternative would assist in understanding the costs involved.  
The Playground repeat inspection quote remained the same, which had held firm since 2014, for the sum of £95 plus VAT. This did not get agreed at the meeting but was subsequently agreed via email from the councillors.

#### 05.01.09 **Dog Bins**

Cllr TA had requested this item be put on the Agenda as a resident was aware the council had spare dog bins and she requested that one be placed at the entrance to the pasture. She would be willing to empty this bin herself. Following discussion it was pointed out that the additional bins had been removed by the parish council due to the extremely high charges from BCKL&WN for emptying. It was felt should the council see the bin they would no doubt empty it and then charge the PC accordingly. Dog walkers have permission to put dog waste in their own black bins and it was felt the 2 currently in place was sufficient for the village needs. TA agreed to go back to the resident to explain the situation. **Action: TA**

#### 05.01.10 **Sandringham Booklet**

The Clerk had received a very informative glossy booklet from Sandringham Estate regarding architectural patterns for their properties. The Clerk was asked to request an additional copy to be forwarded direct to the Chairman. The Clerk would pass the copy she had received to the councillors once meetings were back to being held in person. **Action: Clerk**

#### 05.01.11 **Property re-numbering**

The Clerk updated the meeting with regard to the telephone discussion held with the renumbering team at the BC. They would be making a site visit (when the restrictions allowed) to put forward a plan for review by the PC. It was agreed that should a proposal be forwarded before the next PC meeting the Clerk would arrange for a virtual meeting of the PC in order to discuss how to proceed.

#### 05.01.12 **Business extra to the Agenda**

GK stated there was a heap of manure on a concrete pad along Icknield Way, which was believed to be dried human waste; that was causing a disgusting mess down Common Drove when it rained. The Clerk was asked to write to Sandringham to establish if anything could be done in this regard. **Action: Clerk**  
TA requested that Footpaths be put on the March Agenda for discussion. **Action: Clerk**

#### 05.01.13 **Date of next meeting: Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 at 7:45 pm (7:30 if virtual) (Venue/Medium TBA)**

**05.01.14 Action to be taken by the next meeting:**

**Clerk**

- Request Precept
- Request work for Playground repair
- Ask Sandringham for 2<sup>nd</sup> booklet
- Write to Sandringham re manure heap

**Geoff Kilham**

- Make contact re quote for playground refurb

**John Beasley**

- Prepare article for Newsletter

**Terry Allen**

- Contact resident re dog bins

**Items for next Agenda**

- Clerk's hours
- Footpaths

The meeting closed at 20.55

DRAFT