**TREETON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY ON**

**MONDAY 14th DECEMBER 2020**

**Present: Councillor: T.W. Adair (Chairman)**

**Councillors: G. Cooper, E. Levin, L.J. Pickford,**

**D. Whysall, J Swift,**

**In attendance: Mrs J. James Clerk to the Council**

**Borough Councillor B Walsh**

**2020/118 Apologies for Absence**

**Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S McKie and D A Goy**

**2020/119 Public Question Time**

**There were no members of the public present.**

**2020/120 Declaration of Interests**

**There were no declarations of interest.**

**2020/121 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 23rd November were taken as read, copies having been circulated to all members of the Parish Council previously and with the agenda.**

**Resolved: That the minutes are approved and signed by the Chairman.**

**Proposed:** **Councillor Whysall**

**Seconded: Councillor Levin**

**2020/122 Matters Arising**

2020/59 c) Replacement **memorial plaque to Pilot Officer Douglas Edwards. The Clerk reported that she has sent the draft text previously agreed, the Chairman advised he had also provided graphics to the designer. Concerns were raised over potential vandalism. It was agreed to discuss further once a proof of the finished product and costings are available**

2020/101c) The Clerk reported on conversations with RMBC on the Parish Council’s concerns about road safety on Long Lane and Bole Hill. The option of weight restrictions has been fully considered and the advice is that this is not a viable solution, however RMBC have secured limited funding to address the defects in the carriageway and to carry out minor road safety works which the Chairman advised had already begun and should be completed in the New Year. It was agreed that whilst not entirely the solution sought there was an appreciation that at least some road safety works were taking place.

**2020/123 Clerk’s Report & Correspondence Received**

**The Clerk’s report previously circulated was noted. It detailed the following:**

1. **RMBC updates on Covid-19: Coronavirus and other matters across the Borough.**
2. **RMBC weekly traffic reports.**
3. **RMBC Planning Applications and decisions across the Borough.**
4. **RMBC Licensing applications.**
5. **RMBC Rotherham Together Programme**
6. **RMBC on behalf of NHS Rotherham: request for help with the roll out of the COVID vaccination programme**
7. **Rotherham Town Centre news.**
8. **SYPTE - bus**
9. **YLCA White Rose updates.**
10. **Wildscapes/Natural England**

**2020/124 Borough Councillors Report**

Borough Councillor Walsh was not in attendance and therefore no report given.

**2020/125 Standing Items**

1. **Reading Room**

The Reading Room remains closed to visitors. There is an item in the Newsletter exploring interest in a friendship club and coffee mornings when the COVID pandemic restrictions allow.

1. **Allotments**

Nothing to report.

1. **Burial Ground**

The Clerk reported that the new gates for the burial ground would be fitted shortly and that she had written to the families of the three remaining damage memorial seats requesting they either be repaired, replaced or removed. To date one of the benches has been removed and a response is awaited on the others.

The Clerk advised she had asked the tree surgeon about cutting the tree branches back so they don’t overhang the graves but his advice was that cherry trees do not respond well to branch reduction.

The Clerk reported she had written to the Duke of Norfolk’s Estates regarding purchasing additional land and a reply is awaited, it was agreedto defer this until March 2021.

1. **Recreation Ground and Play areas**

Nothing to report.

1. **Environment**

The Clerk reported that she is exploring signage on the mine wheels and wagon alongside the memorial plaque for PO Edwards.

1. **Planning Applications**

The weekly lists of planning applications and planning decisions in the Borough were circulated by email to all Parish Councillors.

There are two applications in the Parish both for extensions to dwellings and conditional consent has been granted for a climbing frame at a residence in the village.

A decision on the conversion of the former Treeton Youth Enterprise Centre into 14 residential apartments remains pending the outcome of discussions between RMBC and the developer aimed at addressing objections before an Officer recommendation is put to the Planning Board.

**2020/126 Report from Representatives on External Bodies**

1. **RMBC/Parish Council’s Liaison Committee**

Nothing to report

1. **YLCA Branch Representatives**

Nothing to report.

1. **Treeton Youth Club**

The Chairman reported that whilst the Community Centre is now organised to accommodate the youth club within a COVID secure setting and the outside classroom is completed as part of tier 3 restrictions the youth club must remain paused.

1. **Community Centre & Playing Fields Memorial Committee**

Nothing to report.

**2020/127 Community Centre**

The Chairman reported that despite a lot of effort to ensure the premises meet COVID safe standards it has not been possible to resume normal activities. The health walk and packed lunch initiative is still taking place and the college is now running 3 sessions a week at the centre with plans to continue these into 2021.

Work on the outside is continuing with decking work to be started in January and laying of turf and erecting a fence to follow.

**2020/128 Chairman’s Review**

The Chairman reported that the flashing beacons on the pedestrian crossing by the chemist had been replaced and that work on the wildflower meadow on the land r/o Wood Lane would commence in the New Year. There had been potential for a funded pond area that regrettably didn’t come to fruition as the site did not meet the donor’s criteria.

He expressed concern over some mindless acts of minor vandalism that plagued the village and also gratitude to people that do take pride and in particular to the small group in the village who help with periodic litter picks.

**2020/129 Finance and General Purposes**

1. **Approval to relax Financial Regulation 11.1h**

Resolved: That Financial Regulation 11.1h be relaxed in respect of the contract for maintenance of the burial ground.

Proposed: Councillor Whysall

Seconded: Councillor Pickford

1. **Precepting 2021/22 - Draft indicative budget 2021/22**

The draft budget was reviewed and agreed that the suggested exceptional items: raising memorials laid flat for safety in the burial ground, outdoor gym, flower beds, hanging baskets plus Christmas decorations should be included in the budget. It was hoped there would be further ideas as a result of the ‘what would you like to see in the village’ item in the Newsletter.

It was agreed to begin at the January meeting and through early next year planning opportunities for small projects and developments in the village engaging existing residents’ groups/clubs to garner their interest and support.

The Clerk advised that the current precept is £56,000 which using 2020/21 tax base equates to £64.23 pa for a band D property, the level of precept for 2021/22 was discussed in the light of the indicative budget and development opportunities.

Resolved: That the 2021/22 Parish precept demand is unchanged at £56,000 pa.

Proposed: Councillor Cooper

Seconded: Councillor Levin

1. **Budget Monitoring & Approval of Accounts for Payment**

The Clerk outlined the accounts to date. A monitoring statement of

expenditure against budget, a copy of the cashbook and an up to date

financial statement of the Parish Council’s affairs was previously emailed.

The following accounts were approved for payment.

Receipts £

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| GE Foers - Advert in 20/21 newsletters | | BACS |  | 50.00 |
| G Egan - Advert in Dec newsletter | | BACS |  | 17.50 |
| Northern Powergrid – Rent | | Cheque |  | 2.30 |
|  |  | |  |  |
| **TOTAL INCOME** |  | |  | **69.80** |

Payments

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Staff Salaries & expenses December | Bank Transfer | 2,135.00 |
| HMRC Q3 Tax & NI | Bank Transfer | 816.13 |
| Opus Energy - Gas Nov- Dec2020 | Direct Debit | 114.90 |
| Opus Energy – Electricity Nov - Dec | Direct Debit | 49.10 |
| Business Stream – Water Burial Grnd Sept-Nov | Bank Transfer | 15.85 |
| Business Stream – Water Reading Room Sept - Nov | Bank Transfer | 72.59 |
| Rialtas Accounting software, support & licence | Bank Transfer | 682.80 |
| Petty Cash – paint, nails, milk | Bank Transfer | 22.03 |
| HPInstant Ink above subscription Nov | Direct Debit | 4.00 |
| Glendale Burial Grounds Maintenance Oct- Dec | Bank Transfer | 810.00 |
| Jennings Locksmiths – Additional keys | Bank Transfer | 70.00 |
| Caretaker - Cleaning materials | Bank Transfer | 34.56 |
| Brailsford’s Printers – Dec Newsletter | Bank Transfer | 418.00 |
| Bliss Internet –No charge in lieu of ad in Newsletters | Bank Transfer | 0.00 |
|  |  |  |
| **TOTAL EXPENDITURE** |  | **5,244.96** |

Proposed: **Councillor Whysall**

Seconded: **Councillor Pickford**

**Bank & Cash Book Reconciliation**

**30th November 2020**

£

Balances at bank: Current account 23,033.05

Instant account 58,131.39

Cambridge Building Society 60,000.00

**Total**  **141,164.44**

**2020/130 Any Other Urgent Business**

Councillors Whysall and Levin declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item and did not take part in the discussion

1. The Clerk reported that the Caretake/Cleaner has made a request for a temporary reduction in hours from 6 per week to 4 per week initially for 3 months January to March 2021 and then to be reviewed in the light of opportunities to re-open the Reading Room for lettings as COVID restrictions are lifted.

Resolved: That the request be approved

Proposed: Councillor Cooper

Seconded: Councillor Pickford

1. Councillor Swift raised concerns over the Jones Homes development, the limiting of access on the footpath to Treeton Dyke and the location of the mine half wheel and wagons. The latter are in safe storage and will be replaced once the access road is completed.

**2020/131 Date of the Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting was arranged for Monday 25th January 2021.

The Chairman wished everyone a Happy Christmas and hoped for better prosperity in 2021 to overcome the challenges COVID had brought to this year. These sentiments and good wishes were echoed.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

**Chairman:**

**Date**:

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