



PLUMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held via E-meeting on 9th March 2021 at 19:30.

Present: Cllr N Beaumont – Chair (Cllr NB), Cllr P Morgan (Cllr PM), Cllr P Stevens (Cllr PS), Cllr P Burford (Cllr PB), Cllr R Jury (Cllr RJ), Cllr A Gardiner (Cllr AG), Cllr Nick Satchell (Cllr NS), Cllr N Shefras (Cllr Shefras), Cllr Jim Brown (Cllr JB), District Councillor R Banks (Cllr RB), County Councillor S Osborne (Cllr SO).

Absent: None

Also present, Anita Emery (Clerk & RFO).

Members of the Public: 1

Signed *Anita Emery*

Anita Emery (Clerk to Plumpton Parish Council)

The AGENDA is as follows:

Member

140. To accept apologies for absence

Chair

- None received

141. Declarations of pecuniary and disclosable interests in respect of matters to be discussed.

- Cllr Satchell declared an interest in item 157 and would leave the meeting after item 156. This was duly accepted.

142. To Approve Minutes from Parish Council meeting held on 9th February 2021

Chair

- It was unanimously agreed to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9th February 2021.

143. Clerk's Report and discuss any Matters Arising from previous meeting.

- Clerk advised she was absent from the meeting and there was nothing to report against the minutes.

144. Brief Report from the County and District Councillor on matters affecting this Parish.

County Report

- Cllr SO reported that this would be the last meeting that she would be able to properly report on until after the elections on 6th May due to purdah.
- Currently virtual meetings are still allowed but after 7th May this could change to in person meetings subject to any changes by the Government.



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- Cllr SO is now canvassing for county elections on 6th May and is following social distance guidelines and a legislation has been passed for voting in polling stations that it is mandatory to wear a mask. Count of votes will take longer due to pandemic.
- Concerns over social care and learning disabilities as a third of providers are making redundancies.
- Cllr SO and RB are working closely together on planning.

District Report

- Cllr RB reported that LDC are in ongoing meetings with the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government regarding the local plan. LDC is clear that there is no question over the numbers arising from the implementation of the standard method which applies from May.
- Cllr RB is working with PPC on the evaluation of the Eton site for the future development, and also the proposed Nolands Farm development.
- Working with Carole Nicholson supporting the community energy scheme.
- Cllr NB wished RB to pass on thanks to Leigh Palmer of LDC planning department on responding to PPC's questions so promptly.

145. Questions from Members of the Public – limited to a maximum of 15 minutes in total

146. Planning applications

Clerk reported two applications had been received after the publication of the agenda which needed commenting on before the next meeting.

SDNP/21/00698/LIS
Plumpton Place
Revised tunnel layout to preserve historic fabric.

Decision: No Comment

SDNP/21/00308/HOUS
Fallbrook, Plumpton Lane
Proposed single storey and two storey extensions to the north and west elevations with associated alterations.

Decision: No Comment

Decisions to note:

LW/20/0779
Inholmes Farm, Station Road, Plumpton Green
Permission Granted.

- Noted by PPC

147. Correspondence

- Clerk noted nothing to highlight from this month, however did PPC have any comment regarding the camping/glamping consultation that had been provided by SDNPA in February as the deadline was imminent. Council agreed there was no concern and nothing to submit.

148. Finance Committee

Cllr PB



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- Cllr PB reported that the Finance Committee met prior to the meeting and as close to year end and current situation there is an overspend on the VH, underspend on PPC and PF which is a net out of £5.5k against the budgets. However a grant has been obtained by the Clerk for loss of income for the VH of £14,857 and £1334 for PF.
- It was also noted by PPC that the Clerk had gained her professional qualification Certificate in Local Council Administration. Clerk would advise what this meant to PPC by email.
 - a. To ratify the Finance Committee minutes of 3rd November 2020
- Unanimously agreed to ratify Finance Committee Minutes of 3rd November 2020.
 - b. To adopt expenditure as itemised on the schedules
 - c. To adopt year to date accounts
 - d. To adopt combined bank balances
- It was unanimously agreed to adopt items b-d.
 - e. To adopt the Finance Committee Terms of Reference
- It was unanimously agreed to adopt the Finance Committee Terms of Reference
 - f. Community Infrastructure Levy Update
- Nothing to report standing agenda item.

149. Neighbourhood Plan Update

Cllr NB

- Cllr NB reported the Oakfield site development has commenced and there were concerns over the numbering as house numbers 1-32 were listed for just 20 houses. LDC state that this **is was** standard practice with odds one side and even the other. The name Oakfield Lane has been formally adopted. A resident was concerned over part of an original wall of the old reading room/chapel disappearing through the development – Cllr NB reported he was unsure if the wall could be saved as the garage would be demolished that was in front of it once the build was complete as this was part of the access road. It was also reported that an iron age roundhouse had been found when excavating.
- Cllr NB had contact with Millwood Homes who intend to put in a detailed application during the year for the Glebe site with development to commence in 2022.
- Cllr PS wished it noted that should Millwood apply for more than the 20 homes in the Neighbourhood Plan, or perhaps regardless of the number, given the recent press coverage of the church encouraging more affordable and social housing it would be sensible to see if more than the minimum 40% could be achieved on this site. Cllr SO and Cllr RB to note encouragement to the Diocese for more social/affordable houses rather than the statutory minimum. Cllr RB/SO to devise a letter.
- Strawlands site outline planning application had been passed by LDC but s106 legal agreement still to be finalised .
- Riddens Lane – no news.

150. To note and action if necessary monthly RA reports.



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- Cllr NS reported the brick path leading to the bandstand was tapering off and needed repairing but having trouble trying to locate the original contractor who laid the path. Cllr NS to report back.
- Cllr RJ reported the layout of the RA's need work to simplify and to make action points clear – this is work in progress.

151. Update on Fire Risk Assessment working group for VH and Pavilion

- Cllr PM/RJ reported the new fire alarm has been installed at the pavilion, VH Mgr, Cllr RJ and Honeybees manager are all trained on how to use. VH Mgr has updated the fire risk book for actions.
- It was agreed to remove this item from future agendas. **Clerk to action.**

152. Committee/Working Group Reports

a. Transport and Environment/Footpaths/Policing

Cllr NB

- Cllr NB reported that the new PCSO Nick Cox had made contact and conducted his own speed check. It was recommended for him to provide an update in parish magazine and to invite him to join a PC meeting. **Clerk to action/arrange.**
- Cllr NB reported the FC agreed to a £250 S137 grant application to the Monday Group who mend the styles/gates.
- As the schools went back on the 8th March the feasibility study may be able to happen. **Clerk to enquire and report back.**
- Overhanging brambles, Cllr PM reported 6 Smithy's Close had cut back themselves but No 5 had not. Cllr PM has asked for a quote to be supplied by F Symes.
- Cllr RB had not heard anything on the tree opposite Station. He will chase housing association.

b. Allotments

Cllr RJ

- i) To discuss/approve installation costs of retaining fence by stream
 - Cllr RJ had strived to obtain 3 quotes for fencing by the stream and rotavate the area that the college had started, 2 out of the 3 quotes would not provide paper quotations. It was unanimously agreed to proceed with R Westgate at £450 + VAT for the fencing and agreed in principle (dependent on finding suitable grants) £350 + VAT for the rotavating to create 1.5 extra allotment spaces. Cllr RJ advised that the allotment group may provide a small contribution for the fencing.
 - Cllr RJ will contact Environmental Agency regarding clearing the stream.

ii) To discuss/approve allotment ground works.

- Discussed above.

c. Village Hall

- Cllr NS reported the following;



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£14,854 support grant for loss of income has been advised by Lewes. Fantastic result and a huge thank you to Anita for applying for this. This more than balances the year and put us into a great position for 2021/2022.

Children's clubs (Ladybirds, Wings and Turning Pointe) will be back in the Hall as from 19th April.

17th May community buildings are allowed to re-open, which means we can start doing viewings, we have 3 people waiting to do wedding viewings.

17th May Badminton, Pilates, Bowls and Tap can restart.

If everything goes to plan as from the 24th June, we will hopefully be back to near normal.

Still got 3 weddings booked for this year, July and August plus a possible reception for 30 in June.

Diary looks good for when things are eased in June.

- i. Management of pond – vegetation and wild area between pond and footpath
- Cllr NS confirmed the College returned this week and will be meeting to look at projects on the village green. Big thank you to Cllr PM for chasing this up.
 - ii. To discuss and approve quotes for fence repairs by pond and footpath.
- Cllr NS had received a quote for fence repairs by the pond and footpath amounting to £2200 + VAT. Part of this quote was for clearing the border at the entrance to the hall as this is beyond its life. It was unanimously agreed to spend £425 + VAT to clear. Cllr NS had also obtained a quote for the redecoration of the external windows of £542.00. It was agreed for Cllr NS to try and obtain another quote for these works and report back at the next meeting.
 - iii. Village green grass cutting tender
- Clerk advised that the Finance Committee had received only one tender and agreed to the tender of Brook Hart for another 36 months. Details of the tender are on the Finance Committee minutes.
 - iv. To ratify the VH Committee Meeting minutes of 20th January 2020 and 16th February 2021.
- This was unanimously agreed.
 - v. To discuss annual emergency lighting test
- VH Mgr had advised Clerk that some of the emergency lighting had failed the 3 hour test for the VH and also the Pavilion, currently awaiting on the quote from the electrician. Clerk will distribute the quote once received and ask for Council's permission to proceed over email and ratify next month as imperative to mend. **Clerk to action.**

d. Playing Field/Pavilion



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- Cllr PM reported to be keeping an eye on the roadmap for easing of lockdown. Having an informal meeting on 16th March with sports clubs to discuss dates required to use playing field.
- Cllr PM advised as part of the maintenance of the field, slitting and rolling is required in April by Bourne for £595 + VAT. This was unanimously agreed.
- Cllr PM advised the sand at the playpark needed refilling – 3 tonnes at £200 – this was unanimously agreed.
- Skatepark to stayed closed, however on 22nd March Skate GB will know more about reopening.
- A discussed between Cllr AG and PM regarding revisiting the rebuild of the pavilion in light of CIL monies being received latter half of 2021 and 2022. A potential working group may be formed.
- Cllr JB advised he had not heard from the Clerk regarding Memorial Benches. Clerk advised she had received a bench policy and is adapting it for PPC needs. Clerk advised that she had never been approached about memorial benches and perhaps would be good to note this in the Parish Magazine. Cllr NS asked Cllr JB to write a couple of lines and send over. **Cllr JB to action. Clerk to put bench policy on next months agenda for adoption.**
- Cllr JB also reported to Council about a passing place on the track towards tennis club to prevent cars driving onto the field. A 3.5mx10m long would cost in the region of £1900. Cllr PM has raised this with the tennis club Chair and it is being discussed at their next meeting. Clerk to check if Fields in Trust need to approve. **Clerk to action.**
 - i. To note playpark & skatepark inspection and action where necessary
 - Clerk advised LDC had reported their system was down but the inspection had taken place.
 - ii. Grant of easement and substation at tennis courts update
 - Clerk reported UKPN had executed their side of the easement and the tennis club lease is waiting on one trustee to sign. Solicitor has sent UKPN easement to Clerk who in turn has passed onto the Chair and Vice Chair for signature.
 - iii. To discuss annual emergency lighting test
 - See VH item 156c(v) above.

153. Interaction with Plumpton Primary School

- Cllr PM advised he will be writing to the Headteacher asking to advise pupils that although back at school, could they please still stay away from the skatepark as this is still closed.

154. Communications/Website

- Nothing to report

155. To discuss virtual meeting regulation expiration of 7th May 2021 and approve cancellation of 2021 Annual Parish Meeting.

- Clerk advised Council that the virtual meeting regulation under the Coronavirus Act 2020 will be expiring on 7th May 2021. This would therefore mean that Council would have to



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meet in person after that date and any virtual meetings would be illegal. However, as the Government restrictions on social distancing will not have been lifted by then the likelihood of this date been extended is strong. In case this does not happen Clerk advised that the 13th May meeting should be held on 4th May in order to hold the Annual Statutory meeting which has to be done by law. The Annual Parish Meeting that has to be held in May each year will not be able to go ahead due to social distancing and the Clerk recommended Council put a report together on the events that have happened within the Parish over the past year and going forward. This could be done via the website and also hard copy in order to communicate further within the community.

- It was unanimously agreed to cancel the Annual Parish Meeting.

156. Items to be reported by Parish Councillors and/or to be included in future meetings

- Nothing to report.

Cllr Satchell left the meeting at 21:01

157. Expiry of LDC Local Plan Part 1

(i) Planning Liaison Working Group update

- Cllr PS and Cllr Shefras had provided a written summary of what the working group had been doing to PPC, there had been a raft of meetings and exchanges with the M.P. The list of sites provided by LDC under their Land Availability Assessment had been distributed to PPC. The working group asked if anyone had anything to comment/add on PPC's response to LDC on these sites, if they did to please submit by 11th March as the deadline for submission is 12th March. PPC fully supported the response made by the working group.
- A meeting request has been sent to Maria Caulfield M.P. and PPC wished to thank the working group for all their efforts so far.

(ii) To approve the formation of inter council working group with neighbouring parish councils.

- This was unanimously agreed.
- Cllr NB advised terms of reference were being drawn up and currently they have one councillor from Westmeston, Chailey, Hamsey, East Chiltington and Ditchling forming the working group. **Clerk to chase Streat.** Cllr NB advised Newick declined to join as they do not have the bandwidth to help due to their own planning issues with the Secretary of State.

Meeting closed 21.31

Dates of next meetings:

13th April 2021 – Parish Council Finance Committee meeting 19.00 (REMOTE MEETING)

13th April 2021 – Parish Council Meeting 19:45 (REMOTE MEETING)

Anita Emery | Parish Clerk 12/03/2021