

THE MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8th DECEMBER, 2020 WHICH WAS HELD VIA ZOOM AT 7.30 p.m. AS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE HELD VIRTUALLY DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY WHERE PUBLIC MEETINGS ARE NOT ABLE TO BE HELD.

Cllr Delmege (Chairman), Cllr Childs, Cllr Watts, Cllr Rutherford, Cllr Rappini, Cllr Brenchley and the Clerk Mrs Anne Collins were present. County/District Councillor Humby, Kirstie Baines and Nick Apps (Durley Primary School) were also in attendance. There was 1 parishioner who attended the Meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies were received from District Councillor Miller and District Councillor Mclean.
2. ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT. There were no Declarations of Interest made.
3. THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 10th NOVEMBER, 2020 WERE AGREED, AND WILL BE SIGNED AT THE NEXT AVAILABLE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.
4. MATTERS ARISING:
 - (a) Co-optio of Parish Councillor. Clerk has received 5 expressions of Interest to be Co-opted onto Durley Parish Council. A vote was taken and Chris Taylor was duly Co-opted. The Clerk will inform the successful applicant and also the applicants who were not successful this time.
 - (b) Review of table/seating at The Sawmills. Deferred at the moment.
 - (c) Locating SID sign in Parsonage Lane and Durley Street proposals. Cllr Delmege reported that he has not been able to speak to HCC yet about the Wintershill possible location, but will do this as soon as he is able.
 - (d) Update on footpaths/Meeting with ROW Officer. Deferred until a visit is possible.
 - (e) Older childrens' play equipment update. CC Grant and sponsorship towards cost. Clerk reported that she has been successful in receiving a £500 Grant from CC Humby through the County Councillor Grant. Advertising for sponsorship has been put on the website, noticeboards and in the Parish Magazine. Cllr Rappini has offered to pay for half the cost of one piece of equipment and he hopes to get a sponsor for the other half. Councillors thanked Cllr Rappini for this kind gesture.
 - (f) WW2 commemorations in Durley. Deferred at the moment. Cllr Delmege said that crosses have been placed in the Churchyard and one will be placed above the memorial plaques in the Memorial Hall if Councillors were in agreement. All Councillors agreed that this would be a nice gesture and had no objection.
 - (g) School Crossing Project. Clerk said that this is progressing and SSE have made the electrical connection and once the timer has been set the lights should work. HCC hope that all will be in working order by the end of this current term. One bollard has been knocked down and will be repaired by HCC, this is concerning as this bollard has been knocked over previously. It has been suggested by HCC that the bollards might be better located at the back of the pavement. Cllr Rappini pointed out that it is better a bollard gets knocked over than a child. The HCC Safety Team will need to review the siting to make sure that the crossing is as safe as possible.
 - (h) Durley Parish Plan Questionnaire – update on responses received and allocate tasks to take forward. Clerk has received 135 responses so far and all these statistics have been put into 4 spreadsheets. Cllr Delmege has summarised the responses so far and shared them with Councillors. Councillors were asked if they would take on specific tasks from the Parish Plan. These were: Greening Campaign – Cllr Rutherford, Broadband – Cllr Brenchley, Flooding Risks – Cllr Rappini and Mobile Signals – Cllr Childs. Nick Apps and James Gibson offered to help with the Broadband.
 - (i) Report on Climate Change Meeting (30.11.20) – Cllr Delmege and Clerk attended the Meeting and gave a brief outline of the Meeting. CC Humby said that Cllr Jan Warwick is the Lead Councillor on this at WCC.

5. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: CC Humby informed Councillors that the Budget for HCC has potentially a 230m hole to fill after the recent pandemic. Reserves and other funding will be used, but there will still be a shortfall of 40/80m. This year will be financially secure, but next year savings will need to be made. CC Humby spoke about the Waste Recycling Centres and in the spring/summer they will trial residents cycling and walking to the Centres. With regard to Bexit the A31 from Winchester to Alresford will be a triage point for checking vehicles.
6. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS: DC Humby, DC Miller and DC Mclean. DC Humby added a little more information about the new Green Waste bin which residents can have to replace the old Green Waste bags. There is a cost to this new service. The District Council will also face a deficit this year due to Covid-19.
7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ITEMS BY INVITATION OF THE CHAIRMAN. A resident joined the Meeting to speak about the proposed development at Quob Stables. The resident said that he was concerned about the "affordable" housing as it would not be affordable for youngsters, concern was raised about how the infrastructure would cope, the increase in traffic, a local community shop and gym would not be viable and concern was raised about the village identity being lost. The Clerk said that she has already received a number of phone calls and e-mail from residents with the same concerns.
8. CORRESPONDENCE:
 - (a) Quote for Buffer Area Survey. A quote of £385 + vat was received, and Councillors agreed that this Survey should be carried out so that we can start any maintenance treatment if required.
 - (b) Letter from Reilley Developments regarding development at Quob Stables. Clerk has circulated details of the proposal development at Quob Stables to Councillors prior to the Meeting. Councillors agreed that many residents were thinking that this proposed development was a done deal and that the leaflet had leading questions. Councillors have previously stated that any development in Durley should be parish-led and not developer-led. It was agreed that a statement would be circulated to residents to clarify the position Durley Parish Council is taking, along with a timeline, and also asking for any residents who have not yet returned their Parish Plan Questionnaire to do so by the end of December as it is very important that Durley Parish Council have their views. Cllr Delmege and the Clerk will circulate a statement for Councillors to view ready for printing, and put on social media sites for residents to view.
9. SCHOOL REPORT: Kirstie gave a School Report and stated that the School Crossing is now nearly completed, there has been a good attendance by pupils to the School and no Covid-19 cases amongst the children have been found. The lay-by outside of the School has been used for parents to drop off children and PCSO Reeves has attended the School to advise parents not to park on the pavement, in the bus lay-by etc. The activities of the School have been continuing e.g. the Harvest Festival, Nativity Play and Carol Service, but with no visitors. Kirstie has been working part-time in Durley and part-time at another School, but will be back full-time next week. CC Humby said that Kirstie was held in high esteem with the Senior Management Team at HCC.
10. RECREATION GROUND REPORT: Cllr Watts reported that football matches have resumed again and all was fine at the Ground, apart from dog fouling which appears to be on the increase again.
11. SAWMILLS REPORT: Cllr Rutherford to report on any issues – Cllr Rutherford reported that the play area is fine. Update on Buffer area Re-Inspection and compliance – The area has been checked again and two gates are still accessible to the buffer area so one has been blocked and the other has railings which need to be secured, so the owner will be asked to do this. Tree surgery work – Cllr Delmege and the Clerk met with the tree surgeon and he is going to take out the dead tree limbs and lower the tree to hedge height. He will also take some branches off an overhanging tree.
12. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT: Cllr Watts reported that there are many scams circulating at the moment and parcels which have been delivered have been disappearing from doorsteps.
13. HIGHWAYS REPORT: Cllr Rappini to report on any issues. Recent flooding in Durley caused anxiety for some residents – especially along Stapleford Lane. The Clerk phoned HCC Highways and was advised to dial 101 which she did. However, no-one came out, properties were very nearly flooded again in Stapleford Lane. Parish Councils are the first tier in local government and feel helpless in this sort of situation. Cllr Rutherford asked if we could purchase some sandbags in case they are required.

It was felt that some ditches are not cleared by the respective landowner and this problem should be addressed. Some residents perhaps are not aware that they have a responsibility to clear their ditch outside of their property.

14. FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS: Financial Report and cheques were agreed. External Audit for 2019-20 has been received and is satisfactory.
15. HALL: Hall restrictions due to Covid-19 Update – the Hall is now closed until the New Year as many hirers do not wish to return before then and as this would leave only a few going back it was not viable to put the heating etc. up again. The Clerk has been successful in obtaining a further Grant towards the loss over the month the Hall had to be closed. The Hall floor has been revarnished by Greg at no cost to the parish. A letter of thanks has been written to Greg for this kind offer. Christmas lighting has been put up around the Hall by Neil Ellen.
16. PLANNING:

Appeal by Nigel Freemantle against WCC for Construction of six dwellings, access, parking, landscaping and associated works on land adjacent to Sunnyside, Durley Street, Durley. All correspondence will be forwarded onto the Inspector by WCC.

20/01830/HOU. Mr M Southwell. Construction of new outbuilding of grey concrete blocks and slate roof (4.3m depth x 5.6m width x 2.3m at ridge) in rear garden (amended proposal; part retrospective). 2 Hazeldene, Parsonage Lane, Durley. GRANTED.

20/02486/HOU. Mr and Mrs Gale. Second storey extension and amendments to roof to create a further bedroom and en-suite. Adding a balcony to rear of property accessed via new master bedroom. Belsize, Durley Brook Road, Durley. Councillors agreed that they had no comments to make.

20/02416/FUL. Mr Hepburn. Retrospective permission for extension to existing dwelling house (Revised scheme). Cupressus, Durley Brook Road, Durley. Councillors had no comments to make.

20/00720/HOU. Mr Southcott. (Part Retrospective) Erection of detached 4 bay garage with gym and home office within roof space. Associated alterations to ground levels including the erection of retaining walls. Maxwell House, Mincingfield Lane, Durley. GRANTED. Councillors were disappointed that this application was approved as work has continued throughout the lockdown period without permission and many concerns had been raised by residents.

CC Humby said that there used to be Rural Planning Officers who understood the needs of the rural communities, but they are no longer in post. Councillors agreed that the lack of rural knowledge and enforcement is a great concern to the rural parishes. It was agreed that once we are able to hold face to face Meetings, we should invite a Planning Officer to attend one of our Meetings. CC Humby suggested that we might get a more Senior Officer if we asked them to attend a Southern Parishes Meeting.

17. THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN WISHED COUNCILLORS AND THE CLERK A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND CLOSED THE MEETING AT 10.00 p.m.