

ST. NICHOLAS HURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD VIRTUALLY (VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS) ON
MONDAY 4TH JANUARY 2021 AT 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors W. Smith (in the Chair),
Curry, Lyon, Mansfield, Pilgrim, I. Smith,
Stephenson and Turvey.

OFFICERS: Mrs. M. Bradshaw (Clerk).

PUBLIC: One member of the public.

9075 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Holdstock who continues to suffer internet connection problems.

9076 Prejudicial Interest

There were no prejudicial interests to declare.

9077 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 7th December 2020 were approved as a correct record and would be signed by the Chairman at the first available opportunity.

9078 Matters Arising

The following matters were noted:

delivery of the new speed monitoring device has been taken and the Chairman and Councillor Mansfield had been around the parish identifying suitable locations for its positioning. The Chairman noted that in a very short period of time the device was effectively deterring speed in Lodge Road where it is currently located;

signage will be erected at the youth shelter in School Road Playpark requesting that users respect the local residents; and

unlike Wokingham Town Centre and the larger Parish/Town Council's Hurst does not have designated Covid Marshalls. However, any instances of antisocial behaviour, gatherings or non-compliance with social distancing should be reported to the Police if the Parish Council is unable to deal with it initially. Councillors Curry and Lyon expressed concern that the Parish Council should not be expected to Police the situation. However, due consideration needs to be given to the fact that the Parish Council owns its playparks and to that end is responsible for ensuring safe use of them.

9079 Public Forum

The Chairman welcomed Maggie Sanderson to the public forum. She noted that issues still remain with blocked drainage ditches and gullies on certain roads. Councillor Curry confirmed that the High Street had been done before Christmas along with the Wokingham Road and Tape Lane. The Chairman confirmed that the clearance program had started on the 17th October 2020.

9080 Covid 19 Update

The Chairman confirmed that the opening/closing of schools remains a contentious issue and further guidance from the Borough is awaited.

9081 Neighbourhood Planning

The Chairman confirmed that the Neighbourhood Planning Working Group had met on the 16th December 2020 and conducted a lengthy meeting as discussions were held around the policy reports being prepared by two members of the group. Councillor Curry reiterated the tremendous work of the report writers and said they had to be applauded for their research which was thorough and extensive. The next meeting of the Group will be scheduled for mid-January 2021.

9082 Church Hill Petition

The Chairman confirmed that the road markings are scheduled to be placed in January 2021. There had been a slight delay from the planned date of December 2020 as contractors were delayed on a major project elsewhere.

9083 Allotments/Howard Larkin Memorial

The Chairman and Councillor Curry had met at the allotments to agree a schedule of works. A quote is currently awaited from SCS to undertake regular planned maintenance and mowing. The Chairman has yet to speak with Mrs Larkin regarding the naming of the allotments and gauge her further thoughts.

9084 Planning Applications

Members considered the application attached to these minutes. They had no adverse comments with regards to applications 203270 and 203142. Objections were made regarding applications 203308, 203325 and 203330.

RESOLVED: the Clerk to communicate comments to WBC.

9085 Finance

The following accounts were presented for approval this month:

Jan-21									
						Main Fund	CIL*	Neighbourhood Planning	Total
Previous Balance					£	58198.63	133407.59	-2898.12	188708.10
The following accounts are presented for approval this month:									
Ref	Expenditure - Payee								
10.1	W Smith (reimbursement for sundries for Christmas Tree)					18.66			
10.2	5G (monthly telephone)					28.04			
10.3	Stocksigns (speed indicator device)					2851.20			
10.4	SCS (monthly grounds maintenance)					629.72			
10.5	Bespoak Designs (oak sign for community orchard)					363.00			
10.6	SLCC (annual membership)					166.00			
10.7	Information Commissioners Office (data protection fee)					40.00			
10.8	M Bradshaw				1037.98				
				Salary (Dec 2020)					
				(Income Tax)		-8.60			
				(National Insurance)		-29.52			
				(Pension)		-41.52			
				Office		40.00			
10.9	NEST Dec (Employee pension £41.52 + Employer pension £31.14)					72.66			
10.10	HMRC Dec (Employee's Income Tax £8.60 & National Insurance £29.52)					38.12			
						5205.74	0.00	0.00	5205.74
	Income								
	Dunt Lane rent (Jan 2020)					79.77			
	Total Income					79.77	0.00	0.00	79.77
	Revised balance c/f					53072.66	133407.59	-2898.12	183582.13

The Draft Budget for 2021/22 was presented to Members. Members discussed the budget in detail and agreed unanimously to set the budget for 2021/22 at £48,900 with a precept of £44,700. Balance to be met from income and reserves.

RESOLVED:

- all payments in respect of this month were approved; and
- the final budget for 2021/22 was agreed at £48,900 with a precept of £44,700. The Clerk to complete the appropriate return and forward to WBC.

9086 Correspondence

Martineau Green Playpark

The Chairman confirmed that he had gritted the entrances to Martineau Green Playpark and had ordered some anti-slip treads to install before the gate.

Crossing at Dinton Pastures

Councillors Stephenson and I. Smith confirmed that, as residents of the Davis Street Ward, they had both received the consultation regarding the installation of a proposed crossing located at Dinton Pastures entrance.

Litter Picking

The Chairman confirmed that the previous weekend four volunteers had undertaken extensive litter picking on the A321 and Davis Street. An excellent job had been completed for which Members passed on their sincere thanks.

RESOLVED: as a token of the Parish Council's thanks, a small gift be purchased and given to the volunteers.

9087 **Information Reports**

There were no information reports to bring to this meeting.

The virtual meeting ended at 8.38 p.m.

Signed.....

Date.....