

The Minutes of the Meeting of Guilsborough Parish Council (held remotely by video conference) on

Monday, 14 September 2020 at 7.15 pm

Present: Cllr A Hart (Chairman), Cllr S Jaggard, Cllr D Wooldridge, Cllr G Ashworth, Cllr I Miller, Cllr G Metcalfe, Cllr K Fulcher, Cllr S Harris. Mrs C James (Clerk) and Chris Millar (Chairman of DDC)

133.2020 Public Forum

Chris Millar stated that having stepped down as Leader of the Council he had now taken on the honorary role as Chairman of DDC. He stated that the district would be well represented in the new unitary authority and asked the Council to let him know if there was anything they wished him to help with as he would continue to take an interest in Guilsborough.

134.2020 Resolution to accept apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr D O'Neil

135.2020 Declarations of interest for items on the agenda.

None

136.2020 Resolution to consider written requests for dispensations on agenda items

None received.

137.2020 Resolution to sign and approve the minutes from the previous meeting held on 13 August 2020

The minutes were circulated prior to the meeting. The Chairman asked if there were any amendments required. It was then resolved to approve the minutes and the Chairman signed them as a true record (copy to be scanned to Clerk)

138.2020 Matters arising (for information only)

None

139.2020 Village and Other Matters

139.2020/1 Adoption and improvement to roadway outside Village Hall

No updates since last meeting

139.2020/2 Consideration of Council's response to ongoing Coronavirus pandemic and current lockdown

It was resolved that, given the current rise in Covid-19 case numbers and potential new restrictions, the Parish Council meetings would continue to be held by Zoom video conference until March 2021 (legislation in place for this and as recommended by NCALC). Enquiries to be continued to be made in the meantime to try and find a suitable venue for use in 2021.

139.2020/3 Update on lease on Small Playing Field

The Chairman stated that the Council were still waiting for Mr Lowther to provide the wording of the revised lease for consideration.

139.2020/4 Update on response from Highways regarding repairs to footpath from Pells Close to West Haddon Road

Cllrs Wooldridge and Ashworth stated that they had had no response from Mr Wedgbrow.

139.2020/5 Arrangements for installation of new noticeboard

The Chairman stated that he wished to visit the site with Mark Hazle to ensure that the holes being dug would not impinge on any existing cables, etc. Cllr Miller stated that the noticeboard was ready for collection but was too big to put in his car so it was resolved to arrange for the noticeboard to be delivered to Cllr Metcalfe and stored in his garage until ready for erection. Invoice to be approved at the October meeting.

139.2020/6 Consideration of (and approval) quotations for Council's annual insurance premium

The Clerk stated that the three year long term contract with Inspire was ending on 30 September and that she had been trying through two NCALC recommended brokers and Zurich direct to get new quotations. She stated that problems were being experienced due to the thatch roof of the Cob Barn. Quotations received thus far had been forwarded to Councillors prior to the meeting. These were BHIB broker (Aviva) £1,102.40, Came & Co broker (AXA) £1,445.82 and Zurich £1,587.65. It was resolved to go with the cheapest quote subject to further checks with the broker that all assets had been included and the excesses were reasonable. Clerk to liaise with Chairman following receipt of any new information.

139.2020/7 Consideration and approval of annual membership of CPRE

It was resolved to continue with the annual membership of CPRE at a cost of £36.

139/2020/8 Consideration of changes to the Parish Council website

The Chairman stated that he had added a site plan to the Parish Council website site plan as required by the 2018 Accessibility Regulations for public websites and was also in the process of preparing a declaration of conformity as required under the legislation.

139.2020/9 Consideration of payment of annual fee for Zoom meetings

It was resolved to continue for the time being with monthly payments for the Zoom meetings as the saving was not considered significant enough to warrant an annual payment.

140.2020 Planning

140.2020/1 New applications

None

140.2020/2 Completions

None

140/2020/3 Construction works at Guilsborough Academy (possible infringement of planning application and previous planning conditions

The Chairman stated that following a complaint received from a resident, enquires had been made by the Enforcement Office of DDC in respect of the planning application for the car park extension. Whilst it was stated that there were no conditions requiring a screening hedge to be planted at the rear of the gardens of the properties on West Haddon Road abutting the new car park extension, it appeared that hedging had been planted recently and it was hoped that this would be satisfactory. Chairman to speak to resident.

140/2020/4 Review of Guilsborough Neighbourhood Plan

In absence of Cllr O'Neil there was no update.

141.2020 Finance

141.2020/1 Receipts

None

141.2020/2 Payments

It was resolved to approve and sign the following cheque payments.

Details of Payee	Amount (£)	Invoice number	Cheque Number
Mrs C James – Clerk's September Salary	347.05	n/a	102276
HMRC – PAYE on Clerk's salary	86.60	n/a	102277
Mrs C James – Office Expenses	29.80	n/a	102278
M Hazle (Elm Tree Garden Maintenance) – Mowing Village	570.00	687/708	102279
CPRE – Annual membership fee	36.00	n/a	102280

141.2020/3 Bank reconciliation

The Clerk presented the bank reconciliation for the period ended 31 August 2020 showing balance at bank was £24,406.18 of which £782 ring fenced for cemetery projects.

141.2020/4 Approval of Clerk's Pay Increase to £12.73 per hour in line with National Agreement for Local Government Employees 2020/21

It was resolved to increase the Clerk's pay from £12.36 per hour to £12.73 per hour in line with the negotiated National Agreement for Local Government Employees to be backdated to 1 April 2020.

141.2020/5 Update on internet banking with HSBC

The Clerk stated that following a visit to the HSBC branch in Daventry and conversations with staff there, it was not possible for the Parish Council to have an internet account which would allow more than one person to approve online payments. It was, therefore, resolved to continue to make payments by cheque (requiring two signatures).

142.2020 Playground

The Chairman stated that he had provided his inspection report to the Clerk and there was nothing new to report.

143.2020 Highways

Cllr Wooldridge stated that he had nothing to report. It was stated that some damage to the Village Green was believed to have been caused by badgers. Cllr Miller stated that he had received complaints about speeding through the village. It was agreed that the best way forward was to have a site meeting with Ian Boyes of Highways to find out what might be possible. Cllr Wooldridge to arrange.

144.2020 Street Lights

The Clerk stated that she had received no new reports of any faults.

145.2020 Parish Assets

Cllr Miller stated he and his volunteers had started on the refurbishment of the telephone box but that it was likely that they would leave the final painting until next Spring. Clerk agreed to chase up Tim Foster regarding the repairs to the Cob Barn.

146.2020 Footpath Report

Cllr Ashworth stated he had nothing new to report.

147.2020 Village Link

Cllr Fulcher stated that she would include the refurbishment of the telephone box and issues with dog fouling in the next issue.

148.2020 Correspondence received

- NCC – Community Flood Resilience Pathfinder Scheme - noted

149.2020 Items for next meeting – Monday, 12 October 2020 at 7.15 pm

- External Audit Report
- Additional Council Policies
- Update on Meeting with Highways
- Erection of New Noticeboard
- Review of Guilsborough Neighbourhood Plan

Meeting closed at 8.07 pm