

Minutes of the virtual meeting of Ackworth Parish Council's Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 28 September 2020 commencing at 8:15 pm

Present: Cllr S Balfour in the Chair

Cllrs: J Bell, T Hames, Mrs S Hollyhead, G Marshall

Members of the Public: 4

Councillors attending who are not committee members: Cllr Richmond and Cllr Roberts

Prior to the meeting starting the Clerk read out a statement:

All Councillors are aware that it is and always has been the practice that Committees discuss and recommend to the Parish Council any items which incur expenditure for their approval.

In future items on agendas for Committees will be written in a way to ensure it is clear what action will be taken.

1. To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given

Apologies have been received from Cllr Galvin for reasons as recorded in the attendance book. It was agreed by all Councillors to accept the reason given.

2. Declarations of Interests and Dispensations:

2.1 To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda

2.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interest if any.

2.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

There were none to receive.

3. To agree the process of appointing a consultant to carry out a survey into the views of residents on the proposed South Featherstone Link Road and to approve in principle the costs of carrying out this work.

C3.1 The Chairman explained that this will go to the Parish Council meeting for further discussion and confirmation.

The Chairman explained that the Clerk had carried out some research into this and had been speaking to Consultancy+ via YPO.

Cllr Marshall left the meeting.

A discussion was held.

The chairman said that as Cllr Marshall had left the meeting that we would move on to the next item until she is able to reconnect.

Cllr Marshall reconnected after agenda item 5.

The Chairman gave a resume of the discussion to Cllr Marshall.

It was agreed that a specification for the consultant will be discussed at the meeting to be held on Wednesday.

It was proposed by the Chairman to vote on the resolution

Voting took place:

3 Councillors voted in favour

2 Cllrs voted against

It was therefore resolved that the proposal was carried.

4. To receive an update on Low Ackworth Playing Field Lease

4.1 The Clerk reported that despite several phone calls and emails there has been no progress on this matter. It was agreed the Clerk would follow this up as a matter of urgency.

5. To appoint an internal auditor for this current financial year

5.1 The Clerk reported that she had details and costs from three Internal Auditors. It was agreed that she would go back to them to ask them to provide references and bring the results to the Parish Council meeting.

Cllr Marshall re-joined the meeting.

6. Health & Safety – receive a report on Health & Safety Issues

6.1 The Clerk reported that the annual visit had taken place in February. One low risk action and 7 medium risk actions were identified. All actions had been completed. One action outstanding is a Stress Risk Policy which requires approval. It was agreed that this would be sent to Councillors at the earliest opportunity.

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETING ACT 1960) THAT THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED