

Ackworth Parish Council

**Minutes of the virtual Village Facilities Committee held on Monday 28 September 2020
commencing at 7:00 pm**

Present: Cllr A Garbutt in the Chair

Cllrs S Balfour, J Bell, A Cook, T Hames, M Roberts

Members of the public attending: 2

Councillors attending who are not Committee members: Cllr J Hardman, Cllr G Marshall and Cllr S Richmond

Prior to the meeting 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. Apologies

C1.1 There were no apologies to receive.

2. Declarations of Interest 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 note the minutes of the Village Facilities Committee held on 24 February 2020

3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2020 have been approved by the Parish Council.

4. To receive the Clerk's matters arising from the minutes of the minutes

1. Tree planting – S & D Landscapes had produced a planting plan - 10 trees on Carr Bridge playing field, 9 at Low Ackworth playing field and one on the grass verge at the entrance to the Courtway. The cost to supply and install each tree would be £95, a variety of native hardwood tree species – Oak, Lime, Hornbeam, Cherry, Field Maple and Beech would be used. All Councillors agreed to recommend this scheme to the Parish Council.

2. Boundary Signs – the cost of signs were sourced. A neighbouring Town Council had used Wakefield Council to design, supply and install their signs. All Councillors agreed to recommend to the Parish Council to contact Wakefield Council for the cost of 5 boundary signs.

3. Dando Way – improvement works from Bell Lane Car Park to Mill Lane – District Councillors are dealing with this matter.

4. Seats, bins and planters – the seats have been installed. Parish Council staff check each seat daily and collect any rubbish. It was agreed to monitor this before bins are purchased.
5. John Gullys Grave – due to the Covid-19 Pandemic there has been no progress on this matter.
6. Ackworth Community Church room hire – the cabinet has been moved. The Church have not yet returned to the centre.
7. Pavilion car park – whilst Ackworth School have indicated they are supportive of practice staff using the Pavilion they will confirm this in writing. Subject to various checks it was agreed to recommend to the Parish Council that for a trial period this facility could be offered for their staff to use.
8. Brackenhill Centre – painting is complete.
9. White Lining – complete at Low Ackworth and Bell Lane Community Centre. The Pavilion car park was not re lined the company recommended that on inspection it wasn't required.
10. Hearing Loop – a loop has been sourced and will be purchased before face to face meetings resume.
11. Turning Point – not currently holding face to face meetings.
12. Low Ackworth car park – plans submitted on behalf of Wakefield Council for additional car parking spaces. The Parish Council will have an opportunity to comment on the application when it comes on to the planning list.

5. To discuss and decide on fees for the use of sports facilities for this current season

The Clerk provided information about which teams were playing at each of the fields and the fees that were paid last season.

It was proposed by Cllr Balfour and Cllr Cook seconded to recommend to the Parish Council that it charges for the use of pitches only as teams are not currently using the Pavilion. All Councillors agreed.

6. To receive an update on the Community Building on Strata Homes site.

The Clerk reported that she had received an updated plan to include a sliding wall divider, but had not received any indication of timescale for the building work.

7. To discuss and decide how to proceed with improvements throughout the village

A discussion took place. It was noted that additional tree planting had been discussed earlier in the meeting. The following ideas were suggested:

- More planters around the village – some of which is planted with herbs for people to cut and take
- To set up a 'green task' force in consultation with the 'Litter Picking Group'.
- 2 projects at Low Ackworth – decent bus service to enable residents to access other parts of the village and a replacement Community Centre
- Plant wild flowers – First Impressions work with Wakefield Council on the areas suitable and supply the packs of wild flowers. It was agreed to draw up a list of areas to identify who is responsible for them.i.e APC, Wdh, Wakefield Council
- Talking bench with details of help lines on it. The idea being that if you sit on the bench you are willing to chat.
- Strata Community Centre

It was agreed to pursue the above ideas and bring them back to the Parish Council for approval.

8. To discuss the provision of car parking at Brackenhill Playing Field

The field lacks parking facilities particularly when football teams are using it. It was agreed to explore the feasibility of providing an area at the bottom of Dicky Sykes Lane for parking.

9. To discuss and decide on the purchase of a 'Disinfectant Chemical Fogging machine'

The Clerk reported that this machine would be used in all council buildings. The cost of the machine is £455 + the cost of disinfectant. It was proposed by Cllr Cook and seconded by Cllr Balfour to recommend to the Parish Council that this machine is purchased. All Councillors agreed.

10. To discuss and decide on the provision of planters / floral displays including wild flowers throughout the village

This had been discussed in agenda item 7.

11. To discuss and decide on the repair / replacement of the climbing wall in the play area at Carr Bridge playing field.

The Clerk reported that one of the sleepers within the wall had fallen down. A temporary repair was carried out by our staff. Wakefield Council had inspected the wall and had recommended that it needs be tied together with bolts. They have been asked to send a quotation for this work.

12. To discuss a request from a resident to adopt the telephone box on Station Road to use as a book exchange.

The Clerk reported that she had contacted Wakefield council who were currently dealing with the decommissioning of telephone boxes. This particular box didn't appear on the list of boxes for disposal, however a local resident sent a photo of the notice displayed in the box which states 'Payphone kiosk removal' notice. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact BT and find out the process for adopting this box and check out any liabilities to the Parish Council.

13. To receive an update on work carried out from the Building and Land check list

The clerk read out a list of work that had been carried out by our staff and or outside contractors. These works were over and above the day to day work. Councillors thanked staff for the work they do.

There being no further business to be discussed the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7:50 pm.