

**PURSUANT TO NOTICE THE MEETING OF ACKWORTH PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD ON MONDAY 13 JANUARY 2020 AT 7.15 PM, IN THE PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNITY CENTRE, BELL LANE, ACKWORTH.**

**Present:** Cllr: S Balfour, in the Chair

Cllrs: J Bell, A Cook, M Galvin, A Garbutt, T Hames, J Hardman, T Hollyhead, G Marshall, S Richmond and M Roberts

4 members of the public  
District Councillor Ms J Carrington

The Chairman advised everyone present that the meeting would be recorded.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished them all a Happy New Year she explained how the public part of the meeting is conducted.

Two residents who live on Vale View explained that it is a private road and is used regularly by people parking / turning round when they collect children from school. The pot holes are significant and the road surface is in need of repair. The Chairman explained that the Parish Council doesn't have a responsibility to repair private roads. She asked if they had spoken to the school and suggested that they do so.

Cllr Garbutt said that there are plans to provide additional car parking at the Community Centre. He suggested that they email him in his capacity as District Councillor.

A local resident asked if 2 seats could be provided to replace ones taken out on Barnsley Road

Cllr Garbutt as Chair of Village Facilities said that this was already in hand. The Clerk confirmed that 3 seats had been ordered, one for the grassed area opposite the end of Bell Lane, one for the grassed area at the entrance to the Courtway and one outside this building.

7.25pm - With permission from Councillors the Chairman moved on to the Council meeting.

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

C1.1 Apologies were received and the reasons given as reported in the attendance book were approved from Cllrs Mrs S Hollyhead. All Councillors agreed.

Apologies were also received from PCSO Kavanagh.

**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 interests (if any)**

**2.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.**

None were received.

**3. To receive a report from West Yorkshire Police**

C3.1 PCSO Kavanagh is unable to attend and would provide the crime statistics as soon as she is able to do so.

#### **4. To receive a report from District Councillors**

C4.1 Cllr Ms Carrington gave a report on behalf of the District Councillors.:

**Foliage** – request for this to be cut back on the ginnell located on Pontefract Road next to the undertakers.

**Broken glass** – Wakefield Road Dando Way entrance to the Electric Theatre. The sweeper and the Street Scene team have visited site 3 times over the last month due to smashed glass on the footpath and roads.

**Gullies** – blocked gullies/drains on Wenthill Close junction.

Cllr Garbutt added that a report had been submitted regarding the amount of grit on footpaths.

#### **5. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9 December 2019**

C5.1 Cllr Roberts proposed and Cllr Hollyhead seconded that the minutes are accepted as a true record.

Cllr Marshall said she had a number of amendments

1. Correction on page1 – remove the last sentence 'The Chairman thanked him but said it was actually District Cllr Martyn Ward who followed this up.'

Voting took place:

3 Councillors voted in favour  
8 Councillors voted against  
0 Councillors abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the amendment is not carried.

2. Agenda item 6 Point F reword para F6 (it's in the minutes as point d which will be amended to point f) Strata Homes incorrect summary either miss it out or correct it to *"Cllr Marshall pointed out that when Councillors made a site visit to Strata, Strata had not been informed and knew nothing about the site visit. Staff telephoned their boss who said he could come to the site in an hour if required. Staff also said that he asked them to ask us whether there was to be a community building and field on site."*

Voting took place:

3 Councillors voted in favour  
6 Councillors voted against  
2 Councillors abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the amendment is not carried.

3. Agenda item 13. amend voting figures – should say 1 abstained  
Agenda item 15 amend voting figures - should say 1 abstained.

Cllr Bell proposed that to move forward the Clerk check her notes from the meeting and if the figures are wrong they can be amended.

Voting took place on this proposal:

- 8 Councillors voted in favour
- 0 Councillors voted against
- 2 Councillors abstained
- 1 Councillor did not vote

Voting then took place on Cllr Roberts proposal to accept the minutes as a true record.

- 8 Councillors voted in favour
- 3 Councillors voted against
- 0 Councillors abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the minutes are approved and the Chairman duly signed them.

#### **6. To receive the Clerks report on matters arising from the minutes of 9 December 2019**

- a) Bell Lane car park – the work is now complete
- b) Dando Way – improvements to drainage A628 road bridge to Mill Lane –District Councillors are dealing with this.
- c) Rural Market Towns Group - no subscription will be charged until the next financial year.
- d) Task Group – 3-Year Plan report discussed at the last meeting with regard to the last bullet point – *“That the group be expanded by appointing a number of villagers to the group to help. In making this decision the group had regard to the work that needs to be done and to the existing time commitments of Parish Councillors and Parish Council staff.”*

It was agreed to consider this further and bring it back to this meeting. A discussion took place about whether the task group should be expanded to involve villagers.

The Chair moved to vote on the acceptance of the final paragraph of the report as detailed above.

Voting took place:

- 2 in favour
- 7 Councillors voted against
- 1 Abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the final paragraph of the report is not accepted.

**8:05pm Cllr Hardman left the meeting**

**7. To receive and approve accounts income, expenditure and bank reconciliation to end of December 2019**

C7.1 A list of accounts to the end of December had previously been circulated to all Councillors. The total amount of expenditure for December was £19,437.89

Cllr Hollyhead proposed and Cllr Hames seconded that the accounts presented are approved.

Voting took place:

8 Councillors voted in favour  
0 Councillors voted against  
2 Councillors abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the accounts are approved and the Chairman duly signed them.

**8. To receive and approve a list of payments to be made and Petty Cash Account to 13 January 2020.**

C8.1 The Clerk had circulated a list of payments to be made and petty cash account at this evenings meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Cook and seconded by Cllr Roberts that the accounts presented are approved.

Voting took place:

8 Councillors voted in favour  
0 Councillors voted against  
2 Councillors abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the accounts are approved and the Chairman duly signed them.

**9. To receive and approve a report from the Internal Auditor**

The Clerk answered questions on the report. The Auditor had recommended that the Public Liability Insurance limit was reviewed. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the insurance company for their advice and a quotation.

C9.1 It was proposed by Cllr Roberts and seconded by Cllr Bell to receive and accept the report.

Voting took place:

8 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

2 Councillors abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the report is accepted.

Cllr Hollyhead said that he had every confidence in the Clerk and thanked her for managing the Council's finance. Cllr Garbutt agreed.

### **10. To approve the cost of training for Councillors which combines 'governance and ethical framework'**

C10.1 Yorkshire Local Councils Association provided this training at a cost of £35 per Councillor the expectation that all Councillors will attend the cost would be £420 . It was agreed that the Clerk would contact YLCA for a couple of dates which would be circulated to all Councillors.

Voting took place:

8 Councillor voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

2 Councillors abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the Clerk contact YLCA to arrange the training.

### **11. To discuss and decide on access to National Association of Local Councils (NALC) website for Councillors (Cllr Marshall)**

C11.1 The Clerk explained that the Parish Council have to agree that Councillors have access to the NALC website.

The Clerk explained the reason for this item.

Voting took place:

9 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

1 Councillor abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the Clerk circulates the log in details.

### **12. To receive and decide on the revised layout of the community centre from Strata Homes**

C12.1 A copy of the revised plan had previously been circulated to all Councillors.

A short discussion took place and it was proposed that the Clerk goes back to Strata to request that the solid wall between the meeting room and the main room be replaced with a folding wall.

Voting took place:

8 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

2 Councillor abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the Clerk writes to Strata Homes with this request.

**13. Update on the 3 year Village Improvement Plan Improvement Plan to achieve improvements in Pedestrian and Road Safety and to address and meet our responsibilities under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to formulate and implement strategies to reduce crime in the village (Cllr Marshall)**

C13.1

Cllr Marshall gave a verbal report.

She raised two road safety issues. It was generally agreed that these would be passed to Road Safety Working Group.

**14. Update on training events attended by Councillors and Staff since the start since the start of this newly elected Parish Council in May 2019**

A short discussion was held.

It was proposed by the Chair to note this.

Voting took place:

10 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

0 Councillors abstained

**15. Update on action to develop the Parish Council response to the WDC Strategic Housing Land Availability strategy (Cllr Marshall)**

Cllr Hames as Chair of the Planning Sub Committee explained that due to unforeseen circumstances a meeting had not been held to discuss this. This would be included on the next agenda.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Hames for the report and moved to note this.

Voting took place

10 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

0 Councillors abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that this item is noted.

**16. To review whether Parish Councillors are in a position to give informed consent on financial matters and budgets (Cllr Marshall)**

A discussion took place on this item.

Cllr Bell proposed to move progress.

Voting took place:

8 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

0 Councillors abstained

2 people did not voting

It was therefore RESOLVED to move to agenda item 17.

**17. To receive and approve the Minutes of the Allotment Working Group meeting held on 10 January 2020**

C17.1 The Clerk explained that although the meeting was not quorate the meeting went ahead as the Tenant Representatives were in attendance

It was noted that there are no specific recommendations, but that the Allotment Rent increase of £1 per plot is in line with previous years.

Cllr Hollyhead as acting Chairman said that it was a positive meeting. He therefore proposed that the minutes are received and accepted.

Voting took place:

8 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

1 Councillor abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the minutes are received and accepted.

**18. An email received from Power for the People Organisation asking that the Parish Council support the Local Electricity Bill :**

- 1) **That Ackworth Parish Council: notes that the Local Electricity Bill**
  - **aims to address the current situation, whereby the very large financial setup and running costs involved in selling locally generated renewable electricity to local customers results in it being impossible for local renewable electricity to local customers.**
  - **If made law, would make these financial costs proportionate to the scale of a renewable electricity supplier's operation and therefore empower councils, together with their communities, to sell locally generated renewable electricity directly to local people, businesses and organisations**

- **Would result in councils or community organisations that set up local renewable electricity companies receiving revenues that could be used to fund local greenhouse gas emissions reduction measures and to help improve local services and facilities**

**2) Accordingly resolves to support the Local Electricity Bill, supported by a cross-party group of 115 MP's during the 2017-19 Parliamentary session**

**3) Further resolves to write to the organisers of the campaign for the Bill, Power for People expressing its support**

It was agreed at last month's meeting that Councillors research this proposal and bring it back to this meeting.

After a short discussion and having noted that the bill did not pass through Parliament it was proposed by Cllr Bell and seconded by Cllr Hames to note this.

Voting took place:

10 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

0 Councillors abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that this item is noted.

## **19. To receive and comment on the Planning Applications received by Wakefield MDC**

*The following applications were noted unless otherwise stated.*

- 1) 19/02675/FUL Ackworth Grove – proposed new build garage to side of existing dwelling.
- 2) 19/02722/FUL 46 Millgate – part two storey, part first floor side extension and external alterations
- 3) 19/02758/OUT 20 Hardakers Lane (land to north of) – residential development for the erection of 4 no. detached dwellings and associated garages (outline application with all matters reserved)
- 4) 19/02831/GDP 10 The Bungalows, Hardakers Lane – single storey extension to rear maximum overall projection of 4.0m, maximum height 2.8m and maximum height to eaves, 2.8m.

A short discussion was held regarding application no. 19/02758/OUT 20 Hardakers Lane (land to north of)

Cllr Hames reported that he had looked at this planning application and had visited the site – although there are access difficulties the land is included on the Strategic Housing Land Availability as allocated land.

It was proposed by the Chairman to object to this application on the grounds of access to the site and overdevelopment.

It was further agreed that it would be discussed in more detail at the Planning Sub Committee and an objection sent following this meeting.

Voting took place:

10 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

0 Councillors abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the Planning Sub Committee would draft an objection.

## **20. To receive Burial Rights**

J47 Kathleen Margaret Moxon

V65 Valerie Winifred Hopper

## **21. Additional Correspondence:**

1) Email received from local resident – thanking the Parish Council for Ackworth Senior Citizens Christmas Tea and your work throughout the year – it was agreed to contact the resident concerned for their permission to include this in the newsletter.

DRAFT