

**PURSUANT TO NOTICE A VIRTUAL MEETING OF ACKWORTH PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD ON MONDAY 14 September 2020 AT 7.15 PM**

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

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

5 members of the public

The meeting commenced at 7:25 pm as some members had problems connecting.

The Vice Chairman invited questions from members of the public.

Q1 A resident asked why agenda item 15 was on the agenda - The Vice Chairman replied that this would be fully discussed in the meeting.

The Chairman joined the meeting:

Q2 A resident asked about agenda item 7. What process – was independent when will the outcome be known. The Chairman said that this is a complaint within the Council and as such is confidential

Q3 A resident sent a question as she was unable to speak – I would like to ask why the public consultation on the link road is up to be agreed to postpone on point 15. The same response as per question 1.

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

C1.1 All Parish Councillors were in attendance.

Apologies were received from District Councillor Ms J Carrington and PCSO L 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.**

C2.1 The Chairman and Cllr Cook both declared an interest in planning applications that their respective neighbours had submitted.

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

C3.1 The Clerk reported that PCSO Kavanagh would send a report as soon as she is able to. She had however received and circulated to all Councillors the Wakefield East & South East NPT Newsletter.

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

C4.1 The Clerk read out the report:

- Litter – Thank you to the small group of residents that have continued to litter pick across Ackworth in their own bubble. Cllr Carrington has also been out litter picking across Ackworth. If anyone would like to become a litter picking hero please contact Cllr Carrington who will arrange a litter picking pack for you. Social distancing and government guidance must be followed at all times.
- Broken glass – this has been cleared numerous times on Dando Way under the bridge near the Angel.
- Dog poop – Dando Way has been re stencilled and information passed to the dog ward and NPT. WMDC have also launched a stop the plop campaign across the district.
- Traffic regulation order consultation – see the correspondence you have been sent.
- Funding – Ackworth Jaguars have been successful in receiving funding to help the club get back up and running.
- Road signs Ackworth roundabout – damage to a road sign on the roundabout in Ackworth was damaged and a new one has been ordered.
- Blocked gullies – some gullies on Wakefield Road are blocked and these have been reported.
- Missing manhole cover – a manhole cover was missing in the foliage/grass verge next to Wakefield Road near the allotments. This has been replaced.
- Missed bins – any reports of missed bins have been passed to WMDC.
- Cllr Carrington has been providing mental health first aid and well-being guidance to some residents across the ward and district. Cllr Carrington is working with public health and many different organisations.
- Providing general support for covid-19 pandemic.

#### **5. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13 July 2020**

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

Cllr Richmond questioned the vote that had taken place on agenda item 22, he said his vote was wrongly recorded.

It was agreed that the Clerk would check the voting.

Subject to the correction above if required voting took place

10 Councillors voted in favour

2 Councillors abstained – Cllr Marshall and Cllr Richmond

0 Councillors voted against

It was therefore RESOLVED that the minutes are approved and would be signed by the Chairman at a later date.

## **6. To receive the Clerks report on matters arising from the minutes of 13 July 2020**

- Representatives of SELRAG feel that as the consultation on the proposed South Featherstone Link Road won't be taking place until autumn / winter 2021 the private briefing meeting can wait until near that time.
- Additional lighting on Dando Way – response received from Wakefield Council say – *'having visited the site and looked at crime figures for the area they are unable to fund lighting, however they would fund design works to enable an actual works estimate to be drawn up should the Parish Council wish to look for funding.'*
- Face to Face meetings – *Yorkshire Local Councils Association advice continues to be that local councils should hold all meetings remotely.*
- Bell Lane car park – Response from Wakefield Council Car Park Section to say that *'this work will be sorted as soon as practically possible.'*

The report was received and noted

## **7. To approve the Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 3 August 2020**

A note would be included in the minutes to say that Cllr Marshall was unable to listen or take part in the meeting due to technological problems.

C7.1 Subject to this being included it was proposed by Cllr Bell to move to a vote

Voting took place:

8 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillor abstained

2 Councillor voted against

Cllr Hames and Cllr Marshall were unable to vote.

It was therefore RESOLVED that vote on the resolution.

9 Councillors voted in favour

2 Councillors voted against -Cllr Richmond

0 Councillor

Cllr Marshall was unable to vote

It was therefore RESOLVED that the minutes are approved and would be signed by the Chairman at a later date.

## **8. To receive and approve accounts income, expenditure and bank reconciliation to end of July 2020**

C.8.1 A list of accounts to the end of July had previously been circulated to all Councillors. The total amount of expenditure for July was £28,733.10.

The Clerk gave an explanation on the accounts where requested to do so.

The Chairman asked that the accounts presented are approved.

Voting took place:

9 Councillors voted in favour  
0 Councillors voted against  
1 Councillor abstained – Cllr Richmond  
Cllr Hames and Cllr Marshall were unable to vote.

It was therefore RESOLVED that the accounts are approved and the Chairman will sign them at a later date.

**9. To receive and approve accounts income, expenditure and bank reconciliation to end of August 2020**

C.9.1 A list of accounts to the end of August had previously been circulated to all Councillors. The total amount of expenditure for August was £22,127.98

The Chairman proposed that the accounts presented are approved:

Voting took place:

9 Councillors voted in favour  
0 Councillor voted against  
1 Councillor abstained – Cllr Richmond  
Cllr Hames and Cllr Marshall were unable to vote

It was therefore RESOLVED that the accounts are approved and the Chairman will sign them at a later date.

**10. To receive and approve a list of payments to be made and Petty Cash account to 14 September 2020**

C10.1 The Clerk had circulated a list of payments to be made and petty cash account at this evening's meeting.

The Clerk gave an explanation on the accounts where requested to do so.

Voting took place:

10 Councillors voted in favour  
1 Councillors voted against - Cllr Marshall  
1 Councillor abstained – Cllr Richmond

It was therefore RESOLVED that the accounts are approved and the Chairman will sign them at a later date.

**11. To receive and approve an updated Disciplinary Policy**

C11.1 A copy of this document had previously been circulated. A discussion took place.

Cllr Garbutt proposed to move to the vote on this document:

Voting took place:

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

It was therefore RESOLVED to vote on the acceptance of this document.

Voting took place:

9 Councillors voted in favour

3 Councillors voted against

0 Councillors abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the Disciplinary Policy is accepted.

**12. To receive and approve that the 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche of Cil funding of £10,500 to be allocated to the provision of additional car parking at College Lane Surgery**

C12.1 The Clerk explained that she was first approached at the beginning of the year by a member of the surgery team asking if they could access CiL funding towards work on the car park to alter and extend it making a more user friendly service providing more spaces. They are currently in the process of working with architects. The Clerk read out an email from the surgery clarifying the situation with Novus Health.

A discussion took place.

Cllr Garbutt moved progress, in principal to allocate this money towards the improvement of the car park.

It was agreed to move the motion to a vote.

Voting took place:

9 Councillors voted in favour

2 Councillors voted against

1 Councillor abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the proposal is approved.

**13 To receive a report from Council Representatives on outside bodies**

C13.1 There were none to receive

**14. To receive correspondence from Wakefield Council re Residents Consultation for proposal for 'No waiting at any time' restrictions on Wakefield Road**

C14.1 A copy of the documentation sent to residents affected was previously circulated to all Councillors.

The Clerk read out a statement from the Road Safety Committee:

*This matter has been discussed at the Road Safety Committee over a number of years. In 2017 District Councillor Jessica Carrington pursued this with Wakefield Council Highways and this consultation is the result.*

It was therefore RESOLVED to receive this correspondence.

**15. To agree to postpone the consultation with Ackworth residents on the 'South Featherstone Link Road' until September 2021**

C15.1 The Clerk read out statement:

*'The agenda for tonight's meeting was put together on Friday 4 and Monday 7 September. At that time, the information that we had led us to believe that the best time to conduct a survey of Ackworth residents to find out their views on the South Featherstone Link Road would be in the autumn of 2021 when Wakefield Council is planning to hold a consultation on the plans for the link road. However, from conversations and emails with Wakefield planning officers, it now seems that the best time for Ackworth Parish Council to consult with Ackworth residents will be this autumn, at the same time as the consultation on the Local Plan. Therefore the proposal to change the timing of the survey has been withdrawn.'*

The Chairman explained that the consultation would go ahead this autumn the detail of which is still to be clarified.

It is clear from an email received from Spatial Policy at Wakefield Council that if Ackworth residents are to be able to say either no we don't want a bypass or yes we do and this is the route we would like it to take we need to have that input at the stage of drawing up the local plan which is happening this September

If the route is accepted then the outline route forms part of the local plan. The consultation in September 2021 is the fine detail, engineering etc.

The point at which we say no we don't want or yes we want it is during the consultation taking place this autumn.

**16. To receive an invitation to the Chairman to attend the Service of Remembrance at Nostell Priory**

C16.1 It was agreed to note this correspondence.

**17. This Parish Council resolves to restore or replace the seating by the war memorial and to improve that area and other public areas in our village (Cllr Marshall)**

C17.1 Cllr Marshall proposed and Cllr Richmond seconded the resolution.

Cllr Bell proposed an amendment that 'continue' is added to the proposal to read 'and continue to improve that area .....etc'. Cllr Marshall accepted the amendment.

Voting took place on the amended proposal

11 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

0 Councillors abstained

Cllr Cook was not available to vote

**18. This Parish Council resolves that regardless of who the Chair of the Parish Council may be, that they cannot in addition to being Chair of the Parish Council: be the Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee; serve on the Personnel Sub-Committee; or hold the position of Line-Manager to the Clerk should this Parish Council decide to create such a post. (Cllr Marshall)**

C18.1 Cllr Marshall spoke on the resolution.

**9:25 Cllr Richmond proposed an extension of 15 minutes to move standing orders to extend the meeting for 15 minutes to 9:45 pm**

The majority of Councillors voted in favour.  
The meeting would therefore continue until 9:45 pm.

Cllr Richmond seconded Cllr Marshall's motion and agreed with everything she said.

Cllr Marshall withdrew the motion, as it needs more time and thought.

The Chairman said that Standing Orders Rules of Debate 5 requires that a vote is taken to allow the motion to be withdrawn.

Voting took place:  
9 Councillors voted for  
2 Councillors voted against  
0 Councillors abstained  
Cllr Cook didn't vote

It was therefore RESOLVED that this motion is withdrawn.

**19. The Parish Council resolves to discuss in full Parish Council, the items on which a Parish Poll was requested at the well attended Parish Meeting that took place on 6 March 2020 (Cllr Marshall)**

C19.1 Cllr Marshall withdrew the motion.

**20. To consider a response to a consultation by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government who issued three consultations on reform of the planning system:**

- 1. Changes to the current planning system**
- 2. Planning for the future**
- 3. Transparency and competition: a call for evidence on data on land control**

**The first part of the consultation has to be responded to NALC by 17 September 2020**

C20.1 The Chairman proposed that a Task and Finish Group of all Councillors meet once to agree a response to this document.

All Councillors agreed

It was therefore RESOLVED that the Clerk sets up a meeting in the next day or so to enable a response to be sent to NALC by 5 pm on 17<sup>th</sup> September.

**As it was now 9:45 pm the Chairman closed the meeting.**

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**Chairman**  
**Date to be added**

*The remainder of the business on the agenda was would be included on the October Parish Council meeting agenda.*

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