

PURSUANT TO NOTICE A VIRTUAL MEETING OF ACKWORTH PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD ON MONDAY 11 JANUARY 2020 AT 7.15 PM

Present: Cllr: S Balfour, in the Chair

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

5 members of the public

The start of the meeting was delayed until 19:22 as the residents were initially unable to connect.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded everyone of the protocol for members of the public.

Q1 a resident raised concerns that the South Featherstone Link Road survey arrived very close to Christmas and that there was only one open question where residents could really give their opinions and also, as the online form can be completed as many times as liked how that data can be relied upon?

The Chairman explained that this point would be discussed as part of agenda point 13

Q2 a resident asked why the press and public are excluded from agenda item 16.

The Chairman explained that with matters such as this, there will be point further down the process to ask for tenders and the matter is discussed in private so that everyone who wants to put in a tender is in the same position and we don't have some people who have an unfair advantage being party to a discussion that has already taken place about it.

Q3 a resident asked why one open question on the South Featherstone Link Road survey contained a statement that Station Road is used as a short cut and what research was conducted to justify it being used as a question within the questionnaire.

The Chairman explained that this point would be discussed as part of agenda point 13

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 Cllr Garbutt. All Councillors agreed.

C1.2 Apologies were received from District Councillor M Ward 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.

Cllr Bell declared an interest in agenda item 10

3. To receive a report from West Yorkshire Police

C3.1 The Clerk advised that she had not received a report however PCSO Kavanagh will send one and it will be available to view on the Parish Council's website once received.

4. To receive a report from District Councillors

C4.1 No report received.

5. To receive a report from Parish Council Representatives on outside bodies

C5.1 The Clerk read out a financial report from Ackworth Senior Citizens Christmas fund

Cllr S Hollyhead declared an interest.

6. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14 December 2020

C6.1 Cllr M Roberts proposed and Cllr Cook seconded that the minutes are approved.

Voting took place:

8 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

2 Councillor abstained

1 Councillor was unable to vote

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

7. To receive the Clerks report on matters arising from the minutes of 14 December 2020

C7.1 The Clerk reported that the LDF responses sent to Wakefield MDC had previously been circulated to all Councillors. These responses had been complied in accordance with the remit given to the Clerk and Cllr Hames at the December Parish Council meeting.

The Chairman asked for the Parish Council's thanks to be noted to Cllr Hames and the Clerk

Cllr Marshall asked that it be noted that she doesn't support the note of thanks to Cllr Hames and the Clerk.

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

C8.1 A list of accounts to the end of December had previously been circulated to all Councillors. The total amount of expenditure for December was £18,501.08

Cllr Roberts proposed and Cllr S Hollyhead seconded that the accounts be approved.

Voting took place:

8 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

1 Councillor abstained

2 Councillors were unable to vote

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

9. To receive and approve a list of payments to be made and Petty Cash account to 14 January 2021

C9.1 The Clerk had previously circulated a list of payments to be made and the petty cash account.

Cllr Cook proposed and Cllr Bell seconded that the accounts be approved.

Voting took place:

8 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

1 Councillor abstained

2 Councillors were unable to vote

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

Cllr Bell had declared an interest in the following item.

10. To receive a grant application from Ackworth Community Library

C10.1 The Clerk reported that a copy of the application had previously been circulated to all Councillors.

Cllr Cook proposed and Cllr T Hollyhead seconded that the application of £400 is approved.

Voting took place

9 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

0 Councillor abstained

1 Councillor declared an interest

1 Councillor was unable to vote

11. To receive the minutes of the Village Facilities Committee meeting held on 7 January 2021 and to approve the recommendations contained within them.

C11.1 Cllr Cook proposed and Cllr Roberts seconded that the minutes are received and approved.

Voting took place:

8 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

2 Councillors abstained

1 Councillor was unable to vote

It was therefore RESOLVED that the proposal is approved.

Cllr Roberts proposed to include a white rose on the existing millstones

Cllr Richmond proposed to include Mary Lowther's name on the new signs

Voting took place on both proposals:

10 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

0 Councillors abstained

1 Councillor was unable to vote.

12. To receive and comment on Planning Applications received by Wakefield MDC

The following applications were noted unless otherwise stated.

20/02637/CPL 3 Coopers Close, single storey extension to side and rear

20/02611/FUL 15 Orchard Drive – single storey front extension

20/02618/FUL 25 Hill Drive – 2 storey extensions to the front and the rear of the property

20/02790/FUL 6-8 Doncaster Road – single storey rear and side extensions to number 6 with detached garage conversion / annex accommodation. Single storey extension to number 8.

20/02763/FUL The Granary, Berrill Farm – conversion of existing store to ancillary living accommodation

Cllr Hames reported that the first two applications have been approved.

It was agreed that the planning subcommittee would meet to discuss two ongoing planning applications that are of concern to residents.

The Clerk reported that following a resident's enquiry to a Parish Councillor regarding the requirement for planning permission at a property on Pontefract Road she contacted Wakefield Council's planning department and they confirmed that that permission wasn't required.

13. To receive a report on the results on the SFLR Survey. To receive 2 items of correspondence regarding the survey and to decide on a response.

13.1 Cllr T Hollyhead read out the Survey Monkey results which had previously been circulated to all Councillors.

C13.2 Two items of correspondence were received which had previously been circulated to all Councillors

The Chairman gave a summary of the letter from a resident.

The letter received from Cllrs Richmond and Marshall. The Chairman asked them if they had any further comments to make neither of them chose not to respond.

Cllr Hardman gave his apologies and left the meeting at 8:55pm

C13.3 Cllr Hames proposed and Cllr Cook seconded that the responses received should be considered by the Road Safety Committee who will produce a summary report. This will then come back to the Parish Council.

Voting took place

9 Councillors voted in favour

1 Councillors voted against

0 Councillor abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the proposal is approved.

14. To discuss and decide that as a council we issue a statement which recognises the climate emergency and commits the Parish Council to work to protect and enhance the environment and decrease our carbon footprint. If this is approved we should set up a “green” task force to investigate potential courses of action which will help us in this mission. (Cllr Cook)

C14.1 Cllr Cook proposed and Cllr Roberts seconded to support in principle the proposal as put forward by Cllr Cook

Voting took place

9 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

0 Councillors abstained

1 Councillor was unable to vote

A further vote took place to setup a four-person task and finish group who will draw up the position statement from the Parish Council that will then be brought back to the Parish Council for approval.

Cllr Cook proposed Cllr Bell, Cllr Galvin, Cllr Roberts and herself.

The Chairman asked if any other Councillor wish to be considered. Cllr Hames put his name forward and then withdrew it.

Voting took place

8 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

1 Councillors abstained

1 Councillor unable to vote

It was therefore RESOLVED that the proposal is approved.

9:30pm Cllr Roberts proposed an extension of 10 minutes to move standing orders to extend the meeting for 10 minutes to 9:40 pm

15 To receive Burial Rights

C15.1 There were none to receive

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION 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

Chairman – 8 February 2021