

**PURSUANT TO NOTICE A VIRTUAL MEETING OF ACKWORTH PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD ON MONDAY 8 MARCH COMMENCING AT 7.15 PM**

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

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

8 members of the public

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

Question 1 – Mr Vaux spoke about agenda item 18 and asked for support with the A628 High Ackworth to Pontefract traffic calming scheme.

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

C1.1 Apologies were received and the reasons given as reported in the attendance book were approved from Cllr Cook and Cllr Galvin. All Councillors agreed.

C1.2 Apologies were received from District Councillors J Carrington, 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 interest (if any)**

**2.3 To receive any requests for dispensation as appropriate**

Cllr Marshall declared an interest in agenda items 25, 28 and 29

Cllr Richmond declared an interest in agenda item 25

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

C3.1 The Clerk read out a report from PCSO Lorraine Kavanagh. The report was received and noted.

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

C4.1 Cllr Garbutt reported that there had been an increase in dog fouling and many reports had been sent through to Wakefield Council for street cleaning \ surfacing.

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

C5.1 None to receive

**6. To receive and approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8 February 2021**

C6.1 Cllr Bell proposed and Cllr Mrs Hollyhead seconded that the minutes are approved

Voting took place:

7 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

3 Councillors abstained

**7. To receive the Clerks report on any matters arising from the Minutes of 8 February 2021**

C7.1 The Clerk reported she had received a response from Ackworth School regarding the stone wall. The response had previously been distributed to all Councillors.

**8. To receive and approve accounts, income, expenditure and bank reconciliation to end of January 2021.**

C8.1 A list of accounts to the end of January had previously been circulated to all Councillors. The total amount of expenditure for January was £21,863.82

Cllr Roberts proposed and Cllr Garbutt seconded that the accounts be approved.

Voting took place:

7 Councillors voted in favour  
0 Councillors voted against  
3 Councillor abstained

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

**9. To receive and approve accounts, income, expenditure and bank reconciliation to end of February 2021**

C9.1 A list of accounts to the end of February had previously been circulated to all Councillors. The total amount of expenditure for February was £26,101.26.

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

Voting took place:

7 Councillors voted in favour  
0 Councillors voted against  
3 Councillor abstained

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

**10. To receive and approve a list of payments to be made and Petty Cash account to 8 March 2021**

C10.1 A list of payments to be made had previously been circulated to all Councillors

Cllr Roberts proposed and Cllr Garbutt seconded that the list of payments is approved

Voting took place:

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

C10.2 The petty cash account had previously been circulated to all Councillors

Cllr Roberts proposed and Cllr Mrs Hollyhead seconded that the petty cash account is approved.

Voting took place

7 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

3 Councillors abstained

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

**11. To receive and note the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 22 February 2021, to approve the recommendations contained in them and to receive and note correspondence from PFK Littejohn External Auditors.**

C11.1 The minutes had previously been circulated to all Councillors

Cllr Hames proposed and Cllr Garbutt seconded that the minutes are approved

Voting took place:

7 Councillors voted in favour

3 Councillors voted against

0 Councillors abstained

It was agreed that Cllr Hardman, Cllr Marshall and Cllr Richmond's request to have it be noted that they voted against this, was accepted.

It was therefore RESOLVED that the minutes are approved

C11.2 The Clerk explained that she had received three items of correspondence from the external auditor following a challenge they had received from a resident.

The clerk reported that the work involved to fulfil the requirements as set out by the external auditor would incur additional hours and asked for the Parish Council to agree to pay for the work involved.

Cllr Garbutt proposed and Cllr Hollyhead seconded that the Parish Council agree to pay the Clerk a one-off payment for the additional hours to complete the work.

Voting took place:

10 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

0 Councillors abstained

It is therefore RESOLVED that the proposal is approved.

**12. To receive the minutes of the Village Events Committee held on 22 February 2021 and to approve the recommendations contained in them.**

C12.1 The minutes had previously been circulated to all Councillors

Subject to a grammatical typing correction, Cllr Roberts proposed and Cllr Bell seconded that the minutes are received and approved.

Voting took place:  
8 Councillors voted in favour  
0 Councillors voted against  
2 Councillors abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the proposal is approved

**13. To receive and note the minutes of the Village Facilities Committee held on 18 and 22 February 2021 and to approve the recommendations within them.**

C13.1 The minutes had previously been distributed to all Councillors

Cllr Roberts proposed and Cllr Mrs Hollyhead seconded that the minutes are received and approved

Voting took place:  
7 Councillors voted in favour  
0 Councillors voted against  
3 Councillors abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the proposal is approved

**14. To receive and note the minutes of the Communications & Media Committee held on 25 February 2021 and to approve the recommendations contained in them.**

C14.1 Cllr Bell proposed and Cllr Mrs Hollyhead seconded that the minutes are approved

Voting took place:  
7 Councillors voted in favour  
3 Councillors voted against  
0 Councillors abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the proposal is approved.

**15. To receive and note the minutes of the Allotment Sub Committee held on 19 February 2021 and to approve the recommendations contained in them.**

C15.1 Cllr Bell proposed and Cllr Mrs Hollyhead seconded that the minutes are approved

Voting took place:  
8 Councillors voted in favour  
0 Councillors voted against  
2 Councillors abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the proposal is approved.

**16. To receive and comment on Planning Applications received by Wakefield Council:**

C16.1 The following applications were noted unless otherwise stated

- 21/00109/FUL 43 Millgate – single storey extension to rear
- 21/00263/FUL 2 Chiltern Drive (land to north) residential development 1 dwelling
- 21/00344/FUL 1 Orchard View – conversion of two dwellings to form a single dwelling with minor external alterations.
- 21/00402/LBC Eden Place, Pontefract Road – replacement of window frame at opening ref W10 (within the Courtyard elevation) 21/00407/LBC removal of external render and repair/replacement of defective stonework on the south western elevation.

It was agreed to write to Wakefield Council and express the Parish Council's disappointment with the lack of opportunity to comment on the application from Ackworth School. Councillors raised their concerns about the lack of notices advising residents about planning applications. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Wakefield Council to ask that the practise be reinstated.

**16b. To receive a report from the Clerk on a submitted response to the LDF consultation and actions taken by Wakefield Council.**

C16b.1 The Clerk gave a report on this matter which was received and noted.

**17. To receive and decide on a response to a consultation on the Leeds East Airport consultation 2021**

C17.1 The Chairman asked that the Clerk sends out link to the consultation to all councillors to consider and bring back any responses they wish to make to April's Parish Council meeting. All Councillors agreed.

**18. To receive and decide how to respond to the revised plan for the Traffic Calming Scheme on the A628 High Ackworth to Pontefract.**

C18.1 Cllr Hollyhead read out a statement that Mr Vaux had previously provided. It was agreed that an amendment to include the request for a relocation of the 30mph sign to the Ackworth boundary on Castlesyke Hill

Voting took place:

10 Councillors voted in favour

0 Councillors voted against

0 Councillor abstained

**19. To agree that in the event that the works to improve College Lane Surgery car park cannot be completed in time to meet the deadline for CiL funding the Council will decide on another project to enable this tranche of funding to be spent.**

Cllr Hames declared an interest

C19.1 Cllr Garbutt proposed and Cllr Roberts seconded if the Parish Council don't hear back from Wakefield Council before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 that the deadline can be extended then Low Ackworth Community Association should be invited to submit a proposal that the money is used to write a business plan, draw up and submit plans for the new building and someone to help with writing out grant funding bids.

C19.2 Cllr Richmond proposed and Cllr Marshall seconded an amendment that the funding is used for lighting on Dando Way

Voting took place on the amendment

3 Councillors voted in favour  
6 Councillors voted against  
0 Councillor abstained

The amendment therefore FALLS

Voting took place on place on the proposal:

6 Councillors voted in favour  
0 Councillors voted against  
2 Councillor abstained  
1 Councillor didn't vote

It was therefore RESOLVED that the proposal is approved

**20. To receive correspondence from a resident of Low Ackworth regarding Internet / Broadband and to decide on a course of action.**

C20.1 The correspondence was previously circulated to all Councillors.

Cllr Roberts proposed and Cllr Balfour seconded that the request is supported and that the Parish Council writes to the MP and the cabinet member at Wakefield Council to influence increased internet connectivity in Ackworth.

All Councillors voted in favour

**21. To receive Burial Rights**

C21.1 None to receive

**22. For Ackworth Parish Council to request that Wakefield MDC correct the misleading and incorrect information on their Strategic Housing Land Availability (SHLAA) site. (Cllr Hardman)**

C22.1 Cllr Hardman proposed and Cllr Richmond seconded that the proposal is approved.

Voting took place:

9 Councillors voted in favour  
0 Councillors voted against  
1 Councillor abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the proposal is approved.

**23. To agree that donated bird boxes be situated on trees that the Parish Council are responsible for, these to be fitted by a group of volunteers (Cllr Bell)**

C23.1 Cllr Bell proposed and Cllr Mrs Hollyhead seconded that the proposal is approved

Voting took place:

10 Councillors voted in favour  
0 Councillors voted against  
0 Councillors abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the proposal is approved.

**24. To agree to appoint a Solicitor to set up a Trust to oversee John Gully's Grave.  
(Cllr Garbutt)**

C24.1 Cllr Garbutt proposed and Cllr Roberts seconded to approve the appointment of a solicitor, the Clerk to obtain some costings for consideration.

Voting took place:  
10 Councillors voted in favour  
0 Councillors voted against  
0 Councillor abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the proposal is approved.

**25. This Parish Council notes that adverse comments critical of the Parish Council have been submitted to Wakefield Council by serving members of Ackworth Parish Council as a response to the LDF consultation and are now in the public domain. The Parish Council will write to Wakefield District Council in strong terms asking that the statement be removed from the public portal (Cllr Garbutt)**

Cllr Marshall and Cllr Richmond declared an interest

C25.1 Cllr Garbutt proposed and Cllr Roberts seconded that a strongly worded letter is sent to the Leader and Chief Executive of the Wakefield Council leader.

Voting took place:  
7 Councillors voted in favour  
0 Councillors voted against  
1 Councillor abstained

**26. To agree in principal an amount of money to purchase a 'colliery tub' which will be used to use as a planter (Cllr Garbutt)**

C26.1 Cllr Garbutt proposed and Cllr Bell seconded an expenditure of up to £2000

Cllr Marshall left the meeting

Voting took place:  
9 Councillors voted in favour  
0 Councillors voted against  
0 Councillor abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the proposal is approved.

Cllr Hardman left the meeting

**The Chairman thanked members of the public for attending**

**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**

**27. To receive a report on the replacement of the gas boilers at the Community Centre and to appoint a contractor.**

C27.1 The Clerk reported that three companies had submitted prices.

Quotation 1	£8500
Quotation 2	£7518
Quotation 3	£5000 estimate

It was agreed to discard quotation 3 as a full survey of the building had not been carried out. Cllr Bell proposed and Cllr Garbutt seconded that the company providing quotation 2 would be appointed.

Voting took place:  
 8 Councillors voted in favour  
 0 Councillors voted against  
 0 Councillor abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the company providing quotation 2 carries out the work.

**28. To receive and note the minutes of the private part of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 22 February 2021 and to approve the recommendations within them.**

C28.1 Cllr Hames proposed and Cllr Bell seconded that the minutes are received and noted.

Voting took place:  
 8 Councillors voted in favour  
 0 Councillors voted against  
 0 Councillor abstained

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

**29. To receive and note the minutes of the Personnel Sub Committee held on 25 February 2021 and to approve the recommendations within them**

C29.1 Cllr Hames proposed and Cllr Bell seconded that the minutes are approved

Voting took place:  
 8 Councillors voted in favour  
 0 Councillors voted against  
 0 Councillor abstained

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

**30. To receive a report on the damage caused to the Cemetery wall on 9 February 2021 and approve the cost of the repair.**

C30.1 Cllr Balfour proposed and Cllr Mrs Hollyhead seconded that the cost is approved and completed by the company that carried out the initial work to render the wall.

Voting took place:  
 8 Councillors voted in favour



0 Councillors voted against  
0 Councillor abstained

It was therefore RESOLVED that the quotation is accepted.

It was further agreed that the Clerk contact the insurance company and submit an insurance claim if applicable and arrange a site visit when social distancing restrictions are lifted to see what is any improvement to the cemetery road can be put in place.

As there was no further business to discuss the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9:30 pm.

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**Chairman – 12 April 2021**

DRAFT