

DRAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Monday 9 December 2019 in the Village Hall at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr A Mole - Chairman
Cllr J Garnett
Cllr M Billing
Cllr R Neale
Cllr A Turner
Mrs J Markham – Clerk

Public: 2

1. Disclosure of Interests

Members were invited to disclose any interests (including any not already listed in the Register of Interests) relevant to the business of the meeting, and, in respect of a disclosable interest (previously registered or not), to request dispensation pursuant to the Council's Code of Conduct to participate in the business under discussion and vote on the matter.

Relevant Interests disclosed: Cllrs Billing and Turner – Agenda Item 7 (Budget & Precept 2020/21) – Personal Interest (as Trustees of Village Hall)

Additional Interests disclosed: None.

2. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 11 November 2019

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 November 2019 were taken as read, approved as a true and correct record, and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising

- (i) Christmas tree – it was reported that the tree had been delivered and installed on 8 December. Payment of £50 was approved as an agreed contribution towards costs.
- (ii) Craven Local Plan It was noted that the Plan had now been adopted.
- (iii) Accessibility Regulations The website had been updated in compliance with the Regulations.
- (iv) Dales Care Home – A letter of support in respect of proposals for car parking for the Home's staff and visitors had been provided. Detailed plans were awaited and would be discussed at a future meeting.

- (v) X84 The Clerk reported that a local resident continued to monitor the service and revised timetables were being published on the website and bus stop noticeboard as and when required.

4. Memorial Garden

It was reported that the stone bench had now been installed. Cllr Turner offered to work with a village resident to plant up the area with Spring-flowering roots. After discussion, it was RESOLVED: “THAT funds of £400, as remaining in the budget for creation of the Garden, be potentially allocated towards the costs of seeding, planting and laying a pathway from the Memorial Garden, and that the Clerk be authorised to make arrangements for the works to be carried out by the village green contractor.”

5. Planning

The following planning decision was noted:

South View Farm (Ref. 2019/20995/HH) – planning permission granted

The following planning applications were discussed as follows:

- (i) The Old Post Office – tree works (Ref. 2019/21172/TCA) – no comments to be made
- (ii) Housing development at top of the village (Ref 2018/18883/FUL) – no further developments.
- (iii) Land at Draughton Heights (Ref 2019/20400/FUL) – no further developments.

Confirming a personal interest, as Trustees of the Village Hall, in proposals to provide budgeted funding towards the costs of its refurbishment, Cllrs Billing and Turner took part in discussing the next item of business but did not vote on the matter

6. Budget and Precept 2020/21

The draft Budget 2020/21, as amended after discussion at the October meeting, was received and, in the light of taxbase details now provided by the billing authority, proposals for the precept were considered and discussed.

It was noted that, if approved, the precept would give rise to a nil increase in the charge for an average Band D property, compared with the charge in 2019/20. It was also noted that revised salary scales for local council clerks had not yet been received from NALC.

It was RESOLVED:

- (1) “THAT the draft Budget 2020/21, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes as an Appendix, be approved, and that it be used as the basis for setting the Parish Precept 2020/21 in order that sufficient funds be made available for budgeted expenditure, taking account also of the level of funds available as carried forward from previous financial years and with a view to managing any potential increase in local taxation, and that the Clerk be authorised to complete the precept form accordingly and arrange for its signature by the Chairman and two other members.”
- (2) “THAT, following receipt of the recommended NALC Salary Award for Local Council Clerks 2020/21, its recommendations be confirmed by Council, and that any additional salary costs be absorbed within existing budgetary provision.”
- (3) “THAT plans to repair and refurbish the Village Hall by the Trustees be noted, and that funds of £800 be earmarked from the Council’s bank reserves for the purpose of providing a contribution towards costs likely to arise during the course of 2020/21.”

7. Other Financial Matters

A The month’s accounts, including the quarterly payments to the clerk and village hall respectively, were approved for payment and cheques were signed as required.

B Quotations for the costs of preparing for future village events were considered.

It was RESOLVED: “THAT estimated costs of up to £150 for services and supplies required for future village events be approved, and that the Clerk be authorised to make arrangements for orders to be placed with suppliers and contractors accordingly.”

8. Parish Plan

The Clerk presented a checklist of key actions identified in the 2009-10 Parish Plan and this was reviewed.

After discussion, it was agreed to proceed with initiating discussions on preparing an updated document at the village meeting in May.

9. Consultations, Correspondence and Members’ Discussion Forum

Newsletters and emails circulated for information were noted, including note of a consultation from CDC on the Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) Methodology and a

Government consultation on strengthening police powers to deal with unauthorised encampments. Details of highways works at Chelker had been emailed to the Council and were noted.

An email requesting historic information relating to former residents in the village was discussed, and the Chairman agreed to research the query further and respond to the correspondent on behalf of the Council.

Cllr Neale noted that village residents were reporting local problems with rats; this would be discussed at the next meeting, to which the District Council officer would be invited to explain pest control measures. In the meantime, a briefing note based on advice previously received from the District Council would be circulated to all councillors.

10. Date of next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Monday 13 January 2020 at 7.00pm in the village hall.

A schedule of meeting dates for 2020 was agreed.

The meeting closed at 8pm.

Chairman