

**Minutes of the Aldwincle Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 by means of video conferencing due to the lockdown restrictions associated with the coronavirus situation.**

**Present:**

Bob Blakeman Chairman  
John Lawrence  
Tim Hankins  
Bernard Lowe

Richard Reed – Clerk

ENC Cllr. Geoff Shacklock; NCC Cllr. Wendy Brackenbury.

There were no residents present

**21/001 Public Open Time**

There were no residents present

**21/002 Apologies**

Cllr Strode Willis (unwell);

**21/003 Declarations of Interest**

Pecuniary Interest: None

To declare any other interests: None

To consider any requests for dispensations: None

**21/004 Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings held on 30.11.20**

It was proposed by Cllr. Lawrence and seconded by Cllr. Hankins that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020, and having previously been circulated, be accepted and signed as a true record of that meeting. Agreed unanimously.

**21/005 Matters arising.**

Minute 20/125: Cllr. Blakeman said that the Christmas carols event had been successfully held on the Village Green in spite of the current situation. Some untrue comments had been made to ENC's Environmental Health and Cllr. Blakeman had spoken to officers and no further action was expected. £145 was taken in donations.

**21/006 Corona Virus Update**

Currently under lockdown. The play area was reopened on 19<sup>th</sup> December following cleaning and the development of a risk assessment. It remains open as playgrounds are exempt under the present lockdown rules and Cllr. Blakeman continues to monitor the situation and any changes to the legislation. The school remains open for some and it is estimated that approximately 45 are attending, excluding those attending pre-school. Cllr. Hankins had noted an influx of visitors to the village who came for walking the area. Cllr. Mrs Brackenbury spoke of the situation over vaccinations and said that a large centre was due to open in Northamptonshire soon. One of the Thrapston surgeries was carrying out vaccinations for the area.

**21/007 Reports from other Bodies: Village Hall**

The Village Hall is currently closed but remains available for emergencies or permitted groups. Cllr. Lowe is keeping the hall under observation as regards heating, security, etc. An early notice had been received from Came & Co. regarding the Village Hall Committee insurance renewal. Cllr. Lowe is checking contents cover. **Action: BL**

**21/008 Play Area**

Cllr. Blakeman said that fencing repairs would be necessary during 2021/22 and would check potential firms with a view to getting quotes. **Action: BB**

The annual inspection has been booked with Wicksteed Leisure.

**21/009 Highways**

i) Green Lane is being misused by motorcyclists and is giving rise to complaints. The matter has been raised with Sarah Barnwell who has said that although the lane is subject to a temporary closure order it excludes motorcycles and horses, Sarah has confirmed that there is a proposal to grade the surface of the lane and erect a barrier. Cllr. Mrs Brackenbury said that she would contact Sarah to discuss the matter. **Action: WB**

ii) A complaint had been received about dumping of horse manure in the ditch on the Lowick Road corner blocking the watercourse. Cllr. Mrs Brackenbury said that she would contact Highways over this matter. **Action: WB**

Chairman

Date

- iii) Councillors noted that the overgrowing hedge at Church Farm had been dealt with promptly.
- iv) The condition of the boundary wall at 84 Main Street was giving cause for concern having a number of cracks in it. The Clerk is to contact ENC over fears that the wall could collapse on the footway.

**Action: Clerk**

v) A report of the washing out of a livestock trailer in Main Street was discussed and it was decided to monitor the situation for now.

vi) The village sign still had not been replaced. Cllr. Mrs Brackenbury said she would follow this up. **Action: WB**

**21/010 Street Lighting**

The Clerk had contacted E.ON over lamp 5 at the top of Baulks Lane which was still not working. An engineer had attended the site in December but E.ON said they would revisit the site.

*At this point, the Chairman asked Cllrs. Brackenbury and Shacklock if they wished to raise any matters. Cllr. Mrs Brackenbury spoke of the draft budget for the unitary authority which is out for consultation. There is a proposed 4.9% increase and it will be approved in February.*

**21/011 Waterville Lakes Access**

The Chairman had contacted Savills again due to the lack of response. The Society of Merchant Venturers appear to be unaware that the access had been blocked off and it was in discussion with the tenant farmer and awaited details of his intentions.

**21/012 To approve the 2021/22 Budget**

Following the last meeting a revised version of the draft budget had been circulated by the Clerk and following discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Blakeman and seconded by Cllr Lowe that it be approved. In view of Cllr. Hankins suggestion that investigatory work be carried out on the drainage in Main Street, the Clerk said he would check with former colleagues over the main storm drainage arrangements in Main Street. Action: Clerk

**21/013 To approve the 2021/22 Precept**

It was proposed by Cllr. Blakeman and seconded by Cllr. Hankins that the Precept be set at £9,500.

**Action: Clerk**

**21/014 To appoint a Police Liaison Representative**

It was proposed by Cllr. Hankins and seconded by Cllr. Lowe that Cllr. Blakeman would fulfil this role.

**21/015 Correspondence**

As list previously circulated to councillors.

A complaint had been received about the school alarm activating regularly. It was understood that the school had now had this fixed.

**21/016 Planning**

- a) There were no applications for consideration.
- b) No applications had been considered since the last meeting.
- c) There were no other planning matters.

**21/017 Finance**

- (i) The Clerk presented the statement of accounts together with the budget monitoring report. There had been no receipts recorded on the bank statement since the last meeting.
- (ii) The following invoices were approved for payment, proposed by Cllr. Blakeman and seconded by Cllr. Hankins.
  - E.ON £51.11 Cheque No. 200088
  - HMRC £83.20 Cheque No. 200089
  - R Reed £462.77 Cheque No. 200090
  - R Blakeman £43.20 Cheque No. 200091
- (iii) HSBC had written about the need to update account details.

**21/018 Items Requiring Urgent Attention, For Information or For the Next Agenda**

Ideas to be put together for potential election candidates for the May elections. Action: All

Owing to a clash with Easter Monday, it was proposed by Cllr. Blakeman and seconded by Cllr. Lawrence to reschedule the April meeting to 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

**21/019 Date of Next Meeting**

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021. Meetings will continue to be held via the Zoom platform until further notice.

There being no further urgent business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:50pm.

Chairman

Date