

Minutes of the Aldwincle Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 30th November 2020 by means of video conferencing due to the lockdown restrictions associated with the coronavirus situation.

Present:

Bob Blakeman Chairman
John Lawrence
Barry Watts
Tim Hankins
Bernard Lowe

Richard Reed – Clerk

There were no residents present

20/119 Public Open Time

There were no residents present

20/120 Apologies

Cllr Strode Willis (unwell); ENC Cllr. Geoff Shacklock

20/121 Declarations of Interest

Pecuniary Interest: None

To declare any other interests: None

To consider any requests for dispensations: None

20/122 Minutes of the Ordinary Meetings held on 19.10.20

It was proposed by Cllr. Lawrence and seconded by Cllr. Watts that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 19th October 2020, and having previously been circulated, be accepted and signed as a true record of that meeting. Agreed unanimously.

20/123 Matters arising.

Minute 20/108: Cllr. Blakeman had joined the Zoom meeting of the North Northants Rural Coordination Group and reported on the discussions. The next meeting is scheduled for 18th January which he will be joining. **Action: BB**

20/124 Corona Virus Update

The advice from NALC/NCALC is for meetings to continue via online platforms.

Cllr. Blakeman said that there was a need to identify residents in Aldwincle who may welcome and benefit from help and support. **Action: All**

20/125 Reports from other Bodies: Village Hall

The Village Hall is currently closed during the present lockdown restrictions. Cllr. Lowe spoke of the support that Northants ACRE is giving to the Village Hall and further advice is awaited.

Cllr. Blakeman said that the usual arrangements for the Christmas Carols will not apply but the brass band is keen to give a performance in the village, perhaps on Saturday 19th December in the afternoon on the Village Green. Once further advice is received Cllr. Blakeman will post details on the website.

Broadband has now been installed in the Village Hall.

20/126 Play Area

Cllr. Blakeman would like to reopen the play area as lack of use is causing some deterioration. He suggested reopening when the school holidays commence and following cleaning of the site. Cllr. Blakeman proposed reopening the play area on the 19th December and this was seconded by Cllr. Lawrence. It was agreed to set a provisional sum of £200 for cleaning/hire of equipment etc.

It was recorded that the fencing by the Rectory entrance needs attention.

20/127 Highways

Cllr. Penney was not in attendance to give his report. Issues over speeding in Lowick Lane were discussed. The signs regarding the 3 tonne weight limit had been installed opposite the garage diverting heavy traffic via the A6116, A14 and A605. The Aldwincle village sign on Thorpe Road had still not been replaced. Sarah Barnwell is to be contacted over this. **Action: Clerk**

20/128 Street Lighting

The Clerk said that Cllr. Penney had been trying unsuccessfully to contact E.ON over the failed lamp at the top of Baulks Lane. He, the Clerk, had also tried but the telephone was not answered. He had sent an e-mail to Dave Mooney but the light was still out of action. He would keep trying E.ON. **Action: Clerk**

20/129 All Saints Church Mowing Arrangements

Following discussions at the last meeting, it was agreed to convene a site meeting at 1:00pm Monday 22nd March 2021, subject to the availability of Francis Hale, to consider extent of grass cutting in the Church yard. In respect of a request to clear a specific area, this will be checked and dealt with either shortly or when mowing recommences.

20/130 Waterville Lakes Access

This area between Thorpe road and the Nature Reserve has been accessible to the public until a few weeks ago when fencing and barbed wire were erected and the stiles removed. The Chairman had written personally to The Society of Merchant Venturers but had so far received no response. It was proposed by Cllr. Blakeman and seconded by Cllr Lawrence that the Parish Council circulation list be used to seek evidence of residents' use and that a letter be sent to Savills, copied to SMV seeking details of its long term intentions. Three Cllrs. supported this proposal with one against and one abstention. **Action: BB/Clerk**

20/131 2021/22 Budget

The Clerk had previously circulated a draft and this was discussed. There were some minor changes and Cllrs. were asked to consider it further prior to approval at the January meeting. **Action: All**

20/132 Correspondence

As list previously circulated to councillors.

20/133 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.

20/134 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. Hankins and seconded by Cllr. Lawrence.
Francis Hale £200.00 Cheque No. 200087
- (iii) There was no further financial business.

20/135 Items Requiring Urgent Attention, For Information or For the Next Agenda

There was nothing at this time.

20/136 Date of Next Meeting

11th January 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 8:52pm.