

## MINSTERWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the virtual Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 11 January 2021, via Zoom

### PRESENT:

Councillors - R Blowey  
N Garbutt (partial attendance)  
S Ingham  
S King  
C Thomas  
R Thomas  
N Powell  
BC J Smith  
BC P Mclain  
CC P Awford  
Mrs F Wallbank – Clerk

Parishioners: None

### 1 APOLOGIES: None

**2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING** The minutes of the meeting held on the Monday, 14 December having been circulated with the agenda were agreed and signed by the Clerk

### 3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

### 4 REPORTS FROM CC AWFORD AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS:

CC Awford:

- The recent flooding has dominated my work over the Christmas period particularly on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of December where the impacts on the highway network led to long delays and diversions yet again
- My thanks to your Parish Councillors who as always worked closely with me throughout the event Fortunately, we did not see the main river overtop but the runoff from the surface water as always finds it way into the Minsterworth Hams in varying depths sadly further up the catchment we have had property flooding issues
- On the County Council front, I have attended those Budget Scrutiny Committees that I sit on, Adult Social Care and Environment, given Covid it is fair to say that delivering those services going forward is challenging and of course the impact on the Private Sector will test for many years
- I had great support throughout the Christmas period from Highways despite my manager being supposedly on leave he was on the network to open those roads as soon as the water was off them and obviously priority repairs carried out on the aftermath of potholes
- We have Environment Scrutiny this week where flooding impact will be debated, and I hope to be able to take a few major issues forward given the County Councils commitment to the climate change agenda together with the ambitious carbon reduction target
- At the Environment Budget Scrutiny Meeting I asked that a separate Scrutiny Panel be set up to consider the impacts of the most recent flooding on homes and infrastructure, this was agreed by the two Cabinet Members and supported by fellow Members
- At Adult Social Care I recognised the support of GFRS in the recent event but also asked that the work of SARA be recognised as they are an added service that are totally dependent on volunteers and charitable funding
- 4.75% increase for GCC 2021/22 = £5 on a band D property

BC Smith reported:

- Happy New Year to you all!
- A seminar took place last week to give councillors a Service Position Statement at TBC. It was an update of all the areas of work covered by the Council. Including departmental secondments to areas of highest pressure. All the different Covid support packages that the council administer

were mentioned for information. The information for Parishioners to apply for any of these can be found online. Happy to send the presentation out to interested Parish Councils.

- There has been a lot of unfortunate flooding in our ward, prior to Christmas due to the heavy rain, and a few days later due to the rivers bursting their banks. Several people had their homes affected. Can we ask Parish Councils to identify flood issues within your Parishes and let us know? This can then be formally raised with TBC, so they are aware where they need to improve their performance.
- Refuse collections are hoped to continue as normal. There have been some issues with bins not being collected on the due day, due to flood water in certain areas. In these cases, the bins have been collected later in the week and residents are asked to just leave their bins out if they are missed. There has been some staff sickness due to the virus, but they are trying to maintain normal services.
- Crime figures have reported to have dropped during the Covid pandemic. Officers busy enforcing Covid rules and regulation, and enforcing breaches, of which there have been a few.
- Everyone is encouraged to stick to the Covid rules, settling good examples to others. Gloucester Hospitals Trust as you all know is nearly up to capacity. Several patients are being treated at home in a virtual ward.

It was agreed that Councillor Cathy Thomas would highlight the areas that were hit by flooding one of the main ones was the A40.

The Chairman reported that PC Jenkins was unable to join this meeting but hopefully she would be able to join the February meeting.

## 5 PUBLIC COMMENT: None

## 6 FINANCIAL MATTERS

### 6.1 Accounts for payment and receipts:

Mrs F J Wallbank –

Salary 1-31 January 2021	398.07		
Less Tax	<u>20.20</u>	377.87	Via Bank Transfer

Inland Revenue: Tax for FJW			Via Bank Transfer
Refund due to Clerk		20.20	

Parish Magazine Printing: January Edition		93.70	Via Bank Transfer
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Highnam Parish Council:

1/6 contribution for Consultant Report for Representations on FOD Local Plan Review Report cost £1826/6	=	304.33	Via Bank Transfer
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<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>£796.10</b>	
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### Receipts:

The Villager Advertising from Hatherley Manor		35.65	
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<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>£35.65</b>	
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**6.2 Financial Statement:** For the month ended December 2020 was circulated via email and signed by the Clerk as agreed.

**6.4 Proposed Budget for 2021/22:** It was agreed that the precept required for 2021/22 would be £10,500. Clerk to email TBC. Clerk to chase TBC for their annual donation towards the hire toilets for the Severn Bore.

## 7 MATTERS ARISING:

**7.1 Report from Village Hall Representative:** Nothing to report.

**7.2 Minsterworth Park:** Councillor Ingham reported that the annual inspection will be carried out soon. Quite a lot of the equipment has algae on it, particularly on the smaller low-down equipment.

**7.3 The Harvey Centre:** Councillor Garbutt read out Farzana Aldridge email. The donation from

the PC of £1000 has made a big difference.

#### **7.4 Highway Matters:**

**Reduction of Speed Limit:** Speed strips will not be put in until April 2022.

**Pound Lane:** Email exchanges from various bodies and no further forward. Probably have to wait until the proper drain has been put in. Could it be a mains water leak? Contact Severn Trent and ask them whether this could be a mains leak. Two big sumps in the lane and lay a drain right the way down to connect to the ditch at the bottom. This will cause major upheaval.

**Watery lane** Nothing more has been done about the clearing out the drain. Waiting for Glos Highways to enforce with the landowner that they clear it out.

**Road Signs:** All three have been fixed however the Minsterworth sign has not been put back up.

**Road Safety and Highways Questionnaire:** The Chairman has completed this on-line.

**7.5 PROW:** Hugh Dowding has taken off the gate by the Riverbank and has the matter in hand to carry out the necessary repairs.

Cathy Thomas said she would replace the Severn Bore timetable outside the Church with one for 2021.

A parishioner will be putting up a sign saying "Please Close the Gates" on the Public Footpaths through their property.

Some stiles have been replaced near the railway bridge near Oakle Street.

**7.6 Provision of bench seats:** Have received the £600 and needs to be spent as quickly as possible – Clerk to order the seat. Councillor Ingham still pursuing another grant. Still not heard back officially from the EA. One for the Minsterworth Park, and the other two to be near the Church Riverbank.

**7.8 Ham Green – Discuss create circular path and tree work:** It was agreed that not a huge amount of work needed to be carried out to enable walkers to walk around the outside of the Green. A small amount of work needs to be done which can be done by the Parish Council - Remove the brambles by the tributary to make it more accessible and remove one bow that has fallen from the tree.

**7.9 Anti-Social Behaviour Minsterworth:** Unfortunately, PC could not join the meeting. There has been a good few of emails from NHW. ASB has gone slightly quieter of recent days. Police have been around the Village however gas cannisters remain to be a problem in Wild Goose Layby. The Chairman would report this to the police.

Someone has done a great job clearing up Ham Green - the Parish Council is grateful.

## **8 PLANNING**

**8.1 Applications:** None

**8.2 TBC Decisions:** None

**8.3 Appeal: None Appeal Decisions: None Site Inspections: None**

**8.4 Enforcement Matters: Charlton, Main Road, Minsterworth:** The Chairman reported that the septic tank from Charlton had been connected Horledean and been blocked already. The drainage consultant has been back in as Charlton are still having to empty their tank once a month.

Not on the planning list for January. Continues to be used as a Care Home for over a year now despite all the complaints has been received and no official permission from TBC. CC Awford will raise this with the cabinet member at GCC.

Dreadful mess outside Charlton as the refuse collectors will not remove rubbish that is not in the designated receptacles

**8.5 Proposed Development at Churcham:** The Chairman reported:

- David Crofts' response to the FOD Local Plan has been very put together and he agreed he would put a summary in The Villager of the response. Reported has been updated following the flooding on the day before Christmas Eve with photographic evidence.
- The Chairman would circulate Steve Wallbank's email on the costings associated with providing a new rail station.

Councillor Cathy Thomas wondered if Mr Crofts' document to all the Councillors on the planning committee. Cc Awford said the document should be circulated to all the Planning Committee Members.

There will be no official response from Minsterworth PC it will be a combined 6 Parishes response.

## **9 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION: None**

**10 DATE FOR NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING:** Monday, 8 February 2021 at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 8.17pm.