

MINUTES OF YARDLEY GOBION PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 3rd December 2019

- Present** Cllrs Ms L Stephenson (Chair), A Curtis, R Weston, J Hill, I McCord & Ms L Llewellyn.
- 4620** 1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs G Phillips, D Novakovic & County Cllr Walker.
- 4621** 2. COUNCIL MATTERS
- a) **Declaration of Interest:** Cllr Curtis declared a personal interest in Agenda item 6.1 d).
- 4622** 3. **Previous Meeting:**
- 3.1 The Minutes of Meeting held 5.11.19 were approved by all Cllrs, and agreed/signed as a correct record.
- 3.2 Matters arising: None.
- 4623** 4. OPEN FORUM: Notes attached. Opened 8.05pm. Closed 8.10pm.
- 4624** 5. PLANNING MATTERS
- 5.1 Applications received:
- a) S/2019/2172/TCA – 6 Moorend Road. Tree work to trees T1, T2, T4, T5, TG6, TG7 & T8. Cllrs had ‘no observations’.
- b) S/2019/2240/TPO – 60A Moorend Road. Work to TPO lime tree, crown thin by 25%. Cllrs had ‘no observations’.
- c) S/2019/2238/TCA – The Old Pack Horse, 1 High Street. T1 hawthorn & T2 malus, remove. Cllrs had ‘no observations’.
- d) S/2019/2266/FUL – 8 Brownsfield Road. Single storey rear extension & first floor side extension. Cllr Curtis leaves 8.14pm. Cllr Curtis returns 8.17pm. Cllrs had no objections, but requested that any concerns raised by neighbours be taken into account when determining the application.
- e) S/2019/2288/TCA – The Old Parsonage, 23 Moorend Road. T1 & T2 ash – pollard & T3 ash – crown reduction. Cllrs supported this application.
- f) S/2019/2332/FUL – 5/6 Mount Pleasant. Single & first floor rear extensions, to split property back into 2 dwellings. After discussion Cllrs commented as follows ‘The property is within a unique and important historic setting forming part of the former Potterspurty Union Workhouse set within the Yardley Gobion Conservation Area. We are concerned over the mass of the proposed development over 2 floors and the potential for intrusion of privacy and loss of amenity to neighbouring properties, 3&4 Mount Pleasant and 14 & 18 High Street, due to their close proximity. The property is adjacent to 3 & 4 Mount Pleasant which are listed buildings and which will be significantly affected by the development. The development would be overbearing in nature in the context of the surroundings and is considered overdevelopment of the site.’ Cllr McCord took no part in the discussion.
- g) S/2019/2334/FUL – 95 Hesketh Road. Single storey front extension and high level windows to ground and first floor to side elevation. Cllrs had no objections, but requested that any concerns raised by neighbours be taken into account when determining the application.
- 5.2 Amendments: None.
- 5.3 Applications granted:
- a) S/2019/1517/FUL – Moorgate Farm, Moorend Road. Agricultural livestock building & associated development. 8 conditions.
- b) S/2019/1984/TPO - 99 Hesketh Road. Fell ash tree. 2 conditions.
- 5.4 Applications refused: None.
- 5.5 Applications withdrawn. None.
- 5.6 Outstanding applications/Other planning. None.
- 4625** 6. **Finance Matters**
- 6.1 ACCOUNTS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT:
- a) Clerk’s salary Nov 19 = £391.12 (001242).
- b) Clerk’s expenses – postage = £9.15 (001243).
- c) Mrs Schumacher – caretaking of play areas and pocket park – November 19 = £50.00 (001244).
- d) BT – broadband - £30.50 – (paid by direct debit.)
- e) Viking – stationery - £38.85 + £7.77 VAT = £46.62 (001245)
- f) Society of Local Council Clerks – subscription = £109.00 (001246). Proposed by Cllr McCord and seconded by Cllr Curtis. Authorised by all Councillors.
- 6.2 OTHER
- a) Bank balances as at last statements – Lloyds - £35,740.88 (15.11.19) SW - £2,088.02 (1.10.19).
- b) Workplace Pension scheme. The Clerk did not wish to be placed in a Workplace Pension scheme.
- c) Review of PC Grant aid. After discussion Cllr McCord proposed and Cllr Weston seconded that the Council in accordance with its powers under Section 142 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, was in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and would benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure – a donation of £400.00 to The Old Mail. The other grants were then discussed and following proposals from Cllrs McCord and Weston, the Council, in accordance with its powers under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, agreed to incur the following expenditure which, in its opinion, was in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and would benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure – Royal British Legion - £100.00, Willen Hospice - £250.00, Macmillan Cancer Care - £300.00 & Warks & Northants Air Ambulance - £400.00. Also to be made available if requested - YGRC fireworks - £400.00 & YGRC – over 65’s party - £250.00. All in favour. The Council would also be happy to consider any other suitable good causes.

- d) Budget & Precept 2020-2021. The Clerk was requested to prepare & circulate proposals prior to a decision being made at the January PC meeting.
- e) New Financial Regulations. These had been circulated previously. Cllr McCord proposed they be adopted. Seconded by Cllr Curtis. All in favour.
- 4626** 7. Committee Reports:
- 7.1 HIGHWAYS/R.O.W./MOWING/STREET LIGHTING/OVERHANGING VEGETATION**
- a) Cllr Weston noted the footpath along the A508 from YG to Furtho was impassable in places, and the Clerk was asked to report this to Fix My Street.
- b) The ditch near The Poplar in Moorend Road required clearing and this would also be reported to Fix My Street.
- c) Cllr Stephenson offered to check the contents of the salt bins around the village and note if they required topping up. Cllr McCord proposed that £200.00 + VAT be made available for this. Seconded by Cllr Curtis. All in favour. **LS**
- d) It was understood that it was NCC's policy to grit bus routes, and as the route around the village had not been gritted the Clerk was asked to contact Highways for their comments on this.
- 7.2 PLAYING-FIELD/VILLAGE TREES**
- a) Mrs Purton had reported some concerns regarding village trees and these were noted.
- b) Monthly play area inspection reports. Nothing of any note on the sites. Litter bins were being well used.
- c) Coffee Pot field – The lease was now in place. The Clerk had asked Will Keeves to cut the hedge when appropriate.
- 7.3 ALLOTMENTS**
- a) No problems reported. There were no empty plots.
- b) It was resolved to maintain the allotment rent at £15.00 per plot for 2020, but an increase for 2021 would be proposed at the Allotment Holder's meeting.
- 7.4 POCKET PARK**
- a) The Park was looking tidy.
- 4627** **8. Y G VILLAGE HALL**
- a) Afternoon Teas and Coffee Mornings continued to be well supported. There had been 2 recent events which had raised a substantial amount for the Hall.
- 8.1 Y G RECREATION CENTRE**
- a) Cllr Weston reported that refurbishment work was being carried out and the Committee was investigating the possibility of providing a skate park. The firework display went well, the Senior Citizens party would be on 15th December and there was a full programme of events for Christmas. The new treasurer had taken office.
- 4628** **9. COMMUNITY MATTERS**
- a) To consider the need to promote candidacy at the forthcoming elections 7th May 2020. Cllr Phillips would be asked to publicise the current 3 vacancies and invite residents to attend meetings, prior to thinking about next year's election. **GP**
- 4629** **10. Date of next meeting:**
- a) 7th January 2020 – 8pm in the Village Hall, preceded by the Annual Allotment Holder's meeting at 7pm.

Meeting closed 9.12 pm.

OPEN FORUM

A resident had emailed 'I would like to say how refreshing it is to see someone taking care of our village and expecting nothing in return. This gentleman has been doing the grass edgings around the village and planting bulbs wherever needed. It would be nice if all this work was recognised in some way. I don't mean monetary recognition. But some form of thanks.' The Clerk was asked to write accordingly thanking the gentleman concerned. For his community spirit, and make him aware that the work he has carried out has not gone unnoticed.

Mr Curtis advised that he had no objections to the planning application for 8 Brownsfield Road.

As District Cllr, Cllr McCord advised that the SNC budget was being worked on, and the Unitary programme was continuing, but was dependent upon the outcome of the Election.

County Cllr Walker had emailed as follows 'The 18/19 budget has been passed by the auditors KPM. The 19/20 budget will be audited by Ernst Young.

This year's budget is liable to show a small profit which will go into reserves. At present we are £7M short of a balanced budget of £412M revenue.

The Unitary preamble was progressing up until a General Election was called.

Who knows what will happen if it's a "Hung Parliament"?'

