

# MINUTES OF YARDLEY GOBION PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 7<sup>th</sup> July 2020 via Zoom

- Present** Cllrs Ms L Stephenson (Chair), R Weston, J Hill, Ms L Llewellyn, I McCord & A Curtis & District Cllr Bignell.
- 4684** 1. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr D Novakovic.
- 4685** 2. **COUNCIL MATTERS**
- a) **Declaration of Interest:** Cllr Curtis declared an interest in Agenda items 6.1 k) & 7 f).
- 4686** 3. **Previous Meeting:**
- 3.1 Agreement as a true record: The Minutes of Meeting held 9.6.20 were approved by all Cllrs, and agreed/signed as a correct record.
- 3.2 Matters arising: None.
- 4687** 4. **OPEN FORUM:** Opened 4.03pm. Mr Curtis spoke about the challenges faced by the re-opening of the Village Hall, which had been closed since 24<sup>th</sup> March. The Committee were looking to re-open the Hall giving limited access to certain groups. Costs in excess of £200.00 would be incurred in the provision of PPE and sanitising products and he asked if the PC could consider a donation to facilitate the re-opening of the Village Hall and ensure it is Covid 19 compliant. District Cllr, Cllr McCord presented his report and advised 'I have chased up NCC to enquire if they will sustain a highways objection for the Gypsy/Traveller site application (S/2020/0836/FUL) in the way they did for the 2017 application and I am pleased to say that just earlier today I have been informed that they will be objecting. I now have a draft letter that I will circulate shortly setting out the objections to this application that has the existing planning policy issues and the policies issues from the Part 2 Local Plan that will be before council at the July Meeting. I would encourage all residents to have a look at the comments to this enquiry from the professional agencies that have been asked for their opinion. Some of them are quite enlightening. The Local Plan Part 2 will come to council on 22 July. This should give SNC a new up to date planning policy framework and set the area up as best we can for the transition to the new unitary council. There will also be a move to have a local development Order that will extend permitted development rights across the district. The reasoning behind this is that the costs of many householder applications are greater than the fees SNC are permitted to charge and 90%+ result in approval. The council is still addressing the Covid 19 issues. Now as we emerge from lockdown the unlock process is in some ways every bit as challenging. SNC have been helping business with advice and signage on re-opening of business premises. The Forum remains closed and there are no immediate plans to rush the re-opening of that building. Business Discretionary Grants totalling over £750,000 have been paid out to 104 small and micro businesses in the district. This is all funded via central government. There was a further announcement last week as about government paying out 75p in the pound for lost income and increased costs, but councils needed to bear the first 5%. As always with these announcements the detail may not match the headline and we need to see the guidance before it is possible to establish how much it means to SNC. The impact of Coronavirus on SNC will be multiplied across the other councils that make up West Northants which will make the setting of the first budget for West Northants even more challenging than it would have been otherwise. The work continues to create the new council and children's trust and continue to have 1 April 2021 start date.'
- Closed 4.19pm.
- 4688** 5. **PLANNING MATTERS**
- 5.1 Applications received:
- a) S/2020/0901/TCA – 8 Moorend Road. Fell Maple tree & reduce top of Cedar tree down to approx. 5m. Cllrs had 'no objections'
- b) S/2020/0905/FUL & S/2020/0906/LBC – 7 Moorend Road. Replacement rear window, W.C. vent to side elevation, replacement patio doors to side & reconfiguration of ground floor rooms. Cllrs had 'no objections', but requested that any concerns raised by neighbours be taken into account when determining the application.
- c) S/2020/0944/FUL – Homestead Farm, Watling Street. Single storey extension at rear. Cllrs had 'no objections.'
- Cllr McCord took no part in the above discussions.
- 5.2 Applications granted:
- a) S/2020/0326/FUL – Moorgate Farm, Moorend Road. Variation of condition 4 of S/2019/1579/FUL re manure storage & management. 7 conditions.
- 4689** 6. **Finance Matters**
- 6.1 **ACCOUNTS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT:**
- a) Replacement chq for 001336 destroyed by Viking = £54.85 (001361)
- b) Clerk's salary June 20 = £388.52 (001362).
- c) Clerk's expenses June 20 (stamps) = £6.50 (001363)
- d) Mrs Schumacher – caretaking of play areas – June 20 = £50.00 (001364).
- e) BT – broadband - £30.50 – (paid by direct debit.)
- f) DNH Contracts – dog bins June - £64.56 + £12.91 VAT = £77.47 (001365).
- g) Yardley Gobion Recreation Centre – contribution to waste collection = £105.62 (001366)
- h) The Ground Care Co – mowing contract - £625.00 + £125.00 VAT = £750.00 (001367)
- i) Defib-4Life Ltd – replacement pads & chargers - £85.00 + £17.00 VAT = £102.00 (001368)
- j) G Huffer – allotment work along hedge & car park = £40.00 (001369)

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- k) Mr A Curtis – work to repair village notice boards = £25.80 (001370)
- l) Playsafety Ltd – ROSPA report - £144.00 = £28.80 VAT = £172.80 (001371)
- m) If required – replacement chqs for 001341 = £12.00 & 001342 = £36.00 (presumed lost).  
Proposed by Cllr McCord and seconded by Cllr Hill. Authorised by all Councillors.
- 6.2 Payments received
  - a) HMRC VAT refund = £2,393.71
- 6.3 OTHER
  - a) Bank balances as at last statements – Lloyds - £39,969.05 (15.6.20) SW - £2,088.12 (1.4.20).
  - b) Workplace Pension scheme. The Clerk did not wish to be placed in a Workplace Pension scheme.
- 7. **Councillor Reports:**
  - a) HIGHWAYS – Nothing to report.
  - b) MOWING – Cllr Curtis had no comments to make.
  - c) STREET LIGHTING – Nothing to report.
  - d) VILLAGE TREES – NCC had been contacted about the trees that were their responsibility and their decision was awaited. Further reports about the Chestnut tree in School Lane field were awaited.
  - e) ALLOTMENTS – Cllr Curtis reported these were being generally well used, and were mostly now in good condition. However, a complaint had been made concerning the condition of plot 6, which was read out to the meeting.  
Cllr McCord leaves 4.40pm.  
After discussion the Clerk was asked to write accordingly to the plotholder concerned and Cllr Curtis would follow up the matter with them. **TC**
  - f) VILLAGE HALL – The request regarding a donation to facilitate the reopening of the VH was discussed and Cllr Stephenson proposed that the PC make a contribution of £100.00 to the VH at this time to assist them. Seconded by Cllr Weston. All in favour. (Cllr Curtis took no part in the discussion or vote).
  - g) RECREATION CENTRE – Cllr Weston advised this was also closed, but was planning to reopen on 11<sup>th</sup> July. The extension of the storage area was continuing.
  - h) PLAY AREAS AND ROSPA REPORTS – Coffee Pot field – this had been identified as ‘low risk’, with a watching brief suggested, but no action necessary. The PC had been approached by Towcester Town Juniors who had asked if they could use the field for matches on Sunday afternoons. After much discussion it was agreed that a meeting be arranged between interested Councillors and the Manager of the team to discuss the idea. **LS, RW & TC.**  
School Lane field – A risk assessment had been carried out prior to the re-opening of the play area and this was formally approved by Councillors. The recommended notices had been placed on the fencing but Councillors retained the right to re lock the facility if it was not used in accordance with the recommendations. The ROSPA report identified several areas requiring attention and after discussion Cllr Stephenson proposed that the quotation provided by Playground Facilities in the sum of £915.89 + VAT be accepted in view of the nature of the work and the insurance ramifications. Seconded by Cllr Llewelyn. All in favour.
  - i) PC RESPONSE TO CORONA VIRUS – The village volunteers were collecting prescriptions and doing shopping for residents and were generally quiet, but much appreciated.

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- 8. **Date of next meeting:**
  - a) 4<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Meeting closed 5.14 pm.

