

Minutes of a meeting of Affpuddle and Turnerspuddle Parish Council (A&TPC) held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 11th March 2020 at Briantspuddle Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Charles Barter (Vice Chair), Graham Lightfoot, Trevor Poole, Lizzie Guinn, Stuart Chorley, A-J Monro and Emily Hall.

Chair: Cllr Sue Jones

Clerk: Anna Bendall

In Attendance: Campbell de Burgh and two members of the public.

Minute Number **Comments**

19/209 **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Dorset Cllrs Peter Wharf and Laura Miller.

19/210 **Co-option to the Council**

Volunteer for co-option – Emily Hall.

Members of the public as well as Emily Hall, were asked to leave the room while the council considered the application.

RESOLVED to approve the appointment of Emily Hall as a co-opted member of the Council. The Chair invited Councillor Hall to join the other members.

19/211 **To receive Declarations of Interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972 and consider any dispensations requested**

None received.

19/212 **Public participation time**

Campbell de Burgh spoke about website accessibility. The Clerk attended recent training on the subject and has been liaising with Campbell to ensure that the Briantspuddle Community Website is fully compliant and as accessible as can be. Advice has been shared with the Village Hall Trustee responsible for the respective section of the site. All pages are now being progressively refined. During this process, Campbell identified a software issue affecting image captioning which WordPress have resolved. To offset the inconvenience caused, they have effectively given the site two-month's free hosting so that the annual renewal is now not due until the 11th May. The Chairman thanked both the Parish Clerk and Campbell for their efforts.

Two members of the public raised the issue of tree management, particularly the trees at The Hollow. Although landowners are responsible for all trees on their land, it becomes a highways issue when they cause danger or obstruction to a highway. The Highway Authority has the power to act to resolve any issues and then recharge landowners accordingly. The local Community Highways Officer met Cllr Poole on site and has produced a plan which shows which trees are owned by landowners. It has also been established that Dorset Council also own some.

RESOLVED that the parish council will send a letter to landowners along The Hollow to remind them of their responsibilities regarding tree maintenance and publish information on the Community website and in the Parish Magazine.

Action: Chair and Clerk

19/213 **Confirmation of minutes of the A&TPC meeting held 12th February 2020**

RESOLVED that the minutes for the A&TPC meeting held 12th February 2020 be approved and signed in the presence of the meeting.

19/214 **Matters arising from the minutes of previous meetings**

19/195 – Highways work is still to be carried out to resolve the flooding issue. Cllr Jones has gained agreement from Dorset Cllr Wharf to organize a Ward Walk. This would include Highways Officers meeting with Parish Councillors to walk the parish, discuss any issues and agree solutions.

19/200 – Work is still to be carried out on Gulley Lane to improve the surface.

19/201 – Shrubs have now been planted on the grass verge near to the bus shelter by the tenant and large Purbeck stones are soon to be deposited in order to prevent parking and allow the verge to renew.

19/205 – There has been no response regarding a bin for the layby near Tolpuddle Ball and we have not heard back from the tree surgeon. The Clerk will chase both for a response. **Action: Clerk**

19/215 **Dorset Councillor's report**

The Dorset Councillor's report was discussed. The full report is available on the Briantspuddle website or through contacting the Clerk.

19/216 **Planning and other applications**

6/2020/0082 (Listed Building Consent)

Proposal: Reconstruction of part of cob boundary wall

Location: The Glebe Cottage, Affpuddle, Dorchester, DT2 7HH

RESOLVED to support the application as the reconstruction is needed and the materials planned are suitable and sympathetic to the character of the building.

19/217 **Rights of way, highways and roads**

A drain is needed on the road leading from the A35. This can be discussed during the next Ward Walk.

19/218 **Maintenance**

Noticeboard maintenance and repair has taken place, but the two older boards will not last much longer. The Clerk will make enquiries to establish if it is still essential to have noticeboards in the parish and if so, if one would suffice. **Action: Clerk**

19/219 **Parish Council carbon footprint**

The estimated carbon footprint was discussed along with possible actions that the Parish Council could take to reduce this. Cllr Lightfoot still needs to gather some information relating to the maintenance of the bus shelter.

RESOLVED to establish whether an EPC is required for the buildings that are owned by the Parish Council but leased to other community organisations.

Action: Cllr Monro

19/220 **Broadband across the Briantspuddle Amenity Complex**

The Parish Council is supportive of the idea. If the lease holders want to take this idea forward, a contribution from the Parish Council could be considered by making a S137 grant application. The Parish Council would not take on the contract directly, this arrangement would be between lease holders.

19/221 **Finance and accounts**

RESOLVED to approve the following payments totalling £526.85:

- Cheque No: 100729 – Briantspuddle Village Hall Committee (room hire) £25
- Cheque No: 100730 – A Bendall (Clerk's salary, January) £362.15
- Cheque No: 100731 – Silversands (Clerks Laptop repair) £80.20
- Cheque No: 100732 – AWW Garden Services (grass cutting) £59.50

It was noted that the bank balance was £20,185.79 as at 29th February 2020 and that the balance of the NSI Investment Account remains at £6,812.89.

19/222 **Correspondence received**

A letter was received about trees at The Hollow, but this was discussed earlier in the meeting.

A request was received for a grant for the Purbeck Film Festival. It was considered that with the limited precept, the fund for grants would be better put towards more local causes.

A request was received from Dementia Friendly Purbeck to come to a meeting at a later date. They will be back in touch to determine an appropriate date. It was agreed that they would be most welcome, and the Clerk could arrange this.

An update was requested on the proposed water meadow project. The response confirmed that there has been no progress since the last update.

Feedback was received from the Planning Officer relating to the Decision Notice for the planning application for land at Shakes Hole. The application was approved due to a new noise assessment having been carried out. This met with the requirements of legislation. On that basis, the Planning Committee took the view that approving the application to extend leisure activities to 4 days per week "would not significantly harm the rural character of the surrounding area." The Parish Council does not share this view, but the decision is ultimately down to the planning authority.

19/223 **Financial Regulations**

RESOLVED that the Clerk will use the NALC model Financial Regulations to put together a suggestion for the Parish Council to consider.

19/224 **Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 8th April 2020, 7.00 pm at Briantspuddle Village Hall.

POST MEETING NOTE: Due to the Coronavirus outbreak and restriction put in place by the Government, this meeting will take place virtually through video conference with only urgent business being discussed.

Meeting closed at 9:00 pm.

.....Chair

Date: 8th April 2020

Sue Jones