

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 18th MAY 2021, 19:30

Present were:

- Nicky Brooks (Chair)
- Lysette Nicholls (Vice Chair)
- Graham Soame (Parish Councillor)
- Rita Sawrey-Woodwards (Parish Councillor)
- Dick Pears (Parish Councillor)
- David Auger (Parish Councillor)
- Tammy Heavens (Clerk)

The meeting was held at the South Leigh Village Hall and via ZOOM – Three additional members of the public joined.

1. Apologies: Carl Rylett (District Councillor)
Dan Levy (County Councillor)
2. Declarations of interest: None
3. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.
4. Recognition of any change to the personnel within the Parish Council following the election: Welcome to our new Parish Councillors: Rita Sawrey-Woodwards, David Auger and Dick Pears, and thank you to outgoing Parish Councillors Mark Walker, Martin Wilson and Eileen Mawle for all their work over the years.
5. If pertinent, ensuring any new Parish Councillors are aware of their duties and commitments and receipt of the how to be a good councillor booklet. The Parish Councillors have all received a welcome information email from Keith Butler, along with declaration forms to complete. The Clerk will forward a link to the digital version of the 'Good Councillor' booklet. Nicky Brooks stressed the importance of following the Parish Councillors' Code of Conduct and the Declaration of Interest Guidelines as published on the website. It was agreed that we would also adopt the Nolan Principles - see later in the minutes
6. How the Chair would like to see the Parish Council operate in the future: For the team to work together all having agreed individual issues that they are responsible for. Martin Spurrier suggested he ran a meeting to help identify the various councillors' strengths and weaknesses to help set up the most efficient system of working in the future - this was agreed by all.
7. Opportunity for any parishioner to raise a matter of concern: An email of complaint was received from a parishioner in regards to the recent election. The Clerk will speak with Keith Butler and then discuss with the parishioner.
8. Welcoming any new County or District Councillor(s). We noted that Dan Levy has been appointed as County Councillor and Andy Goodwin as a new District Councillor. Neither could attend the meeting but Nicky Brooks is due to see them on 25th May and will update them on Shores Green junction etc. and the proposed anaerobic digester.
9. Opportunity for any County Councillor and / or District Councillor to update the Parish Council on any matter of relevance or concern.
10. Matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere in this agenda: None.

11. Constitutional Matters:
 - a) Each Parish Councillor has signed their declaration and returned to the Clerk to hold on file.
 - b) The Parish Councillors all agreed to adopt the Nolan Principles of selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.
12. Payments to approve: None currently. The Clerk will prepare a new budget forecast ahead of the July meeting. The Parish Council to consider a new online bank account to make transactions easier and quicker. We would have one account for the day-to-day transactions and another for monies held for large items (football pitch and playground leases in particular).
13. Conservation Area: Dick Pears advised that the Heritage Officer had visited and the report was due within the next week. It would be reviewed by the group alongside the neighbourhood plan, then brought to the next Parish Council meeting.
14. Mobile Phone Signal: Dick Pears is awaiting confirmation on the BT/EE signal boosting test so that we can see if boosting the signal at Shores Green / Oxford Hill improves things. If this doesn't have any affect, BT have some further plans which might help - each step will be completed and reviewed before the next step is taken.
15. Anaerobic digester: A report and update is expected for the next meeting.
16. The Limb Brook:
 - a) Flooding: Lysette Nicholls met with Charles Mathew who handed over contact information OCC, Lysette will make contact and resume talks.
 - b) Nature: Graham Soame suggested that a Parish Council sub-committee be formed including Rita Sawrey-Woodwards and William Howard. Nature recovery to be included at the next meeting.
17. Facilities updates:
 - a) Village hall.
 - b) Village green.
 - c) Playground - lease being chased - consideration to replacing the mower - perhaps a mower for Parish Council grass-cutting - possible consideration for locating the playground in a different area of the village to be considered in the future.
 - d) Football pitch.
 - e) Bus shelter.
 - f) Post boxes.
18. Responses to Planning Applications: High Cogges Farm - Retrospective for installation of Air source heat pump - no objections.
19. Any other business:
 - a) Rita Sawrey-Woodwards asked if additional dog waste bins could be installed at each end of the village as we currently only have one by the football field. The Clerk to contact WODC to ask.
 - b) First response to Shores Green proposals to be sent asap.
20. Parishioners' AGM - 24th May to be held in the village hall and via zoom

Dates for the next meeting: Monday 5th July and Monday 16th August

The meeting closed at 20.59