

ST PAUL MALMESBURY WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16th December 2020 via Zoom video conference

Present: Cllrs Budgen, Hatherell, Briggs, Clogg, Hopkins, Jones, Merriman, and Stephens

Public: None present.

103 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Cole, Edgley-Pyshorn, Payne and Thomson (WC)

104 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

105 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Cllr Clogg relayed a question she had received, as Council representative at a Climate Action Network meeting regarding overhanging branches on the A429 approaching the Blicks Hill crossing that needed cutting away from the pedestrian warning signs. Cllr Hatherell will submit a MyWilts issue. **Action: Cllr Hatherell**

106 TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON THE 25th NOVEMBER 2020

The minutes of the meeting on the 25th November 2020 were adopted as a true record and signed accordingly.

107 TO RECEIVE REPORT #12.1 ON PLANNING UPDATES AND REVIEW NEW APPLICATIONS

Cllr Budgen presented Report #12.1 which was noted. No applications were received for this month.

108 FINANCIAL REPORT

Cllr Hopkins presented the November budget performance. It was noted that the Playgrounds and Grass Cutting budgets were over budget and explanations given for these. The bank statement dated 30th November showing balances of £12,201.02 and £35,710.01 was noted and signed as correct by the Vice Chair. Cllr Budgen signed the List of Payments for Authorisation as per supporting evidence; Cllr Clogg, first authoriser, Cllr Stephens second authoriser.

Action: Cllrs Clogg and Stephens

Payment No.	Payee Details	Reason	Amount (£)
1	Roger Budgen	December Zoom subscription	14.39
2	Idverde	Final grass cutting 2020	769.28
		Total	£783.67

109 VERBAL UPDATE ON THE PROPOSED FORMAT OF COUNCIL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ON PARISH WEBSITE TO ENSURE ACCESSIBILITY

Cllr Clogg has added an agreement date of November 2020 and a review date of November 2021 to the documents. As they are 'static' documents, it was agreed to upload as PDFs with an increased font size. Cllr Clogg to send documents to Cllr Budgen to place on the website.

Action: Cllrs Clogg and Budgen

110 TO REVIEW AND AGREE THE REVISED UPDATE OF THE COUNCIL'S STANDING ORDERS

Cllr Budgen reported that Chairs of Committees held a virtual meeting to tease out the last remaining inconsistencies in the draft document. It was resolved that the document circulated on the 11th December was acceptable and will be placed on the website in PDF format. **Action: Cllr Budgen**

111 TO RECEIVE REPORT #12.2 ON THE ISSUES RELEVANT TO THE COUNCIL FROM THE CATG MEETING ON THE 1ST DECEMBER 2020

Cllr Budgen presented report #12.2.

Reference 7307 - a safe pedestrian route from Southside Cottage into Radnor Close: this should go ahead at the start of the new financial year. The Council's S106 contribution was welcomed.

Reference 7-20-3 – safer crossing at Filands: this will hopefully go ahead late summer/early autumn 2021. Cllr Briggs will update the residents who raised this issue. As well as benefitting residents trying to cross, it is hoped a refuge island will also reduce the speed of cars turning into Snell Way and will also prevent vehicles cutting the corner. The Parish Council's maximum contribution will be 25% of the cost as it is CATG supported. **Cllr Briggs**

112 TO RECEIVE A VERBAL REPORT ON THE CURRENT POSITION OF WILTSHIRE COUNCIL'S 5-YEAR LAND SUPPLY

Cllr Budgen reported on the salient points from a virtual meeting on the 8th December with officers from WC Spatial Planning and representatives from 30+ parish and town councils across Wiltshire on the current position of WC's 5-year land supply. The importance of this topic relates to para 73 of the NPPF, which states "Local planning authorities should identify and update annually a supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide a minimum of five years supply of specific deliverable sites against their housing requirement set out in adopted strategic policies, or against their local housing need where the strategic policies are more than five years old.

The updated position is likely to remain unchanged from the previously reported figure. The lack of a 5-year supply (or 3 years where a neighbourhood plan is less than 2 years old) triggers the 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' policy. For proposals contrary to the development plan, the presumption will be triggered, however the starting point for a decision will still be the development plan but full weight cannot be given to policies restricting housing.

All decisions by the LPA will involve careful judgement as to where the 'planning balance' lies. Where there is limited shortfall a full range of evidence should be considered. The NPPF makes it clear that where adverse impacts significantly and demonstrably outweigh benefits the development should be refused; there is no certainty for developers.

Consultation on the new WC Local Plan will start in early January, councils are urged to get involved.

113 VERBAL REPORT ON THE FINDINGS OF THE OCTOBER ROSPA PLAYGROUNDS INSPECTION

Cllr Hatherell provided a detailed report on the 20 comments listed in the inspection. Many of the items are minor repairs i.e. tightening, sanding, tidying and a few replacement parts, that Cllr Hatherell will undertake. The stability of the post in the shelter, the treatment of rust on the muga post and the depth of the bark in the toddler swing area are the main items to be addressed. Cllr Hatherell will follow up on all points. **Action: Cllr Hatherell**

114 REVIEW OF COUNCIL DECISION ABOUT THE OPENING OF PLAYGROUNDS

In July 2020 the Parish Council undertook a risk assessment following the NALC template and decided, as it could not guarantee playground safety because it would be impossible to check that equipment was cleaned regularly, the council playgrounds would remain closed. Councillors reported that some playgrounds in Swindon and other local villages had opened open. It was agreed to explore this matter further by contacting local Clerks. **Action: Cllr Budgen**

115 TO RECEIVE VERBAL REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr Hatherell reported the following:

Highways

The Parish Steward has cleared fallen leaves at Truckle Bridge to Foxley Road and Cllr Hatherell has put in a request for the road sweeper. The Steward is also regularly clearing leaves off the Waitrose steps. The My Wilts App has been used to report the dirty lights on Cowbridge bridge. The Burton Hill bench will be cleaned every month. The blocked gulleys in Milbourne are not on a major road, so are not seen as a priority by Wiltshire Council. Cllr Hatherell will report the street light issue on Milbourne Park. Cllr Briggs asked if the Parish Steward could unblock the gully from the ditch behind the new Milbourne safety refuge. He also asked if the grips along the C67 to Tanners Bridge could also be cleared. Cllr Budgen reported that parking on the newly installed double yellow lines at the entrance of Sir Bernard Lovell Road had started again and this had been reported to the WC Parking officer who will programme additional visits. **Action: Cllr Hatherell**

Playing Fields

The monthly check of both playgrounds has taken place and all equipment was found to be in good order. The COVID playground closure notices are still in place. The red tape is a little distressed, so will be tidied. **Action: Cllr Hatherell**

Footpaths

Cllr Clogg reported that the replacement for a broken gate on the Cowbridge permissive path has been installed by Cllr Stephens; thanks were extended to Cllr Stephens by the Council. The Countryside Access Officer, Stephen Leonard, has been approached to provide an estimate of the cost to upgrade the surfacing of the permissive path. Cllr Budgen proposed that progress reports on this and the other top priority Council project, additional Foxley Road lighting, should become standing agenda items; this was agreed. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Clogg reported that the Mayor of Malmesbury was planning to consult with all local parishes to try and establish a better walking/cycling network to the town.

The meeting closed at 20.14

The date of the next virtual meeting is Wednesday 27th January 2021 at 19.00.

..... Chair Dated