

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 5th January 2021

(Due to Covid 19 restrictions this was a remote meeting via Zoom)

Present

Councillor K. Bailey	Councillor L. Gettings
Councillor D. Barker	Councillor S. Jones
Councillor J. Bellhouse	Councillor S. Kimberley
Councillor P. Brown	Councillor E. Knight
Councillor K. Cook	Councillor C. Nixon

Councillor R. Finnigan MBI

Councillors Haigh and Rawson were unable to join the meeting due to technical problems.

26.0 Apologies for Absence

26.1 There were no apologies for absence.

27.0 Declaration of Interest

27.1 There were no declarations of interest.

28.0 Register of Interests

28.1 There were no changes.

29.0 Chair's Remarks

29.1 Councillor Jones wished all the Council a Happy New Year, but stated that it was also a very sad time, with the loss of a long serving councillor, Councillor Colin Taylor, whose funeral had taken place that day. Councillor Taylor had worked for the good of the community for many years and would be sadly missed.

30.0 Minutes of Meeting held on 27th October 2020

30.1 The Minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.

30.2 There were no Matters Arising.

31.0 Correspondence

31.1 Details of Correspondence for December had been sent out by the Clerk prior to the meeting.

31.2 The Clerk advised that there was a late addition to the Correspondence. An update had been received from the Police explaining that because of staff shortages, and Covid 19, it may not always be possible to email a monthly Crime Report.

31.2 The Clerk asked if there were any queries regarding Correspondence Items.

31.3 Councillor Brown reported that a card had been received from Barbara and Jim Mackay thanking the Council for the Christmas Lights this year.

31.4 Councillor Gettings advised that the Deputy Lord Lieutenant had been pleased to attend the Remembrance Service, and was looking forward to coming next year.

31.5 Councillor Gettings queried the correspondence regarding the SID payment. The Clerk explained that it was a strange enquiry relating to our payment for a SID in 2016, and that the Parish Council may be entitled to some unclaimed grant money. The Clerk advised that she didn't think that the Parish Council were eligible for such a payment, as Ward Councillors had already contributed half the cost of the SID. The Clerk to make further enquiries.

32.0 Budget Review & Precept 2021/22

32.1 Details of the proposed Budget for 2021/22 and Precept information from Leeds City Council had been sent out to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

32.2 Councillor Jones gave a review of the proposed Budget for 2021/22, highlighting any changes. The budget was approved by all Councillors.

32.3 Discussion took place regarding setting the Precept for 2021/22. The consensus amongst the Council was that the Precept should not be raised due to the financial effects of the Covid pandemic, and the retention of a large amount in the Reserve Account. The optimum would be to submit a precept with a 0% increase. This was agreed by all. The Clerk to enquire if this was possible.

33.0 PC Documents Update: Financial Regulations/Code of Conduct

33.1 Councillor Jones stated that a review of the Parish Council's main documents was required.

33.2 The Clerk referred to the correspondence from Andy Hodson, Head of Democratic Services for Leeds City Council. To achieve consistency across the country it had been recommended that all Councils adopt the new Councillor Code of Conduct 2020. Discussion took place and Councillor Kimberley proposed that the LGA Code of Conduct be adopted. All councillors were in favour.

33.3 The Clerk advised that the Financial Regulations also required a review. The Clerk reported that enquiries into this matter had revealed that many Councils had adopted the NALC Financial Regulations, but she did consider this to be a rather 'weighty' document for a small Parish Council. It was decided that the Finance Committee would meet to review both the NALC document, and our present Financial Regulations, and report their finding at the next meeting.

34.0 New Accessible Website

34.1 Councillor Jones reported that Kreative Inc had completed the work to make the website compliant, and it should be live by the end of the week. Councillor Bellhouse stated that she considered the new website to be clear and accessible, as requested; and that once the hour's training course was completed she would be able to edit the website in the future. A video of the training would also be available, and this would allow Councillor Nixon to work with Councillor Bellhouse on the website.

35.0 Tribute for Councillor Taylor

35.0 Discussion took place regarding a possible tribute from the Parish Council. Both a seat and a trough with a memorial plaque had been suggested by the family. Councillor Kimberley proposed that we leave the family to decide. They would then inform the Council in due course.

36.0 Branch End

36.1 Councillor Cook advised that she has spoken with Planning Compliance Enforcement regarding the sign required at Branch End, and the following regulations had been put forward:

*Gildersome Parish Council cannot apply for planning on behalf of Mr Holt of Green Oval, as this would be classed as an improper payment using Council Funds.

*Mr Holt can apply for himself if he wishes.

*Any signs must not be on the highway land, and not within 50 metres of official traffic signs, or traffic lights.

Councillor Cook stated that these regulations would make it almost impossible to erect the proposed advertising sign at Branch End.

36.2 Councillor Finnigan requested that Councillor Cook send him the details, and he would make further enquiries.

36.3 Councillor Barker confirmed that a 0.3 metre sq. sign was the maximum size to erect without planning permission.

36.3 Councillor Jones stated that he would contact Mr Holt, but it was unlikely he would wish to continue with the sponsorship to paint the house wall. Councillor Jones suggested that other options may have to be pursued, for example additional planting, or seeking another sponsor.

37.0 Christmas Lights: Review

37.1 Councillor Jones reported that he had received nothing but compliments for the Christmas Lights this year, and there had been requests for them to be left on longer.

37.2 Discussion took place as to when to switch the lights off. Councillor Kimberley proposed that the Christmas Tree and Sign be switched off, but the lights along Town Street be left on until the end of lockdown. This was agreed upon.

37.3 It was also agreed to leave the majority of the light cables in the trees permanently. Graham Brown would remove some of the lower cables.

38.0 Planter Sub-Group

38.1 Councillor Brown informed the Council that an additional memorial stone trough had been installed near the bottle bank.

38.2 The summer planting to take place at the end of May.

39.0 Planning

39.1 Councillor Cook had sent out a list of planning applications and decisions for November and December prior to the Meeting. These had been put on the website.

40.0 Finance

(The Clerk had sent out the following Finance Report prior to the Meeting.)

40.1 The balance on the Parish Council's **Current Account** currently stands at : £5032.34

40.2 Payments made via Bankline:

HMRC/November PAYE	95.00
Festive Lights/Connectors	50.93
C.Gamble/KreativeInc/Website 2 nd Payment	371.25
S.Jones/Zoom Account/Monthly Fee	14.39
Festive Lights/Cables	42.94
Wel Medical/Defibrillator Pads	39.54
Bankline Fee	3.60
P.May/December Salary	<u>380.17</u>
	997.82

TOTAL 997.82

40.3 The balance on the Parish Council's **Reserve Account** currently stands at : £24,428.36

41.0 Date of Next Meeting

41.1 Councillor Jones advised that he considered it necessary to revert to monthly meetings.

41.2 The next Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 2nd February 2021, at 7.00pm

