

**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL NORMANTON ON SOAR PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, THURSDAY  
4<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7.00PM**

**Present:** Cllrs Dave Smith (Chairman), Paul Sharpe, Keith Bonser, Ben Fern, Sam Kearns, Stuart Sleight

The Clerk Sue Lewis and County Councillor Andrew Brown and Borough Cllrs Carys Thomas and Lesley Way were also present.

**20/PC/082**      **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Cllrs Sue Ponting and Kevin Shaw reasons given and approved.

**20/PC/083**      **DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

None

**20/PC/084**      **TO APPROVE AS A TRUE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL PARISH  
COUNCIL MEETING HELD 7<sup>th</sup> JANUARY – PAGES 24-27**

**Proposed Cllr Dave Smith  
Agreed Unanimously**

**Seconded Cllr Keith Bonser**

**20/PC/085**      **CLERKS/CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Clerk reported:

- Three volunteers have come forward to be Flood Wardens with a fourth awaited.
- An article on walks around the area forwarded to Ross for the Village News
- Agenda circulated for the Town and Parish Forum on 4<sup>th</sup> March, Cllr Ben Fern to attend.

**20/PC/086**      **TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Andy Brown reported

- The Nottinghamshire County Council budget is being recommended to Cabinet on the 25<sup>th</sup> February with an 1.99% increase in local tax, 1% increase in Adult Services, and 1.95% Fire Authority and £14.94 Police Authority

**Cllr Carys Thomas reported:**

- Dog fouling – after we raised this for scrutiny over a year ago it was finally discussed at Communities Scrutiny Group on 28 January. There is some prospect that Rushcliffe will eventually put in place a Public Spaces Protection Order, which would allow greater scope for enforcement, including ability to fine people for not carrying poo bags. It could take a while though.
- Enforcement for dog fouling, litter and fly tipping has been outsourced. The company (WISE) receives the fine money, and the level of enforcement activity and fines has increased significantly since they started in mid-January. It is important to report any instances of any of these to Rushcliffe – they may clear it up (depending on location) or be able to investigate, but even when it seems they do nothing it is very important to have logs so that they can identify hot spots. If no incidents are logged it is assumed there is no problem.

- Cabinet next Monday has the budget report – they are having to deal with huge uncertainties from Covid impact and business rates. The Rushcliffe Band D rate will go up by £5; the new crematorium in Cotgrave will need an additional £2M.
- Electoral boundary review – looking as if it will increase number of councillors from 44 to 46.
- Nature Conservation Strategy – going to Cabinet for approval – there will be more funding for trees and wildflowers.
- All meetings are on Youtube if you want to see what goes on. Residents may ask questions at Cabinet or Council if there are any burning issues you wish to raise.
- The three of us have produced a newsletter – we are not printing it at this time, but you may wish to circulate.

**20/PC/087      TO RECEIVE REPORTS ON POLICING, HIGHWAYS & TRAFFIC MATTERS**

The Clerk reported on a Via/Notts Public Consultation – A6006 Melton Road, proposed 40mph speed limit (8318) between DNRC and the junction for Stanford.

Clerk to contact Sutton Bonington Parish Council for loan of the speed camera trolley.

**20/PC/088      TO DISCUSS THE USE OF FACEBOOK AS A WAY OF COMMUNICATION TO RESIDENTS**

Following a discussion, it was agreed to put the link to the minutes from the Parish Council website on to Facebook. It was agreed to use Facebook where possible as it is a means of informing residents of news quickly, but with comments switched off and advising residents to contact the Clerk if they require further information.

**20/PC/089      TO DISCUSS REPAIRS TO FERRY, AGREE COSTS INCURRED & APPROVE DRAFT FOR NOTICEBOARD**

Due to the bad weather the repairs to the Ferry have not started because when the ferry is sandblasted it must be fetched inside and paint straightaway because within 10mins it starts rusting. Costs were originally estimated at £750 but when it was looked at the contractor had to revise his costs to £960 to include a two pack finish - agreed

The Chair referred to the draft for the new noticeboard which was previously circulated. A good picture of the back of the Ferry House is required and wording of the number of ferries to be amended.

**20/PC/090      TO AGREE A RESPONSE IF ANY TO EMAIL FROM CLLR COMBELLBACK, RUSHCLIFFE BOROUGH COUNCIL ON CONSERVATION AREAS AND AREAS OF OUTSTANDING BEAUTY**

The Chair referred to the email previously circulated and requested comments.

Cllr Carys Thomas reported that Conservation Areas help against further development and slows it down and all trees would need permission so that the council can put a TPO on if required. The biggest benefit is trees.

Following a discussion, it was agreed to investigate further the possibility of having a Conservation Area in Normanton

Cllr Cary's Thomas has commented on the Vale of Belvoir, saying it will leave very little of Rushcliffe not protected by green belt or area of natural beauty and as an upshot she has been invited to join

Cllr Combellback in a walk round this area to show off all the beautiful parts of the village – Chairman agreed to join Cllr Thomas on the walkabout.

**20/PC/091      TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND UPDATES ON:**

- **PLAYING FIELDS** – Repairs to play equipment to take place tomorrow.
- **VILLAGE NEWS ITEMS** – Item on walks in the area sent to Ross.
- **DRAINAGE** – Next meeting is on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February with ST and NCC, photos of the latest floods have been sent to Tim Smith at ST.
- **SOAR LANE ACCESS** – Details of Common Land previously circulated states what we can and cannot do. There should not be vehicular access over the land, but it has to have access for those on foot, we are ok to put up a barrier or possibly posts for easy access. It was suggested if posts or a gate is put in it would need to be locked and potentially have a key with a deposit charged for those outside the village, but someone would need to hold the key village. The Chair and Cllr Stuart Sleight to meet on site to discuss size of the barrier.

The Chairman has created signs which mitigates the risk from the Council and informs users of the slipway do so at their own risk the Chair and Cllr Stuart Sleight to discuss position of the sign. A grant request has been submitted to Cllr Lesley Way from the Borough Community Fund towards these costs. The Chair and Cllr Stuart Sleight to meet on site to discuss.

- **UPDATE FROM ENVIRONMENT GROUP**

**Possible locations & funding** – proposed location is Jubilee Field, if extend the tree coverage around the edge it would not encroach on the field much but would create a better tree belt. Concern was expressed about grass growing long and being unable to cut it and dogs fouling. Cllr Ben Fern to contact the Woodland Trust for trees. Clerk to email Amy Bedell at Mather Jamie agents for Loseby Field for permission to plant trees informing them that the villagers are interested in planting trees in various locations.

**Appointment of a Tree Warden for the village** - if anyone wishes to be a Tree Warden contact Paul Phillips at Rushcliffe Borough Council

**Arrange a Zoom meeting for the members of the biodiversity group**, - agreed that the Clerk along with Cllr Ben Fern set up a meeting with members of the Environment Group.

**Village Road, as a Biodiverse space** – The Environment group would like to make it into a quite space and plant with wildflowers etc. It was agreed to consult neighbours with proposed plans as it is Common Land.

- **BETTER BROADBAND SCHEME** – The Chair has spoken to Callum at Nottinghamshire County Council who has provided detailed information for a leaflet drop to 76 properties, as there are 2 exchanges one at Hathern and one at East Leake they will need to be separate applications, 27 applications have been received so far to take up the scheme – deadline is the 12<sup>th</sup> February.

**20/PC/092      TO APPROVE CHEQUES, DIRECT DEBITS, & BILL PAYMENTS FOR JANUARY 2021**

<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2105	S Lewis	Zoom Subscription	14.39
2106	S Lewis	Salary	258.23

2107	HMRC	PAYE	64.60
			<b>337.22</b>

**Receipts**

		<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>
6/01/21	P Tyers	Allotment Rent (Plot 8)	50.00
7/01/21	J Hellier	Allotment Rent (Plot 1)	50.00
7/01/21	B Parsons	Allotment Rent (Plot 4)	50.00
7/01/21	P Tyers	Advert Website	30.00
			<b>180.00</b>

**Proposed Cllr Dave Smith  
Agree**

**Seconded Cllr Keith Bonser**

**20/PC/093**

**TO REPORT CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE THE LAST MEETING –  
INFORMATION ONLY**

1. NALC- Notification of Section 137 figure for the year - noted.

**20/PC/094**

**ANY OTHER MATTERS ON WHICH THE CLERK OR MEMBERS WISH TO  
REPORT. INFORMATION ONLY**

Cllr Ben Fern requested we look in to the changing the setup of email addresses.

Cllr Stuart Sleight, potholes on Butt Lane –  
Clerk to report.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021

The meeting closed at 8.26pm