

MINUTES: of a Parish Council Meeting held via Zoom video conference on Wednesday 20th January 2021 commencing at 7.33pm.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors: Dawn Rimmer (Chairman) Simon Gardner (Vice-Chairman), Lisa Rose, Geoff Cuthbert, Else Ogden (part) and Tony Allcock OBE

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk Jane Carter and one parishioner

210120/1 To receive and consider apologies for absence. Apologies Else Ogden (Cllr Ogden joined the meeting at Item 9)

210120/2 To receive Declarations of Interest on items on the Agenda. (Localism Act 2011): None were declared.

210120/3 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 11th of November 2020 via Zoom video conference: The minutes of this meeting were approved as a true record and will be signed by the Chairman at the next physical meeting of the Parish Council.

2101/20/4 To receive comments and concerns from the public: None.

210120/5 Matters Arising.

Update on Gloucestershire Tree Warden Group- Karen Miller has agreed to represent the village at Group meetings. Dawn Rimmer would arrange introductions to local landowners. It was also agreed Ms Miller should be consulted by the Parish Council and residents for advice on tree works applications.

Councillor Vacancy- it was agreed that this continued to be advertised on the Guiting Power website and noticeboards. Councillors were asked to encourage applications.

Playground: It was confirmed that the playground was permitted to be open during lockdown. The necessary signs and risk assessments were in place

Road Closure: The temporary road close of Louisehill Plantation on February 8th, 2021 was noted.

Code of Conduct The new Model Councillor Code of Conduct was noted. This would be considered for adoption once approved by Cotswold District Council.

Ash Dieback Fund It was agreed that an application be made to the Ash Dieback Replanting Fund. **The clerk to action**

Christmas Tree: The Chairman gave a vote of thanks to everyone involved with the Christmas Tree. The offer of a donation of £100 towards next year's tree had been received. Responsibility for the Xmas Tree had been passed to the Social Group

Annual Report: County Councillor Nigel Moor's annual report was noted. The clerk confirmed a letter of thanks would be for Cllr Moor's retirement in May

210120/6 Staffing Committee. It was agreed that the current staffing Committee of Cllrs Ogden, Cuthbert and Allcock remain in place until September when the role of the committee would be reviewed. It would undertake the Clerk's probation review in June. The clerk's contract to be circulated for final approval.

210120/7 Technology Review: The Chairman reported it had been a while since the technology requirements of the council had been assessed and the appointment of a new clerk was an ideal time to look at this area. Cllr Cuthbert agreed to form a small working group with the clerk to look at technology requirements, data security and document storage and report back to the March meeting. **ACTION**

210120/8 To consider and note planning applications:

- i. 20/04221/FUL | Rear Extension to the property alongside other alterations to the existing building | Far Hills Tally Ho Guiting Power Cheltenham Gloucestershire GL54 5SX- **No comments**
The Chairman invited the resident of Far Hills to speak on the application. He explained that the access which had been created was temporary and necessary for the completion of new drainage work. The soil will be redistributed. CDC Planning department had visited the property, and all was in order. He apologised for the mess created by the work. The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council had no objections to the development works currently being carried out.
- ii. 20/04352/CPO | Variation of conditions 12 (exportation of stone) and 13 (crushing) to allow a 3-year temporary period for the processing and removal from site of excess unusable building stone materials from phases 1 & 2 to address operational issues relating to high quantities of waste on site relating to planning consent 16/0012/CWMAJM dated 26/05/2016 | Tinkers Barn Quarry Guiting Power Cheltenham Gloucestershire GL54 5UF - **No comments.**
- iii. To consider the order for the diversion of Public Bridleway AHA 8 33 metres of Tally Ho House made on 15th December 2020 under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980, and Section 53A(2) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, if confirmed, will divert the length of public bridleway described in Part 1 of the Schedule to a line as described in Part 2 of the Schedule. Deadline for comments February 11th, 2021. **No objections**
- iv. To consider any planning applications received following publication of the agenda.- **None received**

210120/9 To discuss proposals regarding the Extension of the Church Burial Ground and Parish Council's responsibilities (Standing Item)

The Chairman reported that this was unlikely to progress in the near future. Cllr Cuthbert had agreed to be the point of contact between the Church and the Parish Council when required. It was agreed the matter could be removed from the agenda as a standing item.

Cllr Ogden joined the meeting

210120/10 Finances:

I. Current statement of accounts and bank reconciliation were approved as follows:

GUITING POWER PARISH COUNCIL			
BANK RECONCILIATION AT JANUARY 20 2021			
Period to 16th December 2020			
Lloyds Current Acc: 00896036			
		£	
	Balance per statement	£	5,460.15
	Outstanding receipts		
	NIL	£	-
	Less unrepresented chqs		
		£	-
	Balance	£	5,460.15
Scottish Widows Acc			
	Balance per statement	£	2,927.53
	Outstanding receipts		
	NIL	£	-
	Less unrepresented chqs		
	NIL	£	-
	Balance	£	2,927.53
	Total Balance		£8,387.68
Cash book Summary			
	Opening Balance 01.04.20	£	3,817.91
	Add receipts to date	£	15,816.26
	Less payments to date	£	14,174.02
	Cash Book Balance	£	5,460.15
	Balance per Scottish Widows acc	£	2,927.53
	Reconciled Balance		£8,387.68
	Balance to carry forward		£8,387.68

i. The following payments were approved

Cheque No:	Amount	Payee	Purpose
800	158.00	Village Hall	Playground mowing
801	Personal	R. Waller	Clerk Salary
802	12.75	PATA	Payroll
803	50	GAPTC	Councillor Training

ii. It was noted that following the appointment of the new clerk, the bank mandate was being updated and online banking had been applied for.

210120/11 To confirm and approve proposed Budget for 2021/22 as attached

The Chairman reported that since the approval of the budget at the November meeting, additional expenditure had been identified which necessitated the budget being brought back to council. A budget had been circulated showing increases at 4%, 6% 8% and 10%. Cllr Cuthbert said he had researched other councils and due to increasing administration costs many had been forced to increase their precept by more than 20%. It was agreed that using reserves year on year was not satisfactory and that the Council needed to get to a break-even scenario within 5 years. It was agreed that the precept be increased by 10% for 2021/22 and similar increases would be necessary in the coming years.

210120/12 To propose Precept for 2021/22 in line with budget

The proposed precept increase from £3657 to £4023 would equate to an average annual household increase of £3.05. The council agreed unanimously. The clerk to submit the precept request to Cotswold District Council

210120/13 To appoint an internal auditor for 2020/21.

The clerk confirmed that a GAPTC auditor had been used in previous years. It was agreed that the Clerk should investigate whether a more cost-effective option was available to the council and report back to the next meeting.

210120 The following dates for the Parish Council meetings for the year 2021/22 were confirmed:

- i. Wednesday 7th July 2021
- ii. Wednesday 8th September 2021
- iii. Wednesday 10th November 2021 & Constables Piece
- iv. Wednesday 19th January 2022 & Constables Piece
- v. Wednesday 16th March 2022
- vi. Wednesday 23rd March 2022 (Annual Assembly)- subject to confirmation
- vii. Wednesday 11th May 2022 (AGM)

210120 /17 For Information Only: Cllr Cuthbert asked the clerk to continue to forward all ordnance survey and aerial photography information

The Chairman confirmed she would be standing down as Chairman in May although would be remaining on the Parish Council. She asked councillors to consider the role.

The **Chairman** concluded the meeting at 8.35pm and thanked everyone for their attendance. The next full Parish Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 17th March 2021, 7.30pm** via Zoom.

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Chairman

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Date