

ALVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held remotely (Zoom) on Wednesday 3rd June 2020, 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllr Alan Haslam (Chairman)
 Cllr Richard Heys (Vice-Chair)
 Cllr. Gail Thompson
 Cllr. Lisa Chidley
 Cllr. Chris Miles

ATTENDING: Meg Humphries (Clerk)
 John Wood
 Alec Davis
 Nick Powell
 County Councillor Patrick Molyneux
 District Councillor Chris McFarling

No/ Ref	Item/Notes	Action
1. 029 20/21	To receive apologies for absence None.	
2. 030 20/21	To note declarations of interest relating to the agenda. None.	
3. 031 20/21	To approve the accuracy of the draft minutes of the Full Council Meeting on 06.05.20 Approved; to be signed by Cllr Haslam via post.	
4. 032 20/21	Public Forum John Wood: Footpaths – notes that these have been discussed and seem to be in progress Nick Powell: Work has taken place to trim vegetation on Clanna Road/Lane, thus widening the road to its original width.	
5. 033 20/21	To receive/note any reports from county and district councillors for the parish CCllr Patrick Molyneux: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In this unprecedented time, the county council (GCC)'s digital capacity of operations has come on leaps and bounds, and where possible, staff are working from home. • Libraries and recycling centres are slowly reopening. • Gloucestershire Economic Joint Growth Committee are discussing how the county may start to come out of the pandemic from an economic point of view and in a coordinated fashion. • Schools and education: 10K+ pupils (c.12% of the student population) attended school on Monday (01/06) following a change to restrictions; this was a big increase from last week, when only keyworkers' children were attending. Some schools are using a staggered approach, e.g. half a cohort on Monday and Tuesday, deep clean on Wednesday, and the other half of a cohort on Thursday and Friday. • There are schemes considering how to safely reopen high streets. • There is funding to boost uptake of cycling. • One case of Covid-19 at Woolaston Primary School; dealt with well. 	

	<p>DCllr Chris McFarling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FoDDC has had c.80 per cent of staff working from home. This was worked well. Staff productivity and customer satisfaction are both excellent. • Staff encouraged to continue to work from home as much as possible to explore benefits to staff and community. • The recycling centre at Broadwell has reopened, on a bookings-only basis. • FoDDC liaising with GCC regarding the reopening of town centres. c.£77,000 funding allocated, aiming at helping retail centres reopen, e.g. posters, signage, barrier tape, markings on pavements, perhaps even vehicular restrictions to allow pedestrians to pass safely. • £2 billion allocated for cycling and transport, £250 million of which has been allocated to improve cycling facilities. FoDDC identifying three top projects for the district. The councillors immediately raised the idea of a cycle path along the A48 bringing big benefits to the Alvington community, though ambitious. Cllr Haslam suggested that an extension to the recent Lydney and Aylburton cycle path network would be the logical solution, which Cllr Miles agreed with, as a frequent user of the footpath. Cllr Heys added that having an extension to Woolaston with primary school travel in mind would be highly beneficial for the community. • FoDDC has awarded millions to local businesses to help support staff and implement social distancing. • The Local Plan is progressing and will go out for consultation in 2-3 months' time and DCllr McFarling recommended that the district council reviews and comments on the plan when consultation opens. • Flooding at 2 Tudor Cottages – DCllr McFarling continues to progress. • Covid-19 community response: asked Gail and anyone else to raise with him any individual who has not fared well at all – mentally, physically, both – during the pandemic. FoDDC is keen to support such individuals. 	
<p>6.034 20/21</p>	<p>Planning</p> <p>a) To note any update on P0001/20/DISCON Land Off Clanna Road Alvington, Gloucestershire: Discharge of Condition 10 (details of pedestrian crossing) of planning appeal APP/P1615/W/16/3153161 (P1494/15/OUT)</p> <p>Cllr Haslam reported that a time extension has been granted to 20th June, but no updates have yet been submitted.</p> <p>The meeting then took a question from the floor asking for a summary of the zebra crossing activity so far. Cllr Haslam summarised: s106 contribution increasing to £60,000, with APC taking on responsibility for delivering the crossing. The parish council is exploring complementary funding sources and quotes for works.</p> <p>The preferred locations for the crossing are by the 'keep left' sign, or where the existing conduit is, between the two bus stops. Alec Davis raised the issue of whether the crossing's parking restrictions will just make Globe Inn customers park further up the road.</p> <p>b) To receive any progress reports on local planning matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Haslam advised that the planning application for vehicle access to the field northeast of the petrol station at dual carriageway had now been withdrawn. • Cllr Haslam also advised that there had been no update since 31st January on improvements to the dilapidated Cross Stores. DCllr McFarling advised that he will pursue the case officer. 	
<p>7.035</p>	<p>Village</p> <p>a) Coronavirus: to receive any updates specific to the parish.</p>	

<p>20/21</p>	<p>Cllr Thompson reported that requests for help had continued to be low and that she was aware that many parishioners were being supported by neighbours.</p> <p>b) To note any updates on village/parish improvement matters (see meeting pack)</p> <p>DCLlr McFarling thanked Cllr Chidley for the images of footpath, ownership of which is disputed, either Highways or Two Rivers – there has not been a clear answer from either. There was a discussion on the function of path and on who needs to use it. ACTION: Cllr Chidley to send some further information to DCllr McFarling so that he can liaise with Highways.</p> <p>Two Rivers have now resurfaced the car park off Garlands Road. The garages appear not to have been worked on at all yet. Cllr Chidley has contacted them about this but TRH have advised that due to Covid-19 they have only been doing emergency repairs.</p> <p>PROW – it was noted that the FAL13 path been ploughed and not made good within the required timeframe. The FAL18 path’s new stiles not yet installed. Alec Davis advises that he will try to meet Jeff Wheeler (PROW officer) on Thursday or Friday this week to discuss.</p> <p>Police engagement vehicle visited in May, next visit TBC but due in July.</p> <p>c) To receive any reports on other village matters.</p> <p>None at this time.</p>	<p>LC</p>
<p>8.036 20/21</p>	<p>Sports Field</p> <p>a) Pavilion project: to receive any updates</p> <p>Cllr Heys reported on the Zoom meeting with the pavilion’s architect last night (02/06) – the aim is for final versions of buildings regs by July. They had discussed conditions around the project, and the number and types of conditions surprised the architect. They had also discussed the strategy for moving forward, and the architect emphasised taking it in stages, the first being the foundations for the changing rooms and kitchen side of the building, and then use that as an imperative to continue to raise the money.</p> <p>Cllr Heys aims to convene a funding committee this month to identify and prioritise funding applications. Gloucestershire Cricket may not be in a position to award as much funding as normal due to the pandemic. CCllr Molyneux suggested looking at the GCC website, especially ‘Growing our Communities’ fund. Nick Powell advised that Gloucestershire Cricket are hoping to get quarter of a season played.</p> <p>Regarding local fundraising, Cllr Heys raised the community fun day and proposed identifying a substitute date later in the year (August or September) to allow for restrictions to be relaxed and the risks posed by Covid-19 reduced significantly. There was a discussion on holding a fun day this year, and alternatives.</p> <p>Cllr Heys is assessing the suitability of Berkeley Nuclear Power Station’s funding as an option to support the pavilion.</p> <p>b) Mowing: to receive any updates</p> <p>The Clerk had established that the mower was expensive when bought new, but this did not do much to inform how much parish council may expect to pay Nathan.</p> <p>ACTION: Cllr Thompson to discuss with Nathan.</p> <p>c) Play equipment repairs and safety improvements: to note any updates</p> <p>The play equipment remains shut, with signage being maintained by Cllr Miles. Cllr Heys touched on the RoSPA advice regarding the Trim Trail’s top bar across the tyres – to dismantle and inspect and reassemble – this task needs several people so will be carried out when social distancing is relaxed.</p> <p>d) To receive any reports on other Sports Field matters</p>	<p>GT</p>

	<p>A large table-and-chair set has been donated. Nick Powell has been looking into transporting it to the field and has identified a farmer with flat-bed trailer to transport it, but the set will require four people to lift. Ongoing.</p> <p>Cllr Heys reported that the vertical post used to secure the closed gate has been knocked off the vertical by a car, but upon inspection, it still locks, poses no additional risk, and is rigidly in place. Therefore, the plan is to continue as before but with an angled gatepost.</p>	
<p>9.037 19/20</p>	<p>Churchyard</p> <p>a) Churchyard trees: to receive an update on proposed works and to select a contractor for the work</p> <p>Cllr Heys reported that the FoDDC tree officer has advised to generally reduce yew tree while keeping it balanced in shape. Cllr Heys has discussed this with the parishioners renting the neighbouring field, who are bringing in a new donkey to replace the one who died. They will be putting up electric wire to curtail the donkeys' access, so action will be taken on both sides of the wall to reduce risk to the animals.</p> <p>Other trees on the boundary are more of the nature of overgrown shrubs and not identified as a toxicity issue, therefore no further action required with these.</p> <p>Cllr Heys will now request quotes from tree surgeons.</p> <p>Cllr Heys suggested building up a reserve for tree works over the next few years.</p> <p>b) To receive any reports on other churchyard matters</p> <p>None at this time.</p>	
<p>10.038 20/21</p>	<p>Highways</p> <p>a) To receive any updates on Highways matters (see meeting pack)</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>There was a discussion on the urgent need for vegetation cutback on Swan Hill. Cllr Miles will take photographs to illustrate the issue. ACTION: Clerk to email CCllr Molyneux access potential funding.</p> <p>Clerk to request police speed checks at Swan Hill.</p> <p>Clanna Lane – Nick Powell advised that some heavy rain today had washed sand down into the road and had undone a lot of the clearing work that Highways had done – the issue is perennial.</p>	<p>MH</p>
<p>11.039 20/21</p>	<p>NDP</p> <p>a) To receive an update on the progress of Alvington NDP.</p> <p>Progress on the NDP depends on a FoDDC Council meeting – the next one is in July (3rd week) and virtual meetings are likely to continue for a few months more. Inevitably, there will be a backlog of business, so the Planning Committee meeting will be held every two weeks to deal with this. Planning committee should send NDP to Chris McFarling to present to Full Council for approval.</p>	
<p>12.040 20/21</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) To approve payment of invoices and expenses from the past month and to note re Merlin Waste, a standard price increase of emptying bins will rise of 15p per bin to £3.90. Noted and approved.</p> <p>b) To note the receipt of any income since the last meeting. Noted</p> <p>c) Audit 19/20:</p> <p>i. To note the Annual Internal Audit Report from GAPTC's audit service including Clerk remarks in right-hand column.</p> <p>Key observations from Cllr Heys:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal controls – Cllr Heys and Clerk to formalise review of spreadsheet etc • Asset inspections – will need some thought • Spend/income vs budget – Cllr Heys and Clerk to work on this • Pensions – need to offer pension to Clerk periodically 	<p>MH/RH MH MH/RH MH</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of year accounts – will be presented before July meeting • Trusteeship of memorial hall – to be clarified 	<p>MH MH</p>
<p>13. 041 20/21</p>	<p>To note correspondence for information. Noted. Cllr Heys had received a request from a hard-of-hearing parishioner who asked whether in physical meetings we could fan out to make lipreading easier – noted.</p>	
<p>14. 042 20/21</p>	<p>Council a) To receive the Clerk’s Report. Noted. b) To review the Code of Conduct (adopted July 2018) to ensure it continues to be fit for purpose. Cllr Heys: Section 7 – GDPR may need a mention. ACTION: Clerk to look into this and bring back at July meeting. c) To receive councillors’ reports and items for future agenda. As Chair of the Governors, Cllr Heys reported further on the Woolaston Primary Covid case: Towards the middle of last week (half term), one pupil went home ill. They are the child of keyworker, who also ended up self-isolating. The child is improving and no other children are ill as of this time. The school had paid a holiday club to take on responsibilities over half term, so school staff able to return to school Monday whereas holiday club staff have had to self-isolate. There is not yet any government advice on the next step toward normal function for schools. Naturally, the school continues to offer schooling to children of keyworkers. Cllr Heys praised the function of staff in dealing with the diagnosed case of Covid. Reception and Y1 will be returning but Y6 not returning yet, effectively due to class size. Cllr Chidley reported that she has established ownership of allotments – there seems to be four ploholders over eight plots, two each. It was noted that there is no waiting list at the moment. ACTION: Clerk to add an ‘allotments’ page to the parish council website. Cllr Miles offered to look into planning/carrying out some of the smaller jobs advised by the RoSPA play equipment inspection report. d) To note the date of the next Full Council meeting: Wednesday 1st July 2020 at 7.30pm. This meeting is likely to be carried out remotely. Noted.</p>	<p>MH</p> <p>MH</p>

Meeting closed: 9.30 pm

Signed:.....Chairman.

Date:.....