

BYFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held on THURSDAY 14th NOVEMBER 2019 in BYFIELD VILLAGE HALL at 7.30pm

PRESENT - Cllrs J Gillic (Chairman), Mrs S Boddington, M Buckley, S Crowshaw, L Clark, Mrs C Davis, Mrs B Ridyard, S Shepherd and M Taylor.

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST (DPI) None

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were accepted from – none, as all present.
County Councillor and District Councillor had sent apologies.

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING(S) –

10th October – Cllr Boddington proposed that the minutes be adopted as a true record: seconded by Cllr Davis and agreed by all who had been present.

24th October – Cllr Taylor proposed that the minutes be adopted as a true record; seconded by Cllr Clark and agreed by all who had been present.

2. UPDATE ON MATTERS OUTSTANDING not covered elsewhere on the agenda

- a) BRG Centenary Field status. Chairman to complete paperwork. **JG**
- b) Updating Risk Assessment. Cllr Buckley had not been able to meet with the NCALC advisor and a new meeting date would be arranged as soon as possible. **MB/CIK**
- c) Registering all RVGs with the Land Registry **CIK**
- c) Scout HQ lease. **CIK**
- f) Review of Financial Regulations. Clerk to produce a draft based on work by her and Cllr Davis. **CIK**

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) Next election date for Byfield PC. The Chairman advised that NCALC had reported that because of the impending establishment of Unitary Authorities in the County it is possible that the present Council will have to serve until 2025.

b) Planning application for replacement medical centre/housing The Chairman had received a request from the GP partners for a meeting possibly on 19th November at 3.30pm. Councillors to advise him if they wished to attend.

c) Church Street/Farndon Road junction flooding A parishioner had cleared the ditch to allow the flood water to flow into the stream (as it should) but had found part of the culvert blocked by timbers which he felt appeared to have been deliberately placed there.

4. ANY MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM THE LAST MEETING None.

5. REPORTS FROM COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILLORS. None.

6. COMMENTS FROM PARISHIONERS PRESENT None present.

7. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE (not on the agenda) requiring a DECISION

- a) Northants ACRE – invitation to AGM 28th November at 11.30am. No-one able to attend.
- b) English Regional Transport Association – seeking support for re-opening of part of the Great Central line. Agreed no response to be made.
- c) DDC – annual Rough Sleeps estimate (on 14th November). Agreed that none are known of. **CIK**

8. FINANCE

a) FINANCIAL STATE The Clerk reported that the **financial state** at 28 October 2019 showed total liquid assets of £104,001.42, of which £37,593 is deemed to be ringfenced.
Balances against budgets had been supplied to all councillors.

b) Internal Control The Chairman and Cllr Davis had checked the books against bank statements and minutes and found all in order.

c) Banked INCOME since last meeting to 28 October

Lloyds Bank	Interest for September (BIA)	£2.85
Byfield Bowls Club	Repayment of pavilion insurance	£481.61
Humphris Funerals	Burial fees – Mr A Laurie	£305.00

d) Setting grant to cricket club for mowing Brightwell Recreation Ground. in 2020. Cllr Shepherd proposed £650 again. Agreed by all. Clerk will inform the club.

Clk

e) Budget for 2020-21 The Chairman reported that a recent Working Party meeting had suggested a budget of £75K which would include £2K for costs relating to the possible office requirements of having a new Clerk and an allowance for setting up a new website. A final budget to be agreed at December meeting.

Agenda

f) ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT - see schedule at end of minutes – page 441

In addition to the already listed invoices it was agreed to add £54.00 including VAT to Island Commercial Vehicles for the shipping of SID2 back to the supplier. The invoice had not reached the Clerk in time for the agenda.

Also to pay Zeta Lighting a deposit for replacement lighting and Leicestershire Gardens for churchyard and Clock Meadow mowing in Oct/Nov – invoices supplied for both.

Cllr Ridyard proposed that the listed accounts be paid; seconded by Cllr Crowshaw and agreed by all.

9. PLANNING

a) APPLICATIONS

i) DA/2019/0900 – land east of Charwelton Road for variation of various Conditions applied to permission DA/2016/0522 – Farol Ltd for new agricultural machinery workshops and sales premises.

The Chairman explained that the main requests were for the removal of the requirement by County Highways for the creation of a right-turn lane for traffic coming from the south i.e. from Banbury direction and also for the removal of a requirement to make a footway/cycleway from the site to the junction with Woodford Road. The right-turn lane requirement was made to avoid traffic backing up towards Byfield and the Fiveways roundabouts behind large articulated lorries queuing to turn right into the site from the A361.

The provision of a foot/cycleway on the east side of the A361 is to allow for pedestrian access to and from the site without the need to always use a vehicle. At present there are no footways on this stretch of the A361.

The Chairman had drafted a possible response.

He also noted that one of the reasons given by the applicant for not wishing to have any affordable homes in the proposed housing development on their existing site on Boddington Road was the need to be able to fund the requirements set out in planning approval 2016/0522.

It was also considered that any proposed external lighting must not be intrusive to nearby housing.

It was unanimously agreed to OBJECT to the application on the grounds outlined by the Chairman in his consultation paper.

b) APPROVALS

Additional to the agenda

i) DA/2019/0802 – 10 Westhorpe Lane for installation of 2nd floor gable end window.

c) REFUSALS None.

d) Any urgent planning matters to be brought to the attention of the Council

Three new householder applications with comments required by 4th December.

Cllr Crowshaw (acting planning councillor) would visit all 3 sites and the neighbours. It was agreed that if there were no objections raised by neighbours that Council would not meet on 28th November and no comments would be sent to Daventry DC on any of the 3 applications.

10. COUNCIL PROPERTY

a) Moss in grass at war memorial It was agreed not to remove the moss as it would very likely grow back as the site is shaded.

b) Setting honorarium for sweeping out bus shelter/cleaning shelter windows The Clerk reported that Mr I Tompkins had kindly agreed to take on this role – which had not been carried out for around 2 years. The Chairman proposed that shelters be swept out at least once a month and the windows washed every quarter and that a monthly honorarium of £30 be paid. He reminded Council that previously an honorarium of £25 per month had been paid for just sweeping out the shelters. Agreed by all. The Clerk would draw up a suitable agreement. **Clerk**

11. COMMUNICATING WITH PARISHIONERS

Cllr Taylor reported that more people were looking at the website and commenting on the Facebook entries. He is continuing to consider alternative website providers.

12. HIGHWAYS

a) HS2 work and possible road closures Cllr Crowshaw advised that work was progressing with the bypass at Chipping Warden and the cross-road re-alignment to Aston le Walls. The A361 would be closed when work on both these projects required such an action. It was hoped this would be early in 2020 and not at the same time as part of Woodford Road is closed.

b) Gas main replacement This work is still being carried out on Byfield Road in Woodford Halse but it is understood the closure of part of Woodford Road in Byfield near to the A361 will still take place in the first half of December. Buses will be re-routed to Woodford via Church Street. HGVs to be re-routed from Charwelton to avoid low rail bridges.

c) Return of SID2 No response yet from the supplier nor any credit note to cancel the unpaid invoice. The supplier has indicated that if no fault is found with the machine then a charge for re-stocking could be made.

d) SID3 and traffic monitoring unit. SID3 is working well on Boddington Road and the monitoring unit is on Woodford Road.

e) Any other highway matters

i) Water flowing from manhole on A361 near to Fiveways reported to Anglian Water as possible leak and therefore a source for flooding in this area.

13. RIGHTS OF WAY

Cllr Clark reported that Highways had levelled out tree roots and re-surfaced in part the link path between Fessey and Lovett Roads.

No other known issues with RoWs. New finger posts for EF2 awaited from County Highways.

14. LIGHTING and UTILITIES

a) Failed/failing lights Cllr Davis reported that 10 lights in different parts of the village are to be replaced with LED lamps. These will be supplied by Zeta Lighting – who had installed the trial LED light on The Green.

A quotation had been requested from Zeta for replacement of all the remaining 80+ lights with LED lamps. This would form the basis for consideration to apply for permission to borrow, but first a consultation would be required with parishioners to ascertain if they would be happy for a change to LED lighting and for the cost.

b) Any comments about the one trial LED light None received.

15. ALLOTMENTS, NEW WOOD, POCKET PARK

a) Allotments

i) Letting of plots. All plots let bar one of the new 1/3rd size plots at no. 11. Nearly all rents paid.

Cllr Clark reported that one or two plot holders had again seen rats and would be happy to liaise with the Council's 'rat catcher' to show where their nests are. Clerk to arrange a meeting. **Cllk**

b) New Wood and Pocket Park

Cllr Boddington reported that a smaller area would be worked on by the Friends of the PP and bulbs will be planted in this area and other suitable areas in the village.

3 rowan trees had been purchased to replace the cherry removed from The Causeway.

16. PLAYGROUND

- a) Weekly inspections. No new problems with equipment but dog faeces still being found in bark safety surfaces.
- b) Work recommended on 'old' units. Cllr Ridyard working on this but none are deemed urgent. **Agenda**

17. CLOSED CHURCHYARD

- a) Winter work No recommendation put forward.

18. BURIAL GROUND

- a) Replacing fence between existing and reserve area + wide gate
No decision except to do this in due course.

19. BRIGHTWELL RECREATION GROUND

- a) Proposed internal work Carry forward to January agenda when the future of HS2 might be known. Funding from the HS2 scheme may be available for such work.

20. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2020 It was agreed to hold this on Thursday 26th March.

21. VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

- a) Village Hall. Cllr Gillic reported that damage had been caused during a recent hiring for a private Hallow'een Party. The hall committee was pressing the hirer for costs for repair/replacement work.

Councillors asked if the strip lights in the Meeting Room could have separate controls so all 4 do not have to be on or off at the same time. All 4 have to be turned off when using the screen and projector. Cllr Gillic would put this to the hall committee. **JG**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.55pm

Chairman

2019

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**Dates of next meetings– 28 November for planning, if needed.
TUESDAY 10 December - Full Council**

Agenda items for December

- Agreeing budget for 2020-21
- Initial consideration of setting precept for 2020-21
- Setting fees for burial and memorials from 1 January 2020

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