



**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
9th November 2020 at 7.30pm. The meeting was held via a Zoom teleconference.**

Present; Cllrs A Taylor (Chairman), N Woodcock, E. Houghton, T. Hewitt, C.Hewitt, T Brown
K. Hayes, R Lea.
Clerk: R Weaver

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Cllrs AT, TB and EH declared an interest in item 6. Cllrs CH and TH declared a pecuniary interest in item 7a

3. Minutes of the last meeting

It was resolved to approve the Minutes of the meetings of 9th November 2020. The minutes will be signed outside of this meeting in accordance with this resolution

4. Adjournment for Public Participation

Notices for this meeting allowed for residents to be able to join the meeting via video link on application to the Clerk for the login details. One member of the public joined the meeting to raise concerns about speeding cars, particularly on Smithy Lane. This prompted a discussion about Speed Indicator Devices (SPIDS) and whether one could be obtained. It was noted that in the past the Village had had access to one via a sharing agreement with neighbouring parishes. The Clerk undertook to find out what had happened to it or to find a new avenue to obtain one if possible

5. Cycle track update

There were no issues to note

6. Village Hall update

Cllr Taylor presented an update for the Council which outlined progress to date. Shortly after work commenced, the ongoing corona virus restrictions have hampered progress and created many difficulties for builders and suppliers. Substantial work has been completed, but the installation of windows has delayed progress due to two previous window suppliers going out of business. Windows are now currently on order, but may be several weeks away from fitting. The intention to organise an open day remains, dependent on Government restrictions regarding events and social distancing. The Clerk is continuing to manage transfer of earmarked Parish Council funds to support the project, on receipt of invoices and building completion certificates.

7. Finance

It was resolved to authorise the following payments;

- a) Payment of £26 to Royal British Legion for the Parish Council remembrance wreath
- b) Clerk salary in sum of £220.00 (net for October)
- c) Clerk mileage expenses in sum of £7.20 (miles in September and October)
- d) HMRC(PAYE) in sum of £55.00 (For October)
- e) Cllrs C and T Hewitt C in the sum of £100.00. Note: Cllrs C and T Hewitt lodged a declaration of an interest in respect of this item and therefore logged out of the meeting whilst discussion took place. The proposal was a re-imbursment of invoices which had been paid by Cllrs C and T Hewitt, for prizes for the very successful Halloween competition which the Council had agreed to support in principle. It was agreed that this support should be extended to funding the cost of the prizes which

had been met personally by both Councillors. A note of thanks for their efforts should be recorded in the minutes

8. Governance issues

- a) Standing Orders were reviewed and a potential amendment was proposed. The orders will be returned to the next meeting with a proposal to make an amendment in relation to tenure of the Chairman.
- b) Financial regulations for the Council were reviewed and agreed
- c) The risk register had been amended to include the details of extra safeguards for the transfer of funds for the Village hall project. The risk register was approved
- d) The asset register was approved.

9. Community led project update

- a) A discussion took place regarding the placement of signs and whether the three proposed signs for entrance points to the village were enough. It was agreed that three - on the A59 boundary, Liverpool Old Road / A59 and one at the northern gateway roundabout on the A59 would be sufficient. These locations are still subject to Highways approval.
- b) In view of the success of the Halloween competition, it was agreed that a Christmas competition should be organised along similar lines by the Parish Council. Once again Cllrs C and T Hewitt volunteered to organise it, but it was proposed **and resolved** that the Council would provide funding of £150 to cover the cost of prizes.
- c) It was **resolved** that 2 Christmas trees be purchased (for a sum within the budgeted allowance), to be erected in the village early in December.

10. Planning issues

The applications were noted

11. Local Meetings

- a) The LALC accounts were noted in advance of the LALC AGM
- b) No other meetings had been attended

12. Items for the next agenda

Update on village signs
Draft budget and precept for 2021/22
Church Grant for grounds maintenance
Use of CIL money

13. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting of the Council will be via video conferencing technology at 7.30pm on Monday 14th December 2020.