

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of Comberbach Parish Council held on Tuesday 27th October 2020

Present

Mr J Ryder (Chairman in the Chair)
Mr J Bradley
Mrs R Bradley
Mr R Holt
Mrs J Johnston

Ms DJ French (Clerk)
Mr S Penwill (RFO)

The Meeting started at 7.20pm.

1. Public Open Forum

No Members of the Public were present.

2. Apologies for absence – Councillor S Hornby (illness) and CWAC Councillor L Gibbon

3. To receive Members' Declarations of Interest – none

4. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15th September 2020

(20/58) RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 15th September 2020 be approved as a correct record.

5. Progress Reports and Updates

5.1 Land Adjacent to the Recreation Area:

Members discussed investigations into using the area of land adjacent to the Recreation Area as a Skate Park or Pump Park. Some residents had provided further information and informal views had been sought from some suppliers. The insurance company had advised an increase in the insurance premium would be required. It was agreed that further information would be sought including the advice of Rospa and a report submitted to the next meeting.

5.2 Parish Council logo

The Council considered various designs for the logo including examples shown on letterheads. Members preferred a design with the logo on one side and wording opposite but the design could be chosen by the Clerk.

(20/59) RESOLVED that

- (a) A full report be submitted to the next meeting regarding the options of a Skate Park or Pump Park at the area of land beside the Recreation Area; and
- (b) Delegated power be granted to the Parish Clerk to choose the logo based on the views expressed at the meeting.

6. Cheshire West and Chester Councillors' reports

In the absence of any CWAC Councillors there was no update available. Councillor Lynn Gibbon had provided some information on highways matters following issues raised with her by residents and this would be circulated to all Councillors.

7. Finance Committee

(20/60) RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of Finance Committee held on 13th October be received.

8. Planning

8.1 Planning decisions were listed in Appendix 3.

8.2 There were no enforcement matters.

Members noted that works appeared to be taking place in the field off Cogshall Lane and the Clerk advised that this had been raised with CWAC Councillors. They were not aware of any reasons for these works and Councillors agreed to advise residents to report any concerns to CWAC.

(20/61) RESOLVED: That the planning update be noted.

9. Recreation Area

9.1. The Chairman updated that the Recreation Area continued to be well used and no issues were found during the bi-monthly inspection. Members noted there had been some issues with littering and the new Report It app would be circulated to all Members and promoted via the website, Newsletter and social media.

9.2 The Chairman advised that some fence posts were now damaged and he and a volunteer had carried out a repair. He suggested strengthening the length of fencing with additional posts which he and the volunteer would then fit. A budget of £200 was suggested to include fence posts at £4.50 per post and £10 for delivery .

9.3 The Council considered the quarterly inspection report from Northwich Town Council. The issues raised related to weed control on the pathway; the stop tyre on the zip wire; the gate closing too slowly and the fastenings for the new benches. The Chairman had responded to Northwich Town Council and explained to Members that the stop tyre had been fixed by Northwich Town Council only recently and they had therefore been asked to fix it again at no cost; the gate appeared to be closing within the required 5-8 seconds but this would be monitored and the fastening down of the benches had been checked with the suppliers who confirmed this was not needed on safety grounds but the views of Rospa would be sought at their next inspection in April 2021. It was noted that the benches were bolted down on the outside rather than the inside as recommended by Northwich Town Council.

(20/62) RESOLVED: That:

- (a) the Council approves a budget of £200 to carry out fence repairs including new posts from RTC Agricultural at a cost of £4.50 per post plus £10 for delivery; and
- (b) the gate closing will be monitored and views of Rospa requested on the bench fastenings at the next inspection.

10. Highways

10.1 Speeding issues in the village – the Chairman had arranged with CWAC to borrow the Speed Indicator Device to use on various roads in the village. The SID was available for 4 weeks and had been used on Burgamot Road so far and captured 122 vehicles with 49 of those travelling above the 30mph speed limit. It would be moved to other locations during the next 3 weeks. Members discussed the merits of purchasing a SID and agreed to investigate costs and whether any other Parish Councils would like to jointly purchase a SID to share.

10.2 Works at Marbury Hollows and Marbury Lane – following the site visit in September Members noted that the vegetation around the barriers had been cut back and the SLOW line marking refreshed; this had been a great improvement.

(20/63) RESOLVED That:

- (a) The Clerk investigate the costs of purchasing a SID including whether there is any interest among other Parish Councils in the Marbury Ward to arrange a joint purchase; and
- (b) The Clerk contact Highways to thank them for the improvement works on Marbury Hollows.

11. Accounts and Financial Matters

11.1 The Parish Council Accounts at 30th September 2020 were submitted at Appendix 1.

11.2 The list of payments was in Appendix 2.

(20/64) RESOLVED That

- (a) the accounts in Appendix 1 with a balance of £15,287.73 and £36,657.55 in reserves be noted; and
- (b) the payments in Appendix 2 be approved.

12. Website

12.1 The Clerk had circulated the link to the website which was now live. The Clerk and RFO had received training on how to upload documents and make changes to

the website. The Clerk advised there were still some sections that needed further information but overall Members agreed the website was excellent and a good basis to build upon. The RFO had contacted all Members with advice on how to set up their new email addresses.

(20/65) RESOLVED: that the update on the website be received.

13. Governance

The Parish Council considered:

- (a) the draft Health and Safety Policy; and
- (b) the amended Risk Assessment that took into account volunteer roles and the views of Cheshire Association of Local Councils.

(20/66) RESOLVED: that the draft Health and Safety Policy and draft Risk Assessment as submitted be approved.

14. General matters

(20/67) RESOLVED That:

- (a) The Chairman include notes in his report for the newsletter to remind residents to pick up after their dogs and to cut back overhanging hedges to prevent footpath obstruction; and
- (b) A budget of £10 be approved for the removal of fly tipped tyres at the car park entrance.

15. Correspondence

The list of correspondence was received.

The Clerk reported on additional items of correspondence from CWAC regarding Covid testing sites; the CPRE virtual AGM; the latest Chalc bulletin; information on speeding issues identified by the SID; and CWAC Councillor Gibbon who praised the new website and highlighted 3 current consultations. The Clerk would forward the relevant correspondence to all Councillors.

(20/68) RESOLVED: That the correspondence be noted.

16. Exclusion of Public and Press – Part 2

None

The Meeting closed at 8.25pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 8th December 2020.

Signed

Chairman

Appendix 1 Accounts for 30th September 2020 were approved

Current account: £15,287.73	Reserves: £36,657.55
Cash book: £15,162.86	Unpresented cheques: £125.07

Appendix 2 Payments

Item	Amount	Cheque	Power
Synchroprint – September CVN	£170.00	22670	LGA 1972 s 111
HMRC – PAYE Jul to Sep	£251.20	22671	LGA 1972 s 111
S Penwill – Zoom & stationery cost	£58.77	22672	LGA 1972 s 111
J Ryder – Trophy engraving/ football net	£21.47	22673	LGA 1972 s 111
J Bradley – Commemorative wreath	£50.00	22674	LGA 1972 s 111

Appendix 2b Pre-Authorised Payments

Item	Amount	Cheque	Power
BWP Creative – Website deposit	£287.64	22659	LGA 1972 s 111

Appendix 3 Recent planning decisions by CW&C

Removal of existing tile hung cladding and replacement with render, 2 Goosebrook Close	Pending
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