



BOX PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING **HELD ON 29th AUGUST 2019**

- 1. Present:** Councillors: S. Parker (Chairman); N. Botterill; R. Campbell; R. Case;
J. Cox; R. Davies; S. Gould; D. Moore; R. Smith ; M. Tye;
J. Whitford; A. Woollard
Mrs Carey (Clerk)
Wiltshire Councillor: B. Mathew
- 2. Apologies:** Councillor D. Evans; Wiltshire Councillor B. Anderson
- 3. Absent:** Nil
- 4. Public Question Time:** There were six members of the public present.
A petition was presented by Mr Walton re the electricity poles on the Recreation Ground. He stated that this was for the removal of the electricity poles as he did not feel that the development had been consulted upon. The Petition was accepted.
- Mr Baldwin stated that he had worked for the SSE and did not believe that they had refused to put the cables underground
- Mr Tye read out a statement re the erection of the two electricity poles and the impact on the AoNB and Listed Buildings. He felt that these were an unsightly eyesore and asked the Parish Council to look at alternatives.
- Mr Elliot reported the tree that had fallen down opposite the Rudloe Hall Hotel.
- Mrs Newbould reported that the car wash signs had been removed. The bus stop sign opposite the Cemetery had fallen down.
- It was also asked when the bus shelter would be rebuilt on the Devizes Road
- 5. Chairman's announcements and declarations of interest:** There were no declarations of interest.
The Chairman welcomed Cllr Walton to her first Council meeting. She confirmed that a letter of resignation had been received from Cllr Hill. The Council agreed to offer him a six month sabbatical from the Council.
- Post Minute note: Cllr Hill has accepted the offer of the six month sabbatical***
- The Chairman outlined the process of the meeting and that items were discussed, minutes considered and recommendations made. She asked that formal proposals with names of the nominator and seconder to be minuted. Proposed by Cllr. Parker, seconded by Cllr. Cox, all agreed.
- 6. Actions:** See Appendix to the Minutes
- 7. Minutes:** The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25th July 2019 were taken as

read and signed as a true record with an addition under item 12 to read “including the area in front of Vine Court”

8. Matters Arising:

Discussion re taking on an Apprentice and other options: Cllr Cox spoke about the role of an Apprentice and the other options open to the Council. She read out a letter from a youngster in the Village who was starting a Land Based Studies Course at Lackham College and was seeking work experience.

It was stated that the Council had three different options:

- Take on an Apprentice for two years
- Take on a person for Work Experience
- Employ someone on an ad hoc basis on a zero hours contract

The councillors discussed this and voiced their opinions. A recommendation for a vote on the three options was proposed by Cllr Cox and seconded by Cllr Parker. A vote was this. One Councillor voted in favour of an Apprentice with ten against and one abstention; Eleven Councillors voted in favour of taking on a Work Experience person and there were no councillors in favour of employing an ad hoc member of staff. Cllr Cox will look into the details re the work experience

Terms of Reference for Council and Committees;

Cllr Whitford asked for this to be reconsidered. It will be taken back to the next Policy & Finance Committee meeting for further discussion.

9. Policy & Finance Committee: The Minutes of the meeting held on 12th August 2019 were submitted

Electricity supply to Tractor Shed: Following the presentation of the Petition and the issues raised at Public Question time the Council discussed this.

Cllr Tye felt that there should be a working party set up to look at the alternatives to the two poles. She also felt that Policy & Finance had “taken the decision” for the second pole and this should have come back to Full Council. Cllr Case stated that this had been considered and discussed thoroughly by the Council and advice had been taken. The Council has to sometimes make difficult decisions. She did not feel that the view of the Recreation Ground was being ruined and felt that the poles should remain. Cllr Smith disagreed with the two poles. Cllr Davies stated that he had looked at the poles and spoken to several people and had no major issues with them and felt the Council should abide by its decision. Cllr Whitford said that the Council had taken a decision. He accepted that it could have been done better. Cllr Botterill felt that the reality was that this was not the most sensitive part of the village. Cllr Moore agreed that professional advice had been taken.

Cllr Parker outlined the position. Quotes had been obtained from SSE – the first being for £26K running from an existing pole in Valens Terrace and digging across the Recreation Ground from there. This had not been acceptable and a meeting had been held with them to look at the different options. They had dismissed the option to run a supply from the School and also from the pole by Fairmead View. It had been agreed that there should be a new pole outside the Cricket Club to take the supply from the existing pole on the Cricket Club’s ground. Following acceptance of this by the Council the contractors had visited the site and felt for health and safety reasons they could not put an electricity pipe underneath the existing water pipe and a second pole had been suggested to overcome this. This had been minuted in the Policy & Finance meeting of 8th July. She confirmed that the Cricket Club had been consulted all the way through the process. Cllr. Parker apologised that we had not consulted with Dean at the Queens Head.

It was stated that someone had walked into one of the poles but this had not been reported to the Council. If there was one single pole this would have meant two stays which would have gone onto the Cricket outfield.

A recommendation was made by Cllr Campbell and seconded by Cllr Parker that the Council take no further action regarding the electricity poles. This was carried by eight votes in favour with four votes against. The Councillors against the motion were Cllrs Moore; Smith; Tye and Walton

The Clerk gave a breakdown of the costs to date. £12500 had been put into the budget and there would be approximately £2221.87 left

Quotations for the internal electrical work to the Tractor Shed: Three quotations had been received in the sum of £2146.12; £2737 and £1920 (approximately). After a vote it was **resolved** by ten votes in favour; two against and 1 abstention to accept the quotation from ES Electrical in the sum of £2146.12

Future of Rudloe Green and Community Centre: This had been discussed fully at Policy & Finance and a recommendation made to Full Council. All copies of the correspondence, cost analysis etc had been circulated to members.

Cllr Davies felt that the council should be looking at this closely. Cllr Moore stated that the Community Centre had been used six days week but it was not viable. The roof was leaking and the building was a wreck.

It was **resolved** unanimously that the Parish Council continues to put pressure on Green Square through the Steering Group regarding the provision of green space/play area/shop/community centre.

Community Governance Review: It was **resolved** that there should be no changes to the external boundary of the Parish as the Parish Council wish to retain the buffer between Box and Corsham. It was also **resolved** that the ward name for the Box Hill Ward be changed to Box Hill and Rudloe Ward.

Website: This was progressing and should be ready in two weeks time.

Terracycle: Recycling of pet food pouches. Cllr Tye had looked into this. It was **resolved** that the Parish Council does not take this on. The parishioner was invited to discuss this with the Selwyn Hall and the Post Office.

10. Cemetery Management Committee: The Minutes of the meeting held on 5th August were submitted.

The Lodge: The situation regarding the Lodge was discussed and it was **resolved** unanimously to delegate the repairs and redecoration to Cllr Botterill and the Clerk up to a limit of £2000 without having to come back to the Council.

11. Planning & Conservation Committee: The Minutes of the meeting held on 25th July and 12th August 2019 were submitted

12. Box Hill & Rudloe Open Spaces Committee: The minutes of the meeting held on 19th August 2019 were submitted.

Planning application for hardstanding: The Council was shown the plans for this. The planning application will be submitted.

13. Highway Issues:

- Metrocount at Kingsdown – this had been submitted
- It was suggested that Wiltshire Council be asked to paint “School” on the main road. The Parish Council supported this. Cllr Smith to submit the form.
- Temporary Road Closure Order for part of A365 for the Remembrance Day Parade on 10th November. There were no objections to this
- Temporary closure of A4 (part) between Chippenham & Corsham from its junction with A350 to its junction with Hartham Lane for carriageway patching and surface dressing on 2nd October for one day.
- Pedestrian Crossing – B3109 Bradford road, Corsham – Proposals received from Wiltshire Council. Clerk to query a “Toucan” crossing but no objections in principle to the proposal.

14. To receive any urgent correspondence:

- a. **Questions from Mr David Wright:** Questions received from Mr D. Wright. These will be considered at the Policy & Finance meeting
- b. **MacMillan Way along the By Brook:** Letter from Mr Bond. Following the anti-social behaviour that has been occurring he wishes to put a kissing gate to help alleviate the problem. The Council supported this and he will be advised to contact the Rights of Way Warden.

15. Additional accounts for payment:

The following accounts were presented and approved for payment:

Cheques

Travis Perkins	-	Excavator – additional two days	97.20
Wiltshire Wildlife Trust	-	Data search NP	216.00
Travis Perkins	-	Sand	540.43
T.F. Slade	-	Updating Name Boards	128.00

BACS

Fire Alarm Consultancy Ltd	-	Service to office extinguishers	166.92
Consortium	-	cleaning materials/hand soap	155.17

Direct Debits

Plusnet	-	Office – telephone	36.96
Plusnet	-	Pavilion – telephone	29.98
John Deere	-	Mowers leasehire	444.00
Fuel Card Services	-	Petrol	42.53
Tallis Amos	-	Mowers service (1/4 ly)	304.19

16. Statement of Balances: The statement of balances as follows prior to cheques signed today:

Lloyds

Current Account	11985.59
High Interest account	<u>2358.48</u>
	£ 14344.07
Less payments to go out	<u>1303.72</u>
Working balance	£ 13040.35

Held on deposit in Lloyds	£ 37500.00
Balance in Lloyds	£ <u>50540.35</u>

Held in BIBS	£ 80587.72
Held in Nationwide	£ <u>55426.24</u>

17. Chairman’s Diary; Representatives report; Report from County Councillors:

Cllr Mathew reported on the Health & Well Being Group which was celebrating age with two productions.

The next CATG meeting will be held on 18th September

David Moor reported that the Rudloe Steering Group had taken on 11 applicants and a leaflet had been sent out. They will be inviting the Head Teacher from the local school to join the group. It is hoped to go for planning at the end of next year

18. Items of report and future Agenda items:

- a. **Redecoration of the Council offices;** This was being considered but there will be a full discussion at Council on the suggestions and will be put into the Budget and the Forward Work/Management Plan
- b. **MoD Liaison meeting;** Cllr Campbell to circulate the report
- c. **Short Hill;** The hedges and trees are overhanging the road
- d. **Pavilion toilets;** It was reported that these are in a bad state
- e. **Graffiti;** It was reported that there is graffiti on the bus shelter at the Rising Sun and the Bassetts

19. Matters arising from the staff Appraisals: the members of the public were excluded for the following confidential item in accordance with the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960
See Confidential Appendix A to the Minutes

Chairman

Meeting closed at 10.15 pm