



BOX PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19th DECEMBER 2019

- 1. Present:** Councillors: S. Parker (Chairman); N. Botterill; R. Campbell;
R. Davies; D. Evans; B. Walton; J. Whitford;
Mrs Carey (Clerk)
- 2. Apologies:** Councillors R. Case; J. Cox; V. Hill; D. Moore; R. Smith; M. Tye; A. Woollard
- 3. Absent:** Councillor: S. Gould
- 4. Public Question Time:** There were seven members of the public present.

Mr Mike Short gave a presentation on the Rudloe Community Square and the Green and Mr Paul Townsend and Anna Mestre from Camomile Cafe spoke about the Community Centre and stated that Camolile Café was ready to take over the existing Community Building.

Comments were received about the new website and the closing down of the old site and it was hoped that all the documents and minutes could be put onto the new website.

Mr Jones spoke about the results of the metrocount at Kingsdown.

- 5. Chairman's announcements and declarations of interest:** There were no declarations of interest.

- 6. Actions:** See Appendix to the Minutes

- 7. Minutes:** The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28th November 2019 were taken as read and two amendments were made.

- 8. Matters Arising:**
Japanese Knotweed: On going

Quotes for work to trees on the Recreation Ground: The four quotations had been circulated and it was **resolved** unanimously to accept the quotation from Cambium Tree Care in the sum of £2500 for the work to the two Willow trees.

It was **resolved** that the Playing Fields Committee would discuss how the tree in the centre of the moat should be left and advice should be sought from the tree surgeon on this.

- 9. Policy & Finance Committee:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 9th December 2019 were submitted and agreed

Future of Rudloe Green and Community Centre: Cllr Whitford made comments about the Minutes of the meeting of the Steering Group re the proposed new Community Centre; Green and the relocation of the Play Area

Cllr Parker stated that until the matter had been resolved between Wiltshire Council and GreenSquare the Parish Council were not in a position to do anything further. Any issues should be raised with the Steering Group.

This statement was **resolved** by five votes in favour, one against and one abstention.

Precept for 2020/21: It was **resolved** unanimously that a precept of £153739 for 2020/21 be set. This is an increase of £3393 on last year's precept and will give a Band D charge of £88.55 pa ie a decrease of £0.31 pa

Cllr Botterill left the meeting

Purchase of a Reciprocating Saw/blower and push lawn mower: It was **resolved** unanimously that the reciprocating saw and the push lawn mower be purchased. It was **resolved** by four votes in favour, one against and one abstention that the leaf blower be purchased

Defibrillator for the Pavilion: It was **resolved** unanimously that the Parish Council takes over the responsibility for the defibrillator.

New Play area at Dickens Gate: It was **resolved** unanimously that the Parish council takes over the responsibility over the proposed new play area at Dickens Gate.

10. Cemetery Management Committee: The Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd December 2019 were submitted and agreed.

11. Planning & Conservation Committee: The Minutes of the meeting held on 28th November and 9th December 2019 were submitted and agreed

12. Box Hill and Rudloe Open Spaces Committee: The Minutes of the meeting held on 16th December 2019 were submitted and agreed.

13. To receive any urgent correspondence:

SSE – Work on Recreation Ground: A refund of £1634.40 had been received for the work carried out on the Recreation Ground

Quotations for work:

The following quotations had been received from Marcus Mitchell and were accepted:

Entrance to Pound - work to gates £220
Market Place wall - Repairs £400
Stone on War memorial - £70

CATG: The Minutes of the meeting of the CATG held on 20th November had been circulated.

Leafy Lane Playing Fields: Thank you letter for the grant received

14. Highway matters:

- **Metrocount at Kingsdown;** The results of the metrocount had been received as follows:
West of Kingsdown Grove
 - Speeds for a total of 14,913 vehicles in free-flowing traffic in both directions were recorded
 - Total traffic volume during this period was 18,698 vehicles
 - The 85th percentile speed was 52.9 mph.
 - The mean speed was 45.3 mph
 - 3.36% of recorded vehicles were exceeding the posted speed limit. The mean speed of these vehicles was 64.9 mph

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- Speeds for a total of 15,197 vehicles in free-flowing traffic in both directions were recorded
- Total traffic volume during this period was 19,419 vehicles
- The 85th percentile was 37.02 mph
- The mean speed was 32.8 mph
- Less than 0.01% of recorded vehicles were exceeding the posted speed limit (1 vehicle).
The speed of this vehicle was 69.3 mph

A letter had been received from Kate Davey regarding the last speed limit assessment that was carried out on this length of road in 2012/13 when CATG had agreed not to progress this or allocate funding to introducing a 50 mph speed limit.

It was agreed that a letter be sent to CATG asking, in light of the results of the metrocount, whether they would still wish to proceed with a speed limit assessment.

- **Request for pedestrian crossing by the Northey Arms:** Issue sheet to be submitted to CATG asking what could be done about the safety of children crossing at this point
- **The School:** Cllr Smith reported on the recent CATG meeting. It had been agreed to relocate the School sign from opposite the Pharmacy to nearer the Manor House/Manor garage and “SLOW” would be painted on the road. This would cost an estimated £3500 with a 25% contribution of £875 from the Parish Council. This was unanimously agreed.

Cllr Smith will pursue the “Taking Action on School Journeys” with Box C of E School

15. Additional accounts for payment:

Cheques

Criterion Asset management	-	Wayleave	1.20
SSE	-	Tractor shed	19.39
S. Parker	-	Refund –lights for xmas tree	139.47
D. Evans	-	Refund – lights for xmas tree	89.99

BACS

Zealous Kite	-	Design of website	750.00
Lemon Gazelle	-	Neighbourhood Plan	800.00
ES Electrical	-	Faulty lights in Lodge	176.28
Wel Medical	-	Defibrillator	1500.00
BHIB Ltd	-	Motor insurance	920.47

Direct debits

Plusnet	-	Office	36.84
Plusnet	-	Pavilion	31.35

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

Lloyds

Current Account	16059.80
High Interest account	<u>22536.19</u>
	£ 38595.99
Less payments to go out	<u>6056.80</u>
Working balance	£ 32539.19

Held on deposit in Lloyds £ 37500.00

Balance in Lloyds £ 70039.19

Held in **BIBS** £ 71117.13

Held in **Nationwide** £ 55848.21

17. Chairman's Diary, Representatives' reports and report from County Councillors:

Councillor Mathew commented about speeding issues that he had been involved with.

18. Items of report and future Agenda items:

- Upgrading of office computer and laptop – to be discussed at Policy & Finance
- Councillors were asked to report any grit bins that needed filling
- Drains on Northey Hill – the top three drains need clearing. Clerk to notify the Parish Steward
- Clerk to ask the Selwyn Hall management committee if they still use the light in the car park
- Clerk to send a reminder re the Japanese Knotweed
- Cutting of hedge at Mill Lane – Playing Fields Committee to discuss cutting this back to its original height.

Chairman

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm