



## BOX PARISH COUNCIL

### **MINUTES OF THE REMOTE COUNCIL MEETING HELD BY ZOOM ON 24<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020**

- 1. Present:** Councillors: S. Parker (Chairman); N. Botterill; R. Campbell; R. Case;  
J. Cox; D. Evans; R. Smith; M. Tye; B. Walton; A. Woollard  
  
Mrs Carey (Clerk)
- 2. Apologies:** Councillors R. Davies; S. Gould
- 3. Absent:** Nil
- 4. Public Question Time:** There were 5 members of the public present  
Members of the public were reminded that they would not be able to speak during the meeting.  
  
Mr Richard Bean raised concerns about the Parish Council's decision to waive the fee for the use of the Bowling Green for this financial year. He will send a copy of his concerns to the Council.
- 5. Chairman's announcements and declarations of interest:** Nil
- 7. Minutes:** The Minutes of the remote Council Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2020 were taken as a true record and will be signed
- 8. Matters Arising:**
  - Letting of Lodge:** A tenant had been found for the Lodge and suitable references received.
  - Vine Court:** A Licence had been received from Wiltshire Council regarding the area of land in front of Vine Court. This will be circulated
  - Japanese Knotweed Mill Lane:** it was reported that Wiltshire Council had cut back the hedge along Mill Lane, including the knotweed. Clerk to write to Wiltshire Council expressing concerns about this as it will cause the knotweed to spread further.
  - Metro counts:** it had been reported at CATG that metro counts were being resumed.
  - Use of land on Quarry Hill for allotments:** it was reported that the offer of the land had been withdrawn
- 9. Policy & Finance Committee:** The Minutes of the remote meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020 were submitted and agreed.  
  
**Social Media Policy:** Cllr Tye raised concerns about the existing Social Media Policy. She stated that the NALC policy covers employees as well as councilors. She felt that the existing policy was contrary to the Local Government Act 1972 as Councillors are able to report on meetings. However, it was stressed that the Councillor would need to differentiate as to whether they were reporting as a councillor or a parishioner. After discussion it was agreed to look at the Parish Council having its own social media account and Cllr Tye was asked to take this forward.  
  
**Road markings in Church Lane:** This was discussed and the Council agreed that the Parish Council would not do anything to the road markings without consultation with the residents. However, Wiltshire Council may renew the markings as it is highways land.

**Renewal of Parish Council Insurance**; The **recommendation** for the renewal of the insurance policy for twelve months at a cost of £4831.19 was agreed.

**Local Government Pay Award 2020-21**: The **recommendation** that the Local Government Pay Award 2020-21 be accepted was agreed. This is for a 2.75% increase backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020. The Council had budgeted a 2% increase. The additional .75% will be an additional £565

**Bowling Green contract**: The Clerk had asked three companies for a quotation for the maintenance of the Bowling Green but two companies had replied that they did not maintain Bowling Greens as it was a specialist service and one other company had not replied. The **recommendation** that the contract for the maintenance of the Bowling Green with Avon Sportsground Maintenance Co. was agreed by seven votes in favour, two against and one abstention.

**Remembrance Day Service**; Following discussion about the future organization of the Remembrance Day Service it was **recommended** and agreed that the Parochial Church Council applies to the Parish Council for a grant towards the cost of the sound system but the Parish Council would not take on the administrative task of applying for the road closure order.

**Loss of revenue for the Pavilion**: The Clerk had applied to Wiltshire Council for a discretionary grant towards the loss of revenue from the letting of the pavilion during the lockdown and the Parish Council had been awarded a grant of £7000

**10. Cemetery Management Committee**: The minutes of the remote meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020 were submitted and agreed.

**Work to hedges in Cemetery**; Further quotations to be obtained

**11. Playing Fields & Pavilion Management Committee**: The Minutes of the remote meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> September were submitted and agreed.

**Lovar Garden Walk/Management Plan**: The **recommendation** that the Management Plan be adopted was agreed unanimously.

Cllr Case asked for any work to the pond to be left until April. It was also asked that the Grounds Staff be involved with this. This will be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

**12. Planning & Conservation Committee**: The Minutes of the remote meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> August and 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020 were submitted and agreed.

**Neighbourhood Plan**: The quotation from Lemon Gazelle CLC for the second phase of the Neighbourhood Plan in the sum of £2600 was agreed.

**13. Box Hill & Rudloe Open Spaces Committee**: The Minutes of the remote meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020 were submitted and agreed

**14. To receive any urgent correspondence**:

a. **Area Board Boundary Review**; Details of the consultation had been circulated

**15. Highway matters**:

- **Speed Indicator Device**; Quotations from five companies had been received. After discussion it was unanimously **resolved** that the quotation from Evolis in the total sum of £2272.74 to include extra battery and mounting brackets be accepted. Awaiting information from Wiltshire regarding an extra pole that may be needed for Devizes Road

**16. Additional Accounts for payment**: The following additional accounts were submitted and agreed

<u>BACS</u>			
Wiltshire Council	-	25% CATG contribution	
		Warning sign and SLOW mark	£500.00
 <u>Direct Debits</u>			
Hills Waste	-	Refuse collection	87.10
Plusnet	-	Telephone Pavilion	30.98
Plusnet	-	Office	37.20

## **17. Statement of Balances:**

Current Account	14252.35
High Interest account	<u>1414.14</u>
	£ 15668.50
Less payments to go out	<u>1396.00</u>
Working balance	<b>£ 14272.50</b>
Held on deposit in Lloyds	£ <u>37500.00</u>
Balance in Lloyds	£ <b><u>51772.50</u></b>
Held in BIBS	£ <b>81666.53</b>
Held in Nationwide	£ <b><u>76327.15</u></b>
	£ <b><u>157993.68</u></b>

## **18. Chairman's Diary, Representatives' reports and report from County Councillor**

Cllr Mathew asked the Parish Council to bear in mind the autospeed watch cameras which cost £600 per unit. He had been elected Chair of the Corsham Area Board. "Behind Closed Doors" had addressed the issue of loneliness. Money that had been put in by the Area Board had been matched by Corsham Town Council and the Parish Council were asked to consider contributing to these projects.

He reported that he had attended Barry Rydz funeral who had served as a Parish Council and had been instrumental in developing the Viewing Platform.

## **19. Items of Report and Future Agenda Items**

- Dog mess on Recreation Ground: Cllr Smith reported that she had been looking into sponsoring for dog pooh bag dispensers. These are £68 each and the bags are £12.99 for 200. This will be discussed at the Playing Fields and Pavilion Management Committee meeting.
- Slow sign in Mill Lane: An issue sheet needs to be submitted for the Slow sign before the bend to be refreshed as there is a hidden entrance to Lycetts Orchard.
- Newsletter: This will be ready for circulation shortly

## **20. Confidential Item**: Members of the public were excluded for the following confidential item in accordance with the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960

**Co-option onto Parish Council**: Two letters of application had been received to fill the vacancy on the Box Ward left by the resignation of Cllr Whitford. After a secret ballot Mrs Hazel Parker was co-opted to fill the vacancy.

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