

**KIDDERMINSTER FOREIGN PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the Parish Council**  
**held remotely using ZOOM on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020 at 7.30pm**

<b>Present</b>	Councillor Mrs. C. Gammond	Councillor Mr. J. Gammond
	Councillor Mr. C. Grainger	Councillor Mr. B. Phillips
	Councillor Mrs. L. Green	Councillor Mr. <del>G. Yarranton</del> C. Holford
	Councillor Mr. C Jordan	<i>District Cllr. P Harrison</i>
	<i>Mrs E Whitehouse (Clerk)</i>	<i>District Cllr. J. Byng</i>

1. **Police Report** – None – police not present. However the Clerk had raised with them again the matter of the abandoned car in the Arley Estate Car Park, Eymore Lane, which was now locked to comply with pandemic regulations. The car was becoming increasingly vandalised, and fears were that it may be torched. The police advised that they had contacted the owner who had assured them they would get it moved. The police had provided the owner with Arley Estate contact details, since the carpark was now locked off. If the owner did not remove it, then the police advised it was a matter for Arley Estate to deal with – which was felt somewhat unfair.

**Public Open Forum** – No public present – (despite link being advertised).

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2. **Apologies For Absence:** None – All present.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Mrs. C. Gammond and Cllr. J. Gammond declared interests, being members of the Village Hall committee. Cllr. Grainger declared an interest in any item concerning Riddings Brook, and if bus stop providers were to be discussed. Cllr Mr. C. Jordan declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning application 19/0754, and also if bus stop quotations were to be decided upon.

4. **Approval of the Minutes** The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020 were approved and would be signed when the next actual meeting was held. Note was taken that the March meeting had been cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

5. **Chair & Co-option of Mr. Chris Holford** – it was agreed that Mr. Holford had been unanimously co-opted (by e-mail) to fill the casual vacancy on the Parish Council, and the Clerk had notified the returning officer, Mr. Holford had signed his acceptance of office, and submitted his declaration of Members interests form. The Chairman welcomed Mr. Holford to the Parish Council. Clerk had also instigated change to the Bank Mandate to include Mr. Holford as a signatory, and delete Mr. Yarranton, and she had also ordered and received the lettering for the commemorative plaque in the village hall, which Cllr. J. Gammond stated he would install. Meantime, NALC had decreed that there would be no necessity for Parish Councils to hold an Annual meeting this year, with Chair and Vice Chair retaining office for a further year. It was unanimously agreed that this should be the case with all office holder retaining office for a further year.

5. **District and County Councillor Reports - inc. progress reports on other matters**

**Items reported for attention by District & County Councillor and other matters arising.**

**District Cllr. John Byng/District Cllr. Paul Harrison** – *Councillor Harrison had followed up on planning matters referred to him by the Clerk – see comments below under Planning.*

6. **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL:**

**a) New Planning applications: -**

**20/0251** – Erection of agricultural building for use as a fodder, machinery and equipment store at **PARK ATTWOOD FARM, TRIMPLEY LANE, SHATTERFORD**

*Comment: No objections.*

**20/0259** CLE – Use of property for permanent residential occupation – **MEADOW VIEW HILL FARM, NORTHWOOD LANE, BEWDLEY**

*Comment: We have little evidence to either support or refute the applicant's claim to the year-round occupancy. The applicant (Mark Jackson) claims it has been lived in permanently by them since 1997. However, in a previous planning application in 2004 (WF924/04) - the applicants were shown as Jayne Wade and Mark Demorney. Could this please be explained in respect of the claimed occupancy by the applicant?*

*Also, as they are claiming permanent occupancy, could the District Council please ensure that full-year Council Tax liability is applied. Could this please be checked, and liability for any back years at reduced rate owing?*

**b) Update on Previous applications**

**19/0754 - Retrospective change of use of former swimming pool to workshop (B1c) at THE GUILDINGS, EYMORE WOOD LANE, TRIMPLEY, BEWDLEY, DY12 1PG**

*Decision awaited. Councillor Harrison advised that the District Council planners were still trying to resolve with the applicant solutions to objections raised by the neighbour in respect of privacy.*

**19/0813/FULL Single storey front extension, roof extension and glazed Balustrade at BERNLEA ROAD MEADOW NORTHWOOD LANE BEWDLEY DY12 1AT – Approved.**

**20/0080- Erection of replacement dwelling and garage, following demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings at THE HIGHLANDS, TRIMPLEY LANE, SHATTERFORD, BEWDLEY DY12 1RF**

*Decision awaited (although WFDC had requested and received a supplementary Permitted Development application from the applicant)*

**20/0024 19 HABBERLEY LANE LOW HABBERLEY KIDDERMINSTER Installation of dropped kerb and driveway to front - Approved**

**c) Compliance Issues/Appeals**

**Easter Cottage** – The appeal having been lost by the appellant, they now had until 20<sup>th</sup> July to demolish the extension. However, due to the coronavirus, there may have to be some allowances made in respect of this deadline. Also, the District Council had instructed all officers not to make site visits during lockdown.

**Habberley Trail** – No site visit was made as was expected in March, due to the coronavirus, and lockdown. Once restrictions were lifted, an inspection would be arranged.

**7. Progress Reports and other Outstanding Items**

- **CCTV** – Nothing further since February minute.
- **VA Signs** – Poles and signs now up, but although the sign at Low Habberley is working, the one in Trimpley was not. Some investigation as to why this was (suspected obstructive vegetation) would be carried out by local councillors.
- **Highway Matters** - Clerk had arranged for Paul Green (Highways Engineer) to meet with councillors on a site visit on 7<sup>th</sup> July to discuss parking problems and possibly drainage by Fountain Court in Low Habberley, to attain agreement for siting of bus shelters, and drainage problems at Hoarstone and Lightmarsh Lane.
- **Bus shelters** – Clerk was awaiting one more quote. However, she confirmed that her bid for a Localism Grant from the District Council of £500 had been successful, and the funds had been credited to the bank.

- 8. Accessibility Statement** – Clerk raised the question of the website meeting standards required by Accessibility compliance with legislation coming into being in September 2020. The Clerk had received an offer from the current website hosts to write a suitable statement, and check the website to ensure that it complies for £45. She had contacted CALC who thought that this was a good price for the work needed. Cllr. Jordan advised that he would research the requirements of the new legislation. Cllr. J Gammond asked the Clerk to go back to CALC, and find out more about this legislation, it would be a universal requirement to comply.

**9. Lengthsman, Footpath work & Litter collection & Footpath Clearance.**

Clerk had received the Contract from the County Council, and had signed and returned on behalf of the parish. The contract amount (£2060) had not increased now for many, many years, despite protestations to the County Council. Meantime, Clerk had renewed the parish contract with S. Archer for the year, at a rate of £12 per hour, as agreed (increase of £1 per hr.) wef 1<sup>st</sup> April. Clerk confirmed that S. Archer had signed and returned a copy of the contract, and also provided her with a copy of his Public Liability Insurance as required.

In respect of the Litter collection contract, Clerk had not yet received the funding from the District Council, and had asked the Village Hall to provide her with the amount for the bin siting, which would need to be reimbursed. In line with Councillors wishes, the Clerk had increased the Litter Collection pay rate from £110 to £120 per month for Messrs. Archer, wef 1<sup>st</sup> April.

**10. Financial Reports –.**

**a) Payments** – (all agreed, and signed prior to meeting, maintaining social distancing).

Chq 101068 – Zurich Insurance - £368.79

Chq 101069 – Worcestershire CALC - £621.35

Chq 101070 - Clerk's PAYE - £69.60

**11. Worcestershire CALC Reports & Notices & County and District & other Correspondence**

None.

**12. Road Accidents – None.**

**13. Other Matters**

Cllr. Jordan reported again the incomplete works and “hole” left by Severn Trent just near to the top of their car park in Eymore Lane. He would send details in a report to the Clerk about this in the next few days.

**14. Date of Next Meeting – confirmed as 18<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30p.m**

It was uncertain if this would have to be held remotely again, or whether it could be a normal meeting in the Village Hall. Clerk to take appropriate steps closer to the date in respect of government guidelines re Covid-19 social-distancing. *Chairman :*