



ELSTON

PARISH COUNCIL

Est: 1894



MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING on THURSDAY 16 April 2020

Held at 7.00pm remotely by Video link

Chairman introduced the proceedings by going through the Zoom system and confirming that it was working. The meeting started at 7.15 pm

Present: Cllrs Bertie Pinchera (in the Chair), Peter Clark, Rev Liz Murray, Michael Key, Matt Dyer, Sandra Wright and Andy Biddlecombe

In attendance: Cllr Ivor Walker, Lynda Ogilvie (Locum Clerk) and two members of the public

- 1. Resolution: to amend standing orders to permit this and any future meetings, as required, in accordance with The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, to be held remotely.** For this Council it shall be by video link available to Members, the Clerk and Members of the Public.

Members of the **public** may register with this link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0i7f177ZSumqDvNDmHD9Rw

Members approved the Amendment of Standing Orders in order to enable the virtual meeting to take place.

- 2. Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

- 3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 12 March 2020**

Minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2020 were approved, subject to the following amendment:

Agenda 12(f) remove 'no longer available' and insert 'at the Diocese'

Proposed Cllr Murray, seconded Cllr Wright, all in favour.

- 4. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Clark said that he had a personal friendship with the candidate for the position of Clerk to the Council, and would therefore not take part in the consideration of her application.

- 5. Delegation of authority to Councillors during period of Covid 19 restrictions**

Members approved the delegation of authority (copy attached to these minutes). Cllrs Pinchera and Murray were appointed the delegated members under this authority, and the upper limit for one off payments was set at £500.

6. War Memorials – Parish Council petition for a Faculty to the Diocese

A letter received from Elston PCC on this matter was noted.

Members approved the Petition for a Faculty in connection with correcting the names on the two war memorials located in the Church porch, and authorised its signature by Chairman and Locum Clerk. Proposed by Cllr Clark, seconded by Cllr Wright, 4 votes in favour and 3 absentions.

A cheque for £412 will need to be signed and enclosed with the Petition for a Faculty and associated documents.

7. District and County Councillor Report

Cllr Walker (NSDC) said that NSDC staff have been redeployed from facilities which are not able to operate at this time such as leisure centres, and are now assisting with the Council's HART (Humanitarian Assistance Response Team) initiative, which is supporting vulnerable people during the Covid-19 lockdown. Council staff are working where possible, bearing in mind government restrictions on social distancing. He also confirmed that the District Council will not be holding its Annual Meeting in May, and all appointees will remain in their positions for another year.

Cllr Saddington was not able to join the video link, but it was noted that she is talking to NCC to see if waste tips can be reopened to try to stop the increasing fly tipping which was taking place. Cllr Saddington has also provided Elston PC with £500 from her divisional fund to support initiatives helping the vulnerable at this time.

8. Public Question Time

Members of the public in attendance were invited to speak to the Council but neither wished to do so.

9. Correspondence

Flyer received by email from 'Finding Fitness' a company which provide sports opportunities for children during holidays. Clerk to circulate flyer to members.

10. Finance – Authorisation of Payment of Accounts

- a) Payment sheet 9 – updated, plus Payment sheet 10 – for approval and signature
Both approved.
- b) Insurance for 2020/21
Gateway signs to be added to insurance cover. Locum Clerk to action.
It was agreed that insurance invoice was approved for payment provided it is not more than 15% higher than last year.

11. Grant Application – Village Shop

Cllr Murray proposed that this grant application be approved, seconded Cllr Biddlecombe, all in favour.

12. Notts CC Coronavirus Grant Fund

This is noted, and members will consider if any group in the community may be eligible to apply.

13. Environment

- a) Grass cutting quote for next year
Quote received from P M Winter, which includes a modest increase over last year's prices, was approve.
- b) RoSPA – playground inspections
After receiving reassurance from RoSPA that it was working within Government guidelines, members approved inspection scheduled for May.
- c) VE Day – Scarecrow competition
Cllr Murray said that ideas for commemorating VE day which do not breach social distancing guidelines, are being developed. These include asking people to create scarecrows for their front gardens, and organising a 'stay at home' street party. Members supported both these ideas.

Members also discussed ideas for celebrations later in the year, when Covid-19 restrictions had been lifted. Unfortunately the village hall already has a booking for VJ day on 15 August, so other options will be considered. The Council will also consider a village celebration when the virus restrictions have been lifted.

14. Planning Applications

a. Planning Applications

There are no planning applications for consideration

b. Newark & Sherwood DC decisions on applications and appeals

No appeals have been lodged.

15. Date and Time of next meeting

a. 21th May at 7.00pm should Council consider it necessary

Members agreed to hold the Annual Meeting of Council in May, either face to face if permitted, or by using Zoom.

b. The Annual Parish Meeting – 14th May 2020 is cancelled

Noted.

16. To consider resolving that under section 100 A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the basis it would likely disclose exempt information

a) Recruitment of New Clerk

Cllr Murray has conducted a telephone interview with the candidate, and feels she can recommend that she be appointed.

Members approved the appointment. Further confidential details recorded in Confidential minutes.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Signed as a correct record:

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Chairman

Date:
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