

MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL MEETING OF PEAKIRK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2020, STARTING AT 7:30PM

Present: Councillors Henry Clark (Chair), Sally Jackson, Emma Crowson, David Fovargue and Anne Tuley.
Also in attendance: Angela Hankins (Clerk)

102. Public question time – no members of the public were present.
103. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Greg Prior due to lack of IT infrastructure.
104. No declarations of interest were recorded.
105. The minutes of the previous meeting dated 16th November 2020 were approved as a true record.
106. Correspondence:
- 106.1 Census 2021 – agreed that the Parish Council role is to ensure that anyone who does not have internet access can get a paper copy. Will assist in increasing awareness – posters in the noticeboard. Printed material awaited.
- 106.2 Good Neighbour Scheme (North West Rural) – Clerk to circulate e-mail received and put on the agenda for the next meeting to discuss whether Peakirk should join the scheme.
- 106.3 No other correspondence received.
107. Planning:
- 107.1 Members agreed the message to accompany the “Conservation Areas - Guide for Owners and Occupiers” leaflet to be distributed to all houses within the Conservation Area.
Clerk to distribute to councillors for delivery.
- 107.2 The refusal of retrospective planning application 20/00575/LBC for replacement of 2 front windows at 8 St Pegas Road was noted. Enforcement action may be taken by the City Council.
Clerk to check again with Conservation Officer regarding replacement windows at The Goshams.
- 107.3 Members noted 20/01562/CLP (information only) use of first floor of garage for beauty premises at 3 The Sanderlings.
- 107.4 The approval given to 20/01465/CTR reduction of selected low lateral branches overhanging the roof of No.10 Rectory Lane, to suitable secondary growing points, to the property boundary and to give 3m clearance was noted.
- 107.5 To note any other planning matters: a planning application 20/01621/HHFUL for replacement of existing rooflight with dormer window on north elevation at 21 Firdale Close had been received.
Clerk to respond that the parish council has no objections.
108. Finance:
- 108.1 The budget review to 30 November had been circulated. As some anticipated project works had not been undertaken it was noted that there will be an underspend.
- 108.2 The draft budget for 2020/21 was discussed. Budget for grass-cutting to be increased by £1,000 and traffic calming budget to be increased to £10,000.
Cllr Clark to amend and recirculate.
- 108.3 Members agreed that the parish precept for 202/21 should remain the same as 2019/20.
- 108.4 Approval given for payment of Home Working Allowance in the sum of £10 to Mrs A Hankins for December and reimbursement of postage in the sum of £3.87.
- 108.5 Approval given for reimbursement to Cllr Fovargue in the sum of £12.47 for chalk spray paint can.
109. Maintenance:
- 109.1 The Clerk advised that works to the Village Green fence should be started in January.
- 109.2 A report was received from Cllr Jackson relating to practical issues around the changes in the verge maintenance agreement with Peterborough City Council for verges within the village envelope. If the parish council wishes to opt out it must be for all verges, not just some. Concerns raised by several parishes about liability for costs going forwards, any Service Level

Agreement with the City Council being for 3 years. Members felt that they could not make any decision until all the costs are known. It was agreed that Councillor Jackson should participate in discussions going forward to express an interest but is not authorised to commit to any expenditure.

- 109.3 In relation to the state of the footpath on the right-hand side of St Pega's Road to the permissive footpath which is disappearing under encroaching grass Cllr Jackson advised that the City Council and Drainage Board need to liaise with each other. Lee Moore would like to involve Community Volunteers with the cutting back but this is not possible at present.

Cllr Jackson will update if there is anything further to report.

- 109.4 Cllr Jackson reported on PCEG (Peakirk Climate Emergency Group) practical involvement with the allotments. Richard Astle of the JCCP (John Clare Countryside Project) is co-ordinating a week of action as a "Thank you to nature". PECT are financing the activity and Langdyke Trust has appropriate liability insurance. The project suggested for Peakirk is an area of allotment that has a heap of de-composted material on it, with soil too rich for wildflowers. This would be a good place to start the Orchard Project, putting in pollinators (lavender and hollyhocks) and 6 fruit trees. PAST could be offered the opportunity to work on the area first.

Agreed that Cllr Jackson should continue with planning of this project.

- 109.5 Cllr Clark confirmed that he had checked on the state of the "No Dog" signs on the Village Green. Two required replacement but those remaining were not very substantial and more would be preferable.

Cllr Clark to source more durable signs and install.

- 109.6 Cllr Fovargue will continue to highlight areas of dog fouling with bio-degradable paint.

110. Road Safety – the Speed Report from Cllr Fovargue was circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Clark still to complete the junction risk assessments. Reference to "mainline" railway to be amended. No response had been received from City Council officers in relation to additional tree planting in the roadside verge. The Speed Report was noted and members were reminded of the dangers to pedestrians and horse riders of excessive speed on Deeping Road.

It was agreed that Cllr Fovargue should send a first draft to Cllr Hiller.

Cllr Jackson suggested that a parish plan, which could be refreshed every few years, setting out what the Parish Council is trying to do, would be a good thing. All the information is available but it needs to be tied together. Cllr Fovargue suggested that the plan could be on the website with links to individual projects. Councillors Jackson, Tuley and Fovargue happy to help with putting together a Parish Plan.

Cllr Jackson to circulate examples.

Agreed that the plan should be simple and concise with one page per project listing why/ how/ when, with links to external references.

111. Allotments – the Clerk advised on the current position. It was felt that an Allotment Society could be the best way forward.

112. Peakirk Climate Emergency Group – a report from Cllr Jackson including request for actions and consideration of sites for a memorial tree had been circulated prior to the meeting. It had been agreed that a flyer would not be distributed until the New Year. Work was underway to make it more eye-catching. Two potential sites were considered for the planting of a tree in memory of David Dearman, a former parish councillor. The Village Green was not considered to be appropriate but members were happy for a tree to be planted on the allotments. The Clerk had confirmed that the council had signed up to the Tree Charter in March 2019 and Cllr Jackson recommended that the Tree Charter be considered whenever tree planting is undertaken in the future.

113. To note updated price for new website from Vision ICT – Cllr Clark – item held over to next meeting.

Cllr Jackson to ask Nikki Pepper to contact Cllr Clark.

114. To receive Councillors reports: Cllr Jackson requested responses to information circulated regarding the City Council's Carbon Reduction Plan. It was felt that this entailed a lot of work for little reward. Cllr Jackson advised to contact the new member of staff on the Climate Emergency Team.

115. The date of the next meeting confirmed as Monday 18th January. The meeting closed at 9:12pm.

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