MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PEAKIRK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 20TH APRIL 2020 AT 7.30PM

(VIRTUAL / REMOTE MEETING HELD DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC)

Present: Cllrs Henry Clark (Chair), Sally Jackson, Emma Crowson, David Fovargue, Anne Tuley and Gary Wright.

Also in attendance: Angela Hankins (Clerk)

168. There were no members of the public in attendance.

169. No apologies received.

170. There were no declarations of interest.

171. The minutes of the previous meeting dated 16th March 2020 were agreed and approved as a true record.

172. The Peakirk Covid-19 Emergency Plan had been circulated and agreed electronically to enable the parish

Council to continue to function during the lock-down period. Cllr Clark had proposed, and Cllr Jackson seconded the adoption of the plan and all agreed.

173. The Clerk advised of changes in legislation removing for this year the requirement to hold the Annual Parish Council meeting.

Correspondence had been received from Fenland Adventure in relation to availability of land for outdoor activities. No suitable land identified.

***Clerk to respond.***

174. Planning:

174.1 Members considered applications received -

20/00482/HHFUL – proposed extension to an existing annexe at Old Station House, 2 The Mallards. No comments or objections.

 20/00372/Proposed works to trees in a conservation area at 3 Rectory Lane – no objections,

 the Clerk advising that consent had been given for these tree works.

174.2 There were no other planning matters.

175. Finance:

175.1 Members noted the budget review to 31 March.

175.2 Approval given to year end accounts for 2019/20. Income received £19,789 and expenditure £11,208.36. Bank balance at end of year £35,539.

175.3 Members noted payments made:

 Parish Online invoice in the sum of £36 for annual subscription.

 PCVS Invoice in the sum of £36 for salary service Jan-March.

 Britim Computer Products in the sum of £29.12 for financial ledger.

175.4 Approval given for payment of Home Working Allowance in the sum of £10 to Mrs A Hankins for April.

175.5 Approval given for payment of final invoice from JB Restoration in the sum of £1,478.40 for rebuilding works for the Village Sign.

175.6 Approval given for payment to Mr B Cooke in the sum of £600 for refurbishment and re-assembly of the St Pega sign.

175.7 The Clerk advised of the extensions of time to the local council audit timeframe.

176. Maintenance:

176.1 The quotation received from Willow Tree Services for work to trees on the Village Green in the sum of £264 was noted.

176.2 Consideration given to whether any other tree works on the Village Green required by the playground report.

 ***Cllr Clark to inspect and advise Clerk of any further works to be requested from Willow Tree Services.***

176.3 ***Clerk to contact John Wilcockson regarding survey of Horse Chestnut (tag 7955) on the Village Green.***

177. The Clerk advised that details of the insurance renewal from 1 June had been received. Members

considered the adequacy of risk/cover.

***Clerk to obtain quote for additional cost of inclusion of the new Village Sign. Clerk to obtain advice from***

***JB Restoration in relation to repair to 2 loose steps on the monument and re-building cost.***

178. Cllr Jackson reported from the Climate Emergency Working Group. Due to the pandemic restrictions no

 activities had taken place, instead a re-launch would be planned for the Autumn.

 It was suggested that whilst people are in lock-down an audit could be carried out of what wild-life/ trees etc people have in their gardens.

 ***Cllr Jackson to set up a remote meeting to discuss with Cllrs Crowson, Tuley, Clark and Wright.***

 ***Cllr Jackson to send invite to Cllr Tuley to join Peakirk Facebook Wildlife Group.***

 ***Cllr Jackson to contact Heather and Poppy Revell for update on Duke of Edinburgh activities.***

179. Road safety and Speed Watch – downloaded speed data from the VAS on St Pegas Road was circulated prior to the meeting. The data period covered February and March and showed an increase in the percentage of speeding traffic and an increase in the average speed. A speed of 75mph was recorded.

 Consideration being given to photographically recording cars with the VAS to submit to the police.

 Cllr Fovargue suggested the purchase of a portable speed sign to measure the speed of traffic going out of the village. It was agreed that the more information obtained would be useful and the data turned into a meaningful chart to see trends etc.

180. Cllr Crowson advised that the Peakirk Covid-19 Mutual Support Group now has 42 members and has received lots of offers of help. Only 2 requests for help have yet been made. Cllr Crowson requested members views on a possible book-exchange during the lock-down period. It was suggested that a view could be sought from PCVS as to whether any other groups are operating such a scheme. Difficulties of implementation were acknowledged and it was generally considered that safety was paramount.

181. An update on the allotments was given, Cllr Clark having spoken with Mrs Acker and the Clerk having corresponded by e-mail. Cllr Crowson advised on the implications of the site being registered with the Land registry as an asset of community value

 ***Cllr Clark to contact Hegarty’s solicitors in relation to possible pro-bono help. Clerk to respond to Mrs Acker suggesting the inclusion of a restrictive covenant to safeguard future use of the site.***

182. Councillors reports: Councillor Jackson advised that the outstanding pads for the defibrillator have been received and the battery is still satisfactory.

183. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 18th May.

 There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:50pm.