MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL MEETING OF PEAKIRK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 19TH OCTOBER 2020, BEGINNING AT 7:30PM

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

Also in attendance: Angela Hankins (Clerk)

72. Public question time – there were no members of the public present.

73. Apologies for absence received from Cllrs Greg Prior and Gary Wright and Ward Councillor Holdich.

74. There were no declarations of interest.

75. Minutes of the previous meeting dated 21st September 2020 were approved as a true record.

76. Correspondence:

 76.1 Members noted the Tree Survey report and correspondence received from Poppy Revell, circulated electronically prior to the meeting. Hard copy available from Cllr Jackson if needed.

 Members wished to record their thanks to Poppy for the work that she had done. It was agreed that the report should be a living document that can be added into. Trees to be planted by PAST on the road to Glinton to be added.

 ***Document to be added to website if compressed.***

 76.2 Correspondence relating to a sports holiday club was considered and declined.

 The Clerk advised of the procedure for advertising the casual vacancy resulting from the resignation of Cllr Wright. In the absence of a request for a by-election by 9th November the council can fill the vacancy by co-option.

77. Planning:

77.1 South Kesteven Local Plan Review (Issues and Options Report) - Public Consultation to 23.11.20.

 ***Cllr Jackson to draft answers to the questions contained in the consultation document.***

77.2 Tree works/ guidance for owners within the conservation area – the Clerk advised that a response was awaited from Sam Falco, the Conservation Officer, in relation to the updating and circulation of an information leaflet produced by the City Council.

77.3 Other planning matters – it was noted that a decision was still awaited in relation to the Bull Lane application.

78. Finance:

78.1 The budget review to 30 September was noted.

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

78.3 Approval given for payment of invoice to Mr R Harding in the sum of £280 for grass-cutting for September.

78.4 Members approved a pro-rata payment of the Clerk’s Annual Subscription to SLCC in the sum of £72.60.

78.5 Approval given for payment of invoice to Willow Tree Services in the sum of £360 for work to trees on the Village Green.

78.6 Approval given for payment of invoice to PCVS in the sum of £36 for salary service July – Sept.

78.7 Members approved payment of invoice to Richardsons for professional services in the sum of £162 + VAT.

78.8 Cllr Jackson requested a switch for banking from Barclays to a more ethical provider.

 ***Cllr Clark to research Unity Trust Bank. Other suggestions welcomed.***

79. Maintenance:

79.1 Members noted the Tree Officer’s report on work undertaken re the large holly and London plane.

79.2 A request for the purchase of 12 holly whips and 6 yews up to the value of £76 for planting along the Glinton road was approved. It was felt that a more joined-up approach is needed and no more trees would be sanctioned until an overriding plan is approved.

79.3 Cllr Jackson confirmed that there is no intention to plant shrubs within the Firdale Close planting area, but to allow the grass to grow longer in the middle of the tree area to protect bulbs and wildflowers.

79.4 Maintenance matters raised in inspection report from Cllr Fovargue: 18 fence posts on the Deeping Road boundary of the Village Green require replacement due to rot. It was agreed that

 fencing was still needed at the corner of the green by Chestnut Close / Deeping Road.

 ***Cllrs Fovargue, Crowson and Tuley to meet at 10:00 on 28th October to decide whether replacement fencing is needed adjacent to the yew hedge.***

 ***Clerk to obtain quotes for necessary work from Stile and Oakfield.***

The oak posts on the Chestnut Close boundary of the Village Green are weathered but remain sound.

79.5 Wednesday 28th October was confirmed as the date for the walkabout with Lee Moore, starting at 9.00am at the Village Hall.

 ***Cllrs Fovargue and Crowson to attend.***

79.6 Bus shelter: is suffering from damp. The book-swop sited within the bus shelter is still well used.

 ***Cllr Fovargue to inspect and advise the clerk of work required.***

 ***Clerk to query ownership with the City Council and suggest transfer to the parish council.***

79.7 It was reported that several residents had taken part in the September Village Litter pick, including residents from St Pega’s Road, The Park, Penwald Court and Meadow Road.

79.8 Other maintenance matters – the Clerk advised that she was chasing the collection of road signs

 left behind after the re-surfacing works.

80. Allotments – members expressed a wish to take a lease of the allotments and assume responsibility for their maintenance, managed by an allotment society. Cllr Crowson reminded members of the protection the land has as an Asset of Community Value.

 ***Cllr Clark to seek price for fees involved in drawing up a lease. Clerk to contact owner accordingly.***

81. Website Accessibility - Cllr Clark had checked the website against certain criteria, identifying a couple of issues which had now been resolved. The Clerk advised that an accessibility statement was required to be published.

 ***Clerk to seek assistance with check of website from Nikki Pepper.***

82. Road Safety and Speed Sign data – members noted that Cllr Hiller will be attending the November meeting. Cllr Fovargue reported that an e-mail had been sent to Lewis Banks at the City Council in order to start discussions to slow traffic down through the village. It was felt that another Vehicle Activated Sign (portable) is a good idea along with gates at the 3 entrances to the village. A bi-directional sign would need its own post – ***Cllr Clark to retrieve previous quotes.***

 Agreed that discussion with Cllr Hiller should seek expert advice on conspicuous fences at the entries to the village, excessive speed coming in and out of the village, further reduction of speed limit on Deeping Road and other traffic calming measures that might be possible.

 ***Cllr Fovargue to provide latest speed data.***

83. Peakirk Climate Action Support Group –an executive summary from Cllr Jackson with recommended actions and costs had been circulated prior to the meeting. Members agreed the production of a newsletter, for distribution online and physically, but final copy to be checked by the Parish Council before distribution. **H**elping **O**ur **P**eakirk **E**nvironment agreed for branding. Maintenance regime for grass-cutting undertaken by the Parish Council agreed. Four trial areas identified for encouragement of wildlife / wildflowers – north-east corner of the Village Green under the Holm Oak, the south bank of the slide mound and adjacent area on the Village Green, central woodland area in Firdale Close and Millennium

 Corner. Millennium Corner to be replanted as a pollinator corner.

 ***Clerk and Cllr Jackson to meet with the contractor to confirm the amended grass-cutting regime and to obtain quote for 2021/22. Cllr Jackson to seek cost information from the City Council relating to the parish council undertaking all of the grass-cutting within the village.***

 ***Clerk to contact Glinton PC requesting a collaborative approach in relation to Betty’s Wood and the permissive footpaths.***

 ***Cllr Jackson to pursue update of 2015 figures relating to the parish carbon footprint from Charlotte Palmer at the City Council.***

84. Members agreed expenditure up to £200 for the development of a wildlife area to the rear of the Village Hall and up to £50 on bulbs for the area around the Village Monument.

85. Councillors reports: Cllr Jackson sought clarification on action required for Remembrance Day. All agreed for poppy wreaths to be placed on the Village Monument as in previous years.

86. The date of the next meeting was agreed as Monday 16th November.

 There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:35pm.