

**Minutes of the Clarborough & Welham Parish Council meeting held remotely at 7pm on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

**Present:** Cllr Gibson (Chair), Cllr Avery, Cllr Willcock, Cllr Done, Cllr Weingaertner and Cllr Baines

**Others:** Mrs Davies (Clerk), County Cllr Tracey Taylor, Mr Oates (Rights of Way Warden) and members of the public

**1266/20 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Apologies received from Cllr Palfreman. Cllr Baines proposed to approve the absence; this was seconded by Cllr Done.

**1267/20 To receive any Declaration of Interest in any items on the agenda**

No declaration of interests received.

**1268/20 To suspend the meeting for open session for members of the public to speak and to receive reports from the District & County Councillors, PCSO Airey and Mr Oates (Right of Way Warden)**

**PC Airey's** Police report has been circulated around the Councillors.

**Mr Oates** Rights of Way report is attached at the end of the minutes.

During this item, the Councillors also discussed the reopening of Market Hill and the repairs and improvements carried out. Concerns were raised that the improvements made; may be lost if it is used by the off-road vehicles which previously caused damage to the lane. It was suggested to approach the County Council to see if the lane could be downgraded for pedestrian and Bridleway use only. County Cllr Taylor explained that there was a legal procedure progress to follow. It was noted that it may or may not be achievable; particularly when the County Council has to prioritize its workload.

The Parish Council will write to the County Council to see if there are ways to ensure that the costs involved in carrying out the recent repairs; are not wasted by the reoccurring of vehicle damaging the lane.

**County Cllr Tracey Taylor** gave the following report:

An update on the Covid items and noting that the local resilience forum is still operating; the Hub is still in place and the support network is still there, the partnership between the County, District Councils and Health.

The Local Government re-organisation; the Government has not invited Nottinghamshire to progress a formal case at this time. The Government is looking to further devolution, and asked interested Councils to seek an inviting to proceed, which Nottinghamshire County Council has done. A letter was received to say that only North Yorkshire, Cumbria and Somerset are being invited to progress formally at this time.

**1269/20 To approve the minutes of the meeting held 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

Cllr Baines proposed to accept the minutes of the meeting held 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020 as a true record; this was seconded by Cllr Done and resolved by the Council.

**1270/20 To receive updates on any actions from the previous meeting**

Min 1264/20 – The Chair was actioned to organise a community litter pick. However, the following day the Covid restrictions changed and a community litter pick was no longer possible. The Chair did suggest to purchase some litter picking equipment and advertise for any volunteers that want to litter pick as an individual/same household or or a group of 6; then we have the equipment to provide them with to carry out a litter pick. So far we have a couple of volunteers plus the Councillors that volunteered at the meeting.

Cllr Baines reported that at the last Council meeting, the WI reported that they wouldn't be doing the senior citizen Christmas dinner this year. However, the WI suggested sending out a Christmas card from the Parish Council and WI to those people who have been regular attendees at the event. The Council thought this was a nice gesture and would support it.

Cllr Willcock – Min 1261/20 – tree planning he sees no problem re the WI tree planting and would speak with Cllr Baines re details.

Min 1262/20 – Confirmation was given that the Christmas tree lights would still be switched on – the Chair will be dealing with this.

**1271/20 To receive reports from any other meetings attended**

No meetings attended.

**1272/20 To receive play area inspection reports**

The Chair has reviewed the Covid-19 risk assessment and no adjustments are required.

The Chair has carried out an inspection on the village auxiliary items. All the grit bins have been topped up. Two benches and two litter bins had slight damage but no actions required.

The grid at the village hall entrance requires clearing out; the Chair to arrange.

The play inspection was carried out with no H&S actions required. The Chair had spoken to several residents on the sports field with dogs off their leads.

The lowering of the village hall car park barrier has proved successful; this was to keep out people in cars carrying out inappropriate behaviour on the car park – the situation will be monitored.

**1273/20 To consider planning applications below and note any planning correspondence****Planning Application for Consideration:****Application: 20/01121/COU**

Location: Land adj Welham Park House, Welham Road, Welham

Proposal: conversion of existing building to a residential dwelling

**Application: 20/01198/COU**

Proposal: Change of use from petrol filling station to car wash

Location: Petrol Filling Station, Main Street, Claborough

After consideration; Cllr Avery proposed not to make any objections to the above applications; subject to conditions/comments made; this was seconded by Cllr Weingaertner and resolved by the Council.

**1274/20 To receive update from the Parish Pasture Group and consider/approve associated expenses**

Cllr Willcock gave his report which is attached to the end of these minutes.

The Chair reported that he has had a couple of emails from the solicitor regarding the legal side of the gifting; the solicitor will be request in an update from the District Council.

**1275/20 To consider referring the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the VE Day event to next year**

Cllr Willcock gave his report which is attached to the end of these minutes.

It was noted that there is a problem with flagpole; the Clerk to provide a contact for any repairs required.

**1276/20 To consider Little Lane repairs and grass cutting**

The Chair reported that four quotations have been received for the work required on Little Lane. The quotations have been forwarded to Nottinghamshire County Council for their approval. Several questions had been raised by CC which was answered to their satisfaction. County council have agreed that the Parish Council to proceed with the work. The Chair went through the quotation and after discussion, Cllr Avery proposed to accept the lowest quotation from S & J Burgen; this was seconded by Cllr Willcock and resolved by the Council.

County Councillor Tracey Taylor will seek confirmation from the County Council; if any contributions will be given towards the work.

**1277/20 To consider quotations for painting of benches**

After consideration of quotations; Cllr Avery proposed to accept the quotation for £380; this was seconded by Cllr Done and resolved by the Council.

**1278/20 To consider purchase of Remembrance Wreaths**

Cllr Baines proposed to order two wreaths; this was seconded by Cllr Willcock and resolved by the Council.

**1279/20 Finances - to approve payments and receive financial update**

The Clerk circulated the finances up to the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and bank statements for the Councillors to view.

Cllr Weingaertner proposed to approve the following payments; this was seconded by Cllr Baines and resolved by the Council.

- a) Came & Co Insurance 2020-21 renewal £520.91
- b) Clerk's wages & paye £203.33 (SO)
- c) Holmes Ground Care Maintenance 2 x grass cuts £418.33

**1280/20 To receive any updates on the Flood Prevention and Flood Management Strategy**

Cllr Avery's report is at the end of the minutes.

**1281/20 To report any Highways/Rights of Way or Service Faults**

- The Chair has reported the chains wrapped around the grantry again
- The pavement on Main Street opposite Bartle House, has narrowed due to vegetation – this has been reported
- Whilst the Chair was litter picking, he noticed that all the drains on Main Street, Clarborough to the low bridge, are all blocked with leaves – this will be reported
- Cllr Willcock – reported that Highways have been out to Welham corner, to look at pot holes etc; the work will be carried out
- It was noted that there is an issue with a parked van at the cottages that run up to Little Lane. The van is sticking out of its parking space onto the footpath; which prevents pushchairs getting passed; on occasions the wheelie bin is also in the way. County Councillor Taylor suggested contacting the District Council re the wheelie bin and the Police regarding the obstruction by the van.
- Cllr Baines – the hedge at the bottom of Howbeck Lane has not yet been cut back – the Chair will report again

**1282/20 To receive any correspondence or information for future agenda items**

- Repair to flag pole
- Consider use of Christmas budget
- To consider contribution toward the village magazine

**1283/20 Time and date of the next Parish Council Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council this will be held remotely on the 30th November 2020 at 7pm.

### **Rights of Way Warden's Report Oct 2020**

1] Footpath maintenance.

No action has been taken by Notts County Council to rectify any of the safety issues I have been reporting for the last 12 months. I have reminded them of their legal responsibilities to provide a suitably safe surface for all walkers.

2] Byway No 22 Market Hill.

The surface has now been levelled, graded and reseeded in the worst eroded areas.

No hard surfacing has been done. It now resembles a pleasant green lane and perhaps has not been in such a good state of repair in living memory.

I have asked Notts CC how they intend to protect the surface once the vehicle barriers are removed and it is again open to all traffic. I fear a negative response.

### **Cllr Willock's Parish Pasture report**

**Land Work** - At the beginning of September, cutting of the grass area of the Pasture between the footpath and the hedge took place. The cut grass was then baled and removed. The rest of the Pasture was also cut but was too short for baling. This is not the best process as it allows the nutrients in the grass to return to the soil but, it is the best we can do.

**Trees** - I am in the process of strimming around all trees and laying wood chipping mulch around the bases to suppress grasses and allow the tree roots to thrive. I am also repairing tree supports ready for the winter. The paintwork on the 5 tree guards has been touched up and the Memorial Seat will be re-stained shortly.

**Bug Hotel** - |A four storey 'Bug Hotel' has been built in the main woodland. We hope that in the autumn and winter this will provide habitats for insects and small mammals, toads? Maybe even a hedgehog or two?

**Scrapes** - A little light work has been carried out on the scrapes and they have been seeded with poppy and other wildflower seeds collected locally. I am grateful for the help of a local resident who will be providing some wildflower plants and seeds from her own meadow.

**Footpath** - In mid-October, following an offer of time from my neighbour, it was quickly arranged to attempt to relay several tons of wood chippings on the footpath. To my surprise and again with the massive help of David Hogg and his tractor we managed to relay almost all of the footpath. A group of three of us finished the job

**Owl Box** - Our owl expert has examined the Owl Box and thinks a Tawny Owl may have been in for a 'viewing'. (Perhaps we need a different Estate Agent!!)

**Development Land** - The development land was cut for a second time this year at the end of September, apparently without any prompting.

Despite requests from me I can find out nothing about the progress of the outline planning application lodged in 2019.

The Local Plan is still ongoing but not yet resolved. I will be kept informed by Bassetlaw District Council Planning of any progress as to how the Plan will affect our Neighbourhood Plan.

**Finance for 2020/22** - There are a number of on-going 'maintenance' expenditures e.g. grass cutting required on the Pasture. We also have some plans for capital expenses which we are currently costing. Even in these days of lockdown, job-losses and closure it seems difficult to get local firms to give estimates or quotes for jobs to be done! Details and costings of these plans will be given at the next PC Meeting.

### **Cllr Willcock's VJ Day Report**

#### **Proposal**

**VJ Day 2020** - 15 August marked VJ Day, a much more muted event than was originally planned for VE Day, both locally and nationwide. We flew the Union Flag for the 2 weeks covering 15 August.

**The future** - The programme of events lost on 8-10 May 2020 due to the Covid 19 pandemic will be held on 8-9 May 2021. There will need to be adjustments to the programme as the time available will be less. We have already re-booked all the people who were due to perform for us.

This does of course rely on the pandemic regulations applying at that time allowing this to happen.

There was some necessary expenditure pre-lockdown which cannot be re-couped but most of this involves goods which will be usable next year if events can take place. Only printing costs have been 'lost' – approximately £150.

#### **Remembrance Day 2020**

In addition to the wreaths, we have in recent years displayed a large number of the large poppies on the lampposts along the A620 through the Parish.

It is intended to put up a smaller number of these poppies (every 5/6<sup>th</sup> lamppost), put out the Tommy silhouette, fly the flag and put out a display of crosses by the Memorial Copse on the Parish Pasture.

### **Cllr Avery's Flood prevention and flood management strategy report:**

There have been 2 discussions relevant to progress with the strategy.

Flood Warden Mervyn Waring and I met Ian Davies, formerly Flood Officer at Bassetlaw District Council on 13 October 2020. Ian is undertaking various projects for the Council.

The primary reason for meeting was to resolve clearing the 2 grids over Howbeck in the case of urgent need i.e. imminent flooding.

Mr Davies has provided his mobile number and will arrange immediate clearance in such a case whilst he is still engaged. The work is done by CPS. Ian suggested the Parish Council consider a contract to continue with this cover and periodic clearance of the important waterways in the Parish. He said Walkeringham have taken this action through the precept. In his view, resources will not be available from NCC or BDC in the medium term to do this sort of work.

In the short-term Mr Davies will discuss with Estates Officer John Unstead whether there is resource to clear the waterway between Main Street and the canal. He had walked the course and found four significant areas of damming which need to be cleared. He had recently arranged for the section of dyke between Big Lane and Dunholme Villa to be strimmed. The other area that the Highways had accepted as

theirs to clear, the edge of Big Lane, was not cleared. Notts County Council arranged this on the previous occasion.

Mr Davies agreed to accompany Mr Waring to look at drainage issues to the properties to the north side of the A620 in Welham.

Finally Mr Davies said he would liaise with Graham Smith Principal Flood Risk Manager at Notts County Council.

The second discussion was by Andrew Avery by phone with Graham Smith on 15 October 2020.

The conversation covered 2 issues:

#### **Natural Flood Management.**

Mr Smith confirmed Josh Wells is continuing to work on c30 interventions on the terrain above the parish. There was confidence that many of these will be put into place. Land owner consent is required and Mr Wells is making progress with this. There is a financial budget for the interventions available until the end of March 2022. It was agreed to work on joint publicity of this programme in the parish and wider. Also to hold a Parish Meeting for information to parishioners or the Parish Council, as is best. Mr Smith will initiate work on this.

#### **Engineered solution.**

Mr Smith confirmed this proposal is still "live". It is now in the cycle of schemes overseen by the Environment Agency for the 5 years from 2022. He needs to work on the next stages to push the scheme to completion.

Key to its success will be joint funding. The £120k committed by Bassetlaw needs to be available in this longer time frame. Mr Smith said partnership funding to match funding from the Grant in Aid from the EA will be a challenge but he believed the scheme was required and viable given the history of flooding in Claborough and the hydrodynamic evidence of rapid pluvial flooding.

Mr Smith also noted telemetry of certain watercourses was proposed as part of the monitoring required to make appropriate interventions.

Mr Smith supported an idea previously proposed by District Cllr Ben Sofflet to ensure the Asset Register is revised to include all possible critical areas. This needs to be progressed by the Flood Wardens.

The culvert under Little Gringley Lane at the section with Shady Lane may need clearance. Cllr Avery agreed to discuss this with Nick Clarke of NCC Flood team.

It was agreed to discuss progress during December 2020.