

**Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday April 28th,
2020, via the ZOOM on-line system, at 7.15pm**

Present: Councillors Gregg Redford (Chairman) Chris Grocock, Jane Morris(A), Julia Faulconbridge (A),
Georgia Elms, Steve Ball.

In attendance: The Clerk Mike Elliott, Coun. Maureen Stockwood (Rushcliffe Borough Council) and
Coun. Francis Purdue-Horan (Notts County Council)

1. STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIRMAN RE: CONDUCT OF MEETING

The chairman said as members were aware he had a duty in law to ensure that the meeting has been and is lawfully convened. As Chairman, he noted that the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 ("The Regulations") which came into force on the 4th April 2020 and which will extend until the 7th May 2021 provided a provision to hold meetings with remote attendees and that Section 3 defines Parish Councils as a Local Authority for the purposes of the Local Government Act 1972, subsequent and allied legislation.

He said he was content therefore that the Council could lawfully convene and hold meetings using the Zoom Video Conferencing facility under The Regulations until the 7th May next year or until such future date that may be determined by any amendment to The Regulations or subsequent legislation.

The chairman said the current Standing Orders are considered adequate for a remote meeting. Voting Standing Order 9 would apply if all members present were 'visible', members could vote by a show of hands. Coun. Redford asked that members kept their microphone 'muted' whilst not speaking. . If visible members should raise their hand to indicate they wished to speak. If not visible they should use the 'chat' facility to the Host (Chairman). Members should only enable their microphone when invited by the Chairman to do.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Coun. Grocock and Coun. Morris.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were none

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD OF 25TH FEBRUARY 2020 were approved as presented and would be signed by signed by the chairman at the appropriate time.

5. PURCHASE OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT BY PARISH COUNCIL TO ALLOW MEMBERS TO ATTEND REMOTE MEETINGS – A Motion to Authorise the Clerk In Consultation with the Chairman and Vice chairman to purchase such equipment to a maximum price of £350 where necessary was proposed by the chairman and seconded by Coun. Faulconbridge and approved unanimously. The Equipment would remain the property of the Parish Council and it may only be used for Parish Council business and such equipment will be returned to the Parish Council in the event of the recipient ceasing to be a Parish Councillor

6. EMERGENCY DELEGATION OF POWERS – A Motion to delegate emergency powers to the clerk, in consultation with the chairman and vice-chairman was proposed by the chairman and seconded by Coun. Elms and unanimously approved. The chairman said the recent situation involved the coronavirus situation had highlighted the difficulty in the Parish Council reacting to situations where it cannot meet. Whilst recent legislation has helped in relaxing the 'in-person' requirement for meetings, there is nonetheless a need for the Parish Council to function in the event that a lawful meeting cannot be held for any reason.

7. ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – A Motion to defer the annual parish council meeting until May 2021 was proposed by the chairman and second by Coun. Elms and approved unanimously. A change had been introduced by the Government as to when the meeting had to be held because of the effects of the coronavirus pandemic. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman would remain in office until the next Annual Parish Council meeting.

8. CLERK'S REPORT

The clerk report Notts County Council had approved a claim from the council in respect of the maintenance work carried out by the parish contractor on grass and other land in the parish. The figure being claimed was £2,123 75p. The meeting was informed by the clerk that NatWest had notified him of a decrease in the amount of interest being paid on the business reserve account, going down from 0.02 percent to 0.01 per cent.

9. REPORT FROM THE BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCIL

Coun. Mrs Stockwood reported the Borough Council were working to ensure they were able to undertake planning activities as required under the new regulations because of the pandemic. She said the Borough budget was now well off target because of the additional aspects of their work during the exceptional circumstances everyone faced at the present time.

Coun. Purdue-Horan complimented the council on the successful way of organising their on-line meeting. He spoke on difficulties some were experiences in regard to supplies of Personal Protection Equipment for people working on the front line involving the virus situation.

10. CORRESPONDENCE There was none

11. PLAYING FIELD A. REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE

Members were written report from the committee chairman Paul Brown in which he said in regard to the play equipment on the field, Proludic UK started work in January. Work was almost complete but the current Covid 19 situation affected any further progress. Work has now stopped and the play area closed. A temporary perimeter fence has been erected to prevent access. In addition, all organised activity on the field has been suspended. The chairman said their fundraising effort for £75,000 from WREN was unsuccessful and further grants will be explored. The Management Committee are not holding any meetings due to the Covid 19 situation but will have discussions via email. The AGM will be held as soon as possible.

He said on 6th April 2020 he was approached by Rushcliffe Borough Council with regards to the Government Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Fund. The fund was created under EU law in the form of state aid to compensate for loss of income during the Covid 19 situation. I submitted the application and we were awarded a grant of £10,000. This has been paid into our account.

Coun. Redford informed the meeting that a local contractor had replaced the fence at the east side of the playing field. This was in the form of a wooden stock fence.

REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR GROCOCK ON FUNDING POSITION: There was no report.

APPROVE BUDGET FOR 2020-2021 – A Motion to approve the budget for the fiscal year 2020/2021 for the Whatton and Aslockton playing field was approved unanimously.

12. PLANNING MATTERS

20/00814/VAR – LAND OF OLD GRANTHAM ROAD Variation of condition 2 from planning permission 17/01408/FUL to allow increase in size of industrial unit, addition of further goods and pedestrian door, revision of entrance, repositioning of car parking areas, addition of boundary treatments, retention of hedge and addition of finished floor levels **No objection.**

20/00780/FUL – CONERY NOOK New single storey side extension to form a new porch and wc. Porch to rear. Reroofing, new render and new windows. **No objection**

13. FOOTPATHS There was no report. Councillor Faulconbridge raised the issue of the state of the bridleway at the end of Orston Lane. Councillor Redford informed the meeting that the rights of way officer had been informed. Councillor Faulconbridge also raised the issue of the notice that had been posted on the gate on the Aslockton side of the 'Long Bridge'. The Chairman informed the meeting that he was pretty sure as to who had posted it, but basically it was nonsense.

14. FINANCE

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT were approved as per the circulated list.

15. ENVIRONMENT

a. VERGES AND VERGE MAINTENANCE Councillor Redford informed the meeting that our contractor had recommenced the maintenance of the roadside verges and the Green. He also informed the meeting that since work had stopped at the Grange, no further damage to the verges had been incurred. He suggested that the Parish Council write to the occupants of the Grange, requesting that when work recommenced that the occupants discuss with their contractors that:

1. The number of vehicles be reduced and where possible be parked on site and that there should be no parking on Church Street, south of its junction with Sunbeam Street.
2. That suppliers be encouraged to use as smaller delivery vehicle as possible to alleviate further damage to the verges.
3. That the occupants confirm that either they or their contractors will make good all the damage to the roadside verges caused by the works.

It was agreed that the Clerk liaise with the Chairman on the production of the letter.

b. QUEEN'S WOOD Councillor Faulconbridge informed the meeting that tree received from Rushcliffe Borough Council had been planted and were during well. The cut agreed for the spring had not been actioned due to the CORVID-19 issue and she was unsure at this stage whether the Contractors were working. She would follow it up but in all likelihood the cut would not be performed until the autumn.

16. NEWSLETTER There was nothing to report as it was not currently possible to publish an issue because of the coronavirus situation.

17. VILLAGE FETE / VE75 DAY The chairman said it was not possible to look to progress an event because of the pandemic position.

18 CASUAL VACANCY –A Motion to defer the filling of the casual vacancy until 'in-person' meetings can be held was withdrawn after the chairman explained the original candidate was not willing to use their own computer or email because of the possible danger due to the coronavirus was withdrawn. The chairman said a second nominee had come forward... The meeting agreed that the matter be delayed until the matter could be discussed on a face-to-face basis.

19. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING which was to be held on Friday May 29 at 6pm.No items were put forward.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30 pm.