

QUANTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held at the Memorial Hall on 10th October 2019

Present:

Councillors: Arthur Evans (chairman), Nick Heirons, John Knox, Nick Butler, Malcolm Wearn, Michelle Thompson, District Councillor Scott Raven, Brian Fludgate (clerk).

Members of the public -1

1. Chairman's Introduction

The chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED c/2019/34 to accept apologies from County Cllr Janet Blake, Cllr Claire Lucas.
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3. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated prior to the meeting, and duly signed by the chairman as a true and accurate record.

RESOLVED c/2019/35 to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12th September 2019

5. Public Forum

There were no prior questions or issues raised by the public for attention. Correspondence from the public:

- Email from a resident regarding low broadband speeds on Station Road.
- Email from a resident regarding flooding at The Willows at Blackgrove Barn. (See item 12).

6. Reported Matters Outstanding

6.1 The Green Project

Cllr Heirons provided a further update and plans to meet with AVDC regarding the issues surrounding delegation of enforcement powers on The Green byelaws, and the implications of moving the responsibility to the parish council.

The key area for resolution is parking, and when appropriate to engage with those residents most affected by parking requirements.

6.2 HS2

The pop in event organised by Fusion on 10th October regarding the vegetation clearance works in Quanton attracted only one attendee.

Speculation that the HS2 review may recommend a reduction in speed of the trains for financial reasons.

A Quanton based community forum is still planned for possibly November to early December, and the clerk will agree possible dates with HS2 Community Engagement. A formal Q&A format remains an imperative. In preparation for the event, Cllr Knox will prepare a HS2 Main Works paper using information provided from the recent parish briefing sessions for public use.

The footpath closure by HS2 to Finemere Wood has been raised with BCC Rights of Way team as it is in breach of the undertaking given by the Secretary of State to wildlife organisation that this type of closure would be avoided, and to escalate the matter to Cllr Blake if required.

The parish council has registered an interest with Bucks CC to obtain a Speed Indicator Device (SID) using monies from the HS2 Road Safety Fund, and will be factored into the 2020/21 budget setting (see item 10.5).

Chairman's initials:

Date:

6.3 Thames Water Main Replacement Works

Cllr Knox advised that the parish council is unable to use the Consumer Council for Water to escalate the complaint and compensation request as they only deal with individual resident cases. Consideration will be given to raise the matter with MP John Bercow.

7. County and District Matters

Cllr Raven provided an update on a range of AVDC related matters. The parish council raised the issue of the continued planning applications backlog.

8. Planning Matters

8.1 Ref. 19/03562/ALB Construction of porch – Bakers Barn 7 Upper Street

There were no objections raised to the application.

8.2 Ref. 19/03480/APP Erection of new hatchery – Faccenda Hatcheries Station Road

The parent company Avara Foods had previously briefed the parish council on their plans, but it was agreed further public consultation should be arranged before commenting on the application. The clerk will discuss with Avara about holding a public meeting to answer any questions particularly from Station Road residents who live in the direct vicinity of the site

8.3 Ref. 19/01472/ALB Conversion of existing barn into habitable unit – 2 Lower Street

It was agreed to support the request from the owner of the adjacent commercial unit that enough space is left between the side extension and their premises.

8.4 QNDP Review and Modifications

The owner of Tebby's Close North End Road has asked for the site to be considered as a parish council allocated site suitable for housing development.

It was agreed that this would not be actioned at present due to:

- The site is still deemed as unsuitable for housing by AVDC and is not included as an allocated site in the emerging Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP).
- The sites already allocated will deliver the level of housing growth in Quainton as required by 'medium' villages as set out in the emerging VALP.
- The only sites being included in the modified Neighbourhood Plan are either those specified in the VALP or already granted planning permission.

However, under certain circumstances, the site may be considered in the future should the Quainton allocated sites not come forward for completion at the rate anticipated, and any proposal to develop Tebby's Close will need to comply with both VALP and Neighbourhood Plan policies. The clerk will discuss this matter with landowner concerned.

8.5 Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP) - Consultation

The clerk had previously circulated the modifications to VALP that referred to Quainton and all proposed modifications will be the subject of a public consultation to take place before the Plan is adopted. The start date of the consultation has yet to be announced and copies of the Plan will be available to view at the Village Store and the George & Dragon Tea Rooms.

9. Clerks Report

9.1 Upcoming dates and deadlines

- 5G Coverage in Rural Areas – consultation on permitted development by 11th October
- Bucks Fire & Rescue Public Safety Plan – consultation by 18th November
- Bucks CC Rights of Way Improvement Plan – consultation by 24th December

9.2 Village Website and Councillor Emails

The new website domain www.quainton.org.uk has been updated and will be announced as 'live' shortly.

The clerk reminded the councillors that their new .org.uk email addresses should now be in use and the .info accounts will no longer be available after 1st November.

Chairman's initials:

Date:

9.3 Allotments

The 2019/20 rents have been requested and currently there are 4 vacant plots. The clerk has written to 7 neighbouring parishes offering the plots to residents who reside outside of the parish.

10. Finance

10.1 The October finance report had been previously circulated for review.

10.2 Payments pending previously circulated	10.3 Receipts reported
£ 1379.38 – Salix LED loan payment	£ 3.72 – Bank interest (reserve account)
£ 240.00 – External audit fee	£ 12845.00 - AVDC Precept payment
£ 1.76 – Allotment water supply (Oct)	£ 159.00 – Allotment rents
£ 273.48 – Clerks net salary (Sept)	
£ 182.40 – HMRC PAYE (Sept)	
£ 50.49 – Streetlight supply (Sept)	
£ 214.88 – Brush Cutter (Allotments)	
£ 59.99 – Office 365 licence renewal	
£ 72.00 – QMH room bookings	
£ 11.58 – Dog Sign (Playground)	
£ 1212.00 – Playground inspection works	
£ 455.05 – Q2 Office expenses	
£ 2246.20 – PWLB loan payment	

RESOLVED c/2019/36 to approve the payments pending as recorded above.

10.4 Bank Reconciliation (£)

Brought forward 2018/19	26636.56	Reserve account	21909.45
Receipts to date	35262.72	Current account	24541.65
total	61899.28	total	46451.10
Less payments to date	15448.18	Less paid not drawn	0
Bank balance at 4 October 2019	46451.10		46451.10

10.5 Precept and budget setting for 2020/21

The timeline for setting the precept and budget:

- Agree budget working group members – 10 October
- Submission of bids for expenditure by – 31 October
- Budget group to agree first cut budget by – 14 November
- Budget and Precept agreed subject to final adjustments – 12 December
- Precept approved for submission to AVDC – 9 January 2020

Chairman's initials:

Date:

11. Recreational Facilities

11.1 The monthly recreational report had previously been circulated by Cllr Lucas covering the condition of facilities at the sportsground and playground.

11.2 Upper Street playground works

The clerk had engaged Reids Playgrounds to carry out the play equipment dismantling and inspection after submitting costs shown to be more competitive against the previous quote from Kompan, and the works have been carried out.

It will be necessary to carry out visual inspections of the playground equipment at least monthly, and to continue with the annual RoSPA accredited checks. An allowance is to be made in the 2020/21 budget for necessary inspection and repair works.

11.3 Lee Road Football Pitch

There has been a complaint from the Football Club about the amount of dog mess left on the field leading to a referee insisting the mess be cleared up before a match could start.

The parish council has already erected signs to ask dog owners to keep their dogs under control and to use the nearby dog bin.

It was agreed that the parish council will consider again any reasonable action or initiative the football club puts forward to try resolve this matter.

12. Transport and Infrastructure

12.1 Grass and Hedge Cutting 2020/21

Subject to a satisfactory quote, it was agreed the parish council continue with the services of R Porter, who has indicated he will be offering his services for a further year.

12.2 Outstanding TfB works

Many of the outstanding repairs and works were raised at the BCC Local Area Forum particularly drain and gully clearances, and are to be addressed by the Local Area Technician.

12.3 Outstanding Thames Water works:

- The leak at Leak at 2 Grange Cottages which may have been resolved.
- Failed Reinstatement on Lower St opposite Winwood Drive is scheduled to be completed.
- Leak on Station Rd/A41 following burst mains works.

12.4 Other works

3 Winwood Drive - Spring leak onto pavement. Resolution is work in progress.

13. Further Public Comment – Informatives

None recorded.

14. Business for next meeting

None recorded.

Being no further business, the chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 14th November 2019** at **8pm** in the conference room at the **Memorial Hall Station Road Quainton**.

Chairman's initials:

Date: