

QUANTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on 9th July 2020

The meeting was held remotely via video and audio conferencing as allowed under The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

Present:

Parish Council: Cllrs Arthur Evans (chairman), Nick Heirons*, Malcolm Wearn, Nick Butler, John Knox, Michelle Thompson, Claire Lucas, Brian Fludgate (clerk).

Buckinghamshire Council: Cllr Scott Raven and invitee Andrew Jones

Members of the public: 0

***Note:** Cllr Heirons had to leave during the meeting due to technical difficulties.

1. Chairman's Introduction

The chairman welcomed all participants and set out how the remote meeting would be conducted.

2. Apologies for Absence

None recorded.

3. Declarations of Interests

Cllr Lucas declared an interest in connection to HS2 matters and did not require a dispensation.

4. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting had been circulated prior to the meeting, and duly signed by the chairman as a true and accurate record. Those parish councillors present confirmed they had been both seen and heard.

RESOLVED c/2020/21 to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 18th June 2020
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5. Public Forum and Correspondence

5.1 Cllr Wearn representing the Quanton branch of the British Legion advised they planned to parade in the village for VJ 75 Day on 15th August culminating in a short act of remembrance on The Green. Cllr Heirons advised the School Lands Charity (as landowners) had permitted the use of The Green.

5.2. Correspondence

- Email from resident on speeding on Lower Street which had been addressed.
- Email from resident regarding their complaint to the Environment Agency (EA) on plastic materials in manure spread on Quanton Hill fields. The EA had made contact with the landowner and had established that the material spread was a mixture of farm yard manure and waste wood chip from bedding cows and no waste had been imported from outside of the farm. This activity is legally permissible under an exemption, and having been unable to substantiate any other materials present, the EA will take no further action.
- Email request from Quanton School to use the recreation ground at Lee Road for sports day activities. Cllr Lucas will discuss with the football club regarding facilities available, timings and use of the pavilion.

6. Reported Matters Outstanding

6.1 Request for pub benches on The Green

Para 9.4 of 18th June 2020 minutes refers. Cllrs Heirons, Butler and Evans met to pursue the request by the George & Dragon PH. Cllr Heirons advised that agreement and conditions of use had been concluded to the satisfaction of landowner School Lands Charity.

Chairman's initials:

Date:

7. The Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR)

7.1 The AGAR documentation was posted on the website for councillors to inspect and review the accounts, risk assessment and internal audit report (completed on 24th June 2020).

7.2 On resolution, the chairman and clerk will arrange to sign Sections 1 and 2 of the Return.

RESOLVED c/2020/22 to approve the Annual Accounting and Governance Statements

8. Transport and Infrastructure

8.1 Outstanding Transport for Buckinghamshire TfB works

Still awaiting a date for the gulley jetting at various points in the village, and Cllr Knox had written to Cllr Raven to alert him to the frustration of the parish council in the time taken by TfB to resolve the works required.

8.2 HS2

Cllr Knox continues to deal with upcoming road and footpath closures by both HS2 contractors Eiffage Kier and Fusion and has sent a brief to both Cllrs Everitt and Raven regarding how TfB manages and issues road closure licences without prior consultation with the parish council. The parish council continues to express its concerns about the prospects for disruption in the coming years unless better communication and liaison is put in place by all parties.

8.3 Other Works

- Spring leak on to the pavement and road (outside 3 Winwood Drive) still awaits resolution and further discussion over this matter had taken place with the resident concerned.
- A meeting on site was held on 8th July with Buckinghamshire Council, UK Power Networks (UKPN) and the clerk regarding the re-siting of an electricity pole into the Upper Street play area. The possible new location was agreed and a diagram of proposed works will be provided by UKPN for evaluation of any safety hazards to the play area. The re-location works are unlikely to be scheduled before 2021.
- Cllr Evans reported new volunteers had been recruited for litter picking and all major routes into village were now covered.

9. Buckinghamshire Council Matters

9.1 Cllr Raven provided an update post Covid-19 and particularly its impact on the new council finances. While the council has not indicated it is anywhere near to issuing a Section 114 notice, it will run a budget deficit in year 2020/21.

9.2 The Haddenham and Waddesdon Community Board will have its first meeting via videoconferencing on 22nd July. Cllr Knox will represent the parish council.

10. Planning Matters

10.1 Ref. 20/00733/ALB Lead flashing to base of chimney, re-pointing of chimney. Drainage/pipework maintenance – 4 Church Street

It was agreed there were no objections to the above new planning application.

10.2 Ref. 20/01260/ADP Approval of reserved matters for the erection of 40 dwellings – 151 and land to the rear of 151 Station Road.

Developer Barwood Homes had asked for the parish council's support not to install an equipped play area on site but quote 'a more a softer landscaped led scheme that enhances ecological requirements together with future and existing resident's amenity.'

The clerk has referred the applicant to the parish council's response to the planning application and will raise this and other contentious matters regarding the proposed development with the planning case officer.

Chairman's initials:

Date:

11. Clerks Report

11.1 Management of permissions for use of The Green

The clerk had previously provided the parish councillors with a brief on this matter regarding discussions with School Lands Charity (SLC) on the proposal to have a legal vehicle in place to transfer management decisions to do with The Green to the parish council, and for it to indemnify SLC for any claims for injury and loss or damage to property.

11.2 Unless directed otherwise, the clerk will ensure whatever arrangements are agreed protect the interests of the parish council and this includes not accepting additional liability for 'use' or 'control' of activities related to The Green as a public space

11.3 The clerk had also provided guidance on how currently requests from the public or organisations to use The Green should be dealt with, noting that SLC continues to be the sole arbiter as to whether any permissions will be granted.

12. Finance

12.1 The July finance report had been previously circulated for review.

12.2 Payments pending previously circulated	12.3 Receipts reported
£ 74.24 – Sports ground warning sign	£ 0.19 – Bank interest (reserve account)
£ 35.00 – Internal audit fee	£ 195.00 – Tennis Club insurance contribution
£ 16.02 – Play area signs	
£ 52.60 – Play area Covid-19 sign	
£ 26.00 - Sanitiser and holder	
£ 19.74 – Allotment water supply (July)	
£ 307.10 – Clerks net salary (June)	
£ 204.40 – HMRC PAYE (June)	
£ 423.90 – Office expenses Q1	
£ 50.49 – Streetlight supply (June)	
£ 35.00 – ICO data protection fee	
£ 32.46 – Repair materials	

RESOLVED c/2020/23 to approve the payments pending as recorded. Counter signatories to be provided when physical arrangements allow.

12.4 Bank Reconciliation (£)

Brought forward 2019/20	26594.15	Reserve account	21938.70
Receipts to date	16844.35	Current account	12990.15
total	43438.50	total	34928.85
Less bank payments to date	8509.65*	Plus received not banked	nil
Bank balance at 3rd July 2020	34928.85		34928.85
* excludes pending payments			

Chairman's initials:

Date:

13. Recreational Facilities and Activities

13.1 Recreational Report

The July recreational report had previously been circulated by Cllr Lucas covering the condition of facilities at the sports ground and playground.

13.2 The bi annual contractor visit to maintain the skatepark is due to take place before end of July.

13.3 The clerk hopes to conclude the new lease for the Upper Street play area shortly. Awaiting new cost proposal from Buckinghamshire Council.

14. Business for next meeting

14.1 Recruitment of new clerk

So that progress may be reported at the next meeting, the interview of current applicants will take place before the end of July.

Being no further business, the chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

Date of Next Meeting

The next ordinary meeting will be held on **Thursday 13th August 2020**. Should the meeting need to be held remotely a time with connection details will be circulated within the statutory notice period.

Chairman's initials:

Date: