

WENDOVER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

6th April 2021 at 7.30pm

Online Meeting via Zoom

Present: Councillors Walsh, Worth, Gregory, Green, Myers, Bulpett, Clayton, Washington, Durden-Moore and Ballantine.

Clerk: Amanda Massingham

Chairman: Sheila Bulpett

Members of Public: 5

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

P20/344 Councillor Clare and Jarratt offered their apologies, and they were ACCEPTED.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

P20/345 Councillors Clayton and Ballantine declared an interest in item 15.i.ii in relation to the grant payment for Wendover Youth Centre.

3. TEMPORARY DELEGATED POWERS DURING COVID-19 LOCKDOWN

P20/346 Councillor Bulpett outlined the revised arrangements resulting from the further lockdown.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to continue with the current arrangements for the delegated powers to the Deputy Clerk, and the working arrangement for the Office and Ground Team.

4. MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING

Consider approval of minutes for the meetings dated 2nd March 2021

P20/347 The minutes were **RESOLVED** as a true record. The Deputy Clerk will leave a copy of the minutes in the Clock Tower for the Chairman to sign.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

P20/348 None.

6. REPORT FROM THAMES VALLEY POLICE

P20/349 No report was received and a Thames Valley Police representative failed to attend. Councillor Bulpett reported that Thames Valley Police do attend the Community Board meetings.

7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

P20/350 Councillor Bowles reported that Buckinghamshire Council had rejected the HS2 Schedule 17 Lorry movement proposal. Councillor Bowles, Newcombe and Strachan are scheduled to meet with Joan Hancox, Head of Transport Strategy at Buckinghamshire Council to raise key environmental issues relating to HS2 and specifically Schedule 17 for Wendover Dean Viaduct. Councillor Bowles confirmed he had raised concerns internally at Buckinghamshire Council about the lack of consultation that took place with the Parish Council in relation to the Cycleway proposals, however he was aware that the new cycle way between Wendover and Great Missenden had been approved and will be funded outside the scheme, the timetable is unknown. New highway markings have been completed along the High Street. Councillor Green queried when the Tring Road line markings would revert, Councillor Bowles confirmed he would follow this up with the area technician.

8. CLERK'S REPORT

P20/351 The Clerks report was NOTED. It was confirmed that the Ashbrook Path works were completed. The annual Easter competition was running via the Clock Tower Screen and the St Georges flags would be going up along the High Street from 16th April. The Parking Consultation and Cycleway Consultation had closed,

feedback from the Cycleway Consultation would be made available around 13th April, Councillor Bulpett reported she had a meeting arranged on 15th April to discuss the feedback. Future meeting that had been communicated to Councillors included a meeting about the future of RAF Halton on 7th April and a Community Board reflection meeting on 13th April 2021. The Deputy Clerk concluded by providing an overview of the election key dates, reconfirming that nominations must be hand delivered to Buckinghamshire Council before 4pm on Thursday 8th April 2021.

9. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

P20/352 Councillor Bulpett reported that she had attended a Crisis Management webinar along with Councillors Duren-Moore and Worth. Councillor Bulpett further reported that she had also attended two HS2 webinars along with Councillor Durden Moore and a meeting relating to the Town and Parish Charter. Presentation slides would be distributed to all when received.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

To consider items of correspondence listed at (Appendix 1)

P20/353 None.

11. FINANCE

a) To note the I&E report, EMR and Balance Sheet for February 2021

P20/354 The I&E report, EMR report and balance sheet for February 2021 were NOTED.

c) To consider the list of payments and sign cheques

P20/355 The list of payments was NOTED with no comments. The BACS payments would be processed the following day. Councillor Ballantine requested further information about the Look for a Book Grant payment.

12. PLANNING COMMITTEE

To note the draft minutes of the meetings of 2nd and 16th March 2021

P20/356 The draft minutes were NOTED.

13. AMENITIES COMMITTEE

To note the draft minutes of the meetings of 16th March 2021

P20/357 The draft minutes were NOTED.

14. STAFFING COMMITTEE

To note draft minutes of meeting of 25th March 2021

P20/358 The draft minutes were NOTED. Councillor Bulpett confirmed the details of the new Clerk, Louise Hayday who had joined the meeting as a member of the public, prior to her starting date on 26th April 2021.

15. OTHER MATTERS

a) HS2

To receive an update and any recommendations for the working group.

P20/359 Councillor Walsh circulated a report prior to the meeting and it was NOTED. The main effort in March has revolved around Buckinghamshire Council and the Schedule 17 notice for the Wendover Dean flyover. The working group are working alongside WHS2 to ensure that the first application is dealt with correctly. There is still confusion about the Parish Council's role in the Schedule 17 process.

Lord Berkeley's letter to Andrew Stephenson MP has not yet received a reply, in addition a letter sent to the Prime Minister has not been responded to. The next phase is to encourage the Finance and Amenities Committees to work on proposals that HS2 funding would help to realise.

b) Speeding and Noise Working Group

To receive an update from the Noise and Speeding Working Group

P20/360 A member of the working group gave a brief update on progress to date and presented three recommendations. Recommendation one related to advertising the need to report anti-social driving behaviours to the Police via 101. It was **RESOLVED** to place the proposed notice in the next six editions of Wendover News, Facebook, Clock Tower Screen and notice boards. The Deputy Clerk would liaise with Wendover News to agree costs for a quarter page advert and charge against code 4550. The Second recommendation was to start a consultation for a proposed 20MPH speed limit around the village. It was **AGREED** that in the first instance a survey should be completed, like the recent survey for the Skate Park. Councillor Bulpett suggested the two working groups discuss and assist in terms of draft a survey to gauge local opinion before Buckinghamshire Council is approached for a formal consultation. The third recommendation was the application to the HS2 Road Safety Fund for a camera to be installed along the bypass. It was **RESOLVED** to proceed with the application as per the recommendation. The application would confirm a commitment for funds to be contributed by the Parish Council, but the agreed amount would need to be confirmed by the new Council after the Elections as no monies had been budgeted. The Deputy Clerk would work with the working group to submit the application before the 15th May deadline.

c) Open Spaces Working Group

To receive an update and consider any recommendations from the Working Group

P20/361 Three members of the working group attended the meeting. A recommendation was presented to the Council about improving the inclusive play facilities for all. It was highlighted that the play equipment at Hampden Meadow should be updated owing to its age. The working group had already started conversations with PACE and looking at funding opportunities. It was **AGREED** in principle that Hampden Meadow would be the most suitable location and that the working group should continue with its research to replace and improve the play area at Hampden Meadow. The second recommendation related to the outcome from the recent Skate Park survey. 522 responses had been received, 97.7% want a new Skate park in the village, 95.2% want more facilities for young people and Ashbrook Open space was the preferred location of a Skate Park. A full report will be provided to the Council and the community. It was **AGREED** in principle that Ashbrook would be a suitable location for a new Stake Park, subject to rules in terms of distance to properties etc. The working group should continue with their research based siting a skate park at Ashbrook.

d) Community Board

To consider any recommendations for the next Community Board Meeting.

P20/362 Councillor Bulpett reported that the Community Board had not supported the funding required to repair the canal path. This was extremely disappointing as the Community Board have not spent any of their budgeted infrastructure budget fund. The next meeting is scheduled to take place in June and it is hoped that the Community Board will commit to some match funding options.

e) Wendover Arm Canal

To consider new funding channels for the canal footpath repairs.

P20/363 Councillor Bulpett explained that further to item 15.d, other avenues were being explored to secure funding including HS2 and the Lionel Abel Smith Trust. Councillor Myers also suggested contacting the Rothschild Foundation. Councillor Bulpett proposed that the Council should contribute towards the repairs from the general reserve. Following a vote, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** for the Council to earmark £25k from the general reserve and seek further additional support. The details of which would be reported back to the Community Board in June.

f) APM and May 2021 Parish Council Meeting

To review and consider recommendations for the APM and May 2021 Parish Council meeting.

P20/364 Councillor Bulpett recommended that the APM scheduled to take place on 29th April 2021, should be cancelled due to the current covid restrictions mainly owing to the inability of securing an indoor space to hold the event. It was **RESOLVED** to cancel the event and arrange a separate outdoor presentation event for the Community Awards and Freedom of the Village awards. Due to the elections and the rules surrounding when the May Parish Council meeting take place it was **RESOLVED** to have the May Parish Council meeting on Monday 17th May 2021 and push back the Planning and Finance Committee meetings to 25th May 2021.

g) Non-Council Events 2021/22

i) To consider proposed dates from Circus World Entertainment to hire Ashbrook Open Space.

P20/365 The proposed dates in March 2022 were NOTED. It was **RESOLVED** to permit hire subject to government guidance at the time of hire.

ii) To consider proposed dates from No2 to hire Manor Waste for various events.

P20/366 The proposed dates for the Summer and Christmas festivals were NOTED along with the four celebration event dates in June, August, October and December. It was **RESOLVED** to permit hire subject to government guidance at the time of hire.

iii) To consider a request from Beaconsfield's Church's to hire Hampden Meadow for a group picnic.

P20/367 The proposed date in July was NOTED. It was **RESOLVED** to permit hire subject to government guidance at the time of hire.

h) Phyllis Searle Probate Donation

To note the contents of the correspondence from Stuart Fantham and consider any actions.

P20/368 Councillor Bulpett reported that the Council had received the probate donation. Councillor Clayton reported that Phyllis was the wife of the late District Councillor Barrie Searle. It was **AGREED** that the donation should fund some more picnic tables within the Councils open spaces, and therefore referred to the Amenities Committee.

i) Fixed Payment Grants 2021/22

i) Receive an update from the Churchyard Care Committee and consider paying the budgeted 2021/22 grant.

P20/369 The report confirming how the grant was spent in 2020/21 and how the 2021/22 grant will be spent was NOTED. It was **RESOLVED** to award the £7k grant from the agreed budget line 4585.

ii) Receive an update from Wendover Youth Centre and consider paying the budgeted 2021/22 grant.

P20/370 The report confirming how the grant was spent in 2020/21 and how the 2021/22 grant will be spent was NOTED. Councillor Walsh noted that the report as very thorough and outlined some fantastic projects for the youth of Wendover. It was **RESOLVED** to award the £7k grant from the agreed budget line 4586.

j) Councillor Resignation

To accept the resignation of Councillor Clare and consider any actions.

P20/371 The resignation was NOTED and **ACCEPTED**. Councillor Bulpett expressed her thanks to Councillor Clare and praised her commitment to the Council over the last two years.

k) Additional Vehicle for Grounds Team

To receive an update on the rental issues and consider a new quotation.

P20/372 The Deputy Clerk reported that the Council had previously resolved to hire a vehicle at the December 2020 meeting. However, when the vehicle arrived it was not the agreed spec and was returned. A new quote had been obtained and the specification was guaranteed. The new quotation was NOTED. Councillor Walsh reported that the commercial vehicle market had changed over the last twelve months, and another option to consider was the purchase of a second-hand vehicle. Following discussions, it was **RESOLVED** to proceed with the funder-maintained option of the quotation to hire the new vehicle on the proviso that the grounds team are consulted on a second-hand vehicle option. If the grounds team preference is a second-hand vehicle, new options would be researched by the office.

l) LGPS Cessation Report

To note the contents of the report and consider any actions.

P20/373 This item was considered confidential and moved to item 17.

m) Manorial Waste – Aylesbury Road

To consider information received about the ownership of the land and consider any actions.

P20/374 The Deputy Clerk reported that the office had been in contact with Buckinghamshire Council following a request from a member of the public to place a bench on the grass verge close to Costa. Buckinghamshire Council confirmed that the land is not owned by them and it is registered as common land with no ownership details. Councillor Clayton reported that when the Manor Waste was gifted to the Parish Council by the Lord of the Manor, this part of land was also offered, but the Parish Council only wanted the Manor Waste. It was **AGREED**

that any requests regarding the land/verge should be directed to Buckinghamshire Council, with the recommendation that the immediate residents should be consulted if furniture or flora is proposed.

16. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

P20/375 As agreed the next Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 17th May 2021.

17. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

P20/376 Item 15.I was discussed by the Council, a separate confidential minute will be recorded.

18. CLOSURE OF MEETING

P20/377 As all business was transacted the meeting was closed at 9.35 pm.

Signed by
Chair to the Parish Council

Date: May 2021

DRAFT