

WATFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Zoom Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 4th June 2020

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

1.1 Present – B Childs, K Cox (Chairman), G Dent, A Haywood, P Incley, J Powell, D Solomon, Clerk - Sue Porter and 28 members of the public

1.2 Apologies – Nil

1.3 Approve Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 7th May 2020 – It was proposed by P Incley, seconded by J Powell and all voted in favour that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting and will be signed and dated by the Chairman.

1.4 Declarations of Interests – Personal or Prejudicial

Item 3.4 – P Incley (Personal & Prejudicial), Items 3.3 – K Cox, D Solomon, P Incley (Personal & Prejudicial)

2. REPORTS FROM THE PARISH COUNCILLORS

A Haywood – Concerns regarding joining instructions for the Watford Village History Facebook page, this is a private site and not connected to the Parish Council.

G Dent – The Village Hall have held their AGM and the minutes and latest accounts will be circulated to the PC. Painting and renovation works are underway.

3. BUSINESS

3.1 Internal Audit Report 2020-21 – This has been completed. The only issue which needs addressing is a link added to the village website to direct those interested in parish council business to the new parish council website.

3.2 Grass Cutting Update – Churchyard & Cemetery – The grass cutting is now up to date and the contractor has agreed to undertake the mowing every 2 weeks. The moles are no longer in the cemetery.

3.3 Garden extensions in Watford Village – There has been a letter addressed to A Haywood asking the PC to deal with concerns over the garden extensions being leased to residents, which is for agricultural purposes. A Haywood would like to know the conditions which are attached to these agreements and are any planning regulations being breached?

3.4 Public access to agricultural land – There will no longer be public access allowed in all agricultural fields in the village owned by Northingworth Farm Partnership. The rights of way will remain open. These fields are private land and the local residents will be advised.

3.5 Disposal of grass cuttings at Watford Village Hall – A letter has been received from Northingworth Farm Partnership asking the Village Hall Committee not to dispose of the grass cuttings in the neighbouring field. G Dent confirmed that this matter has now been addressed, the grass removed, and this will not happen again.

3.6 Motorway Service Stations – Litter problem – There is an issue with litter from the Services, particularly McDonalds, and it will be asked if they can arrange for litter collections to be extended, nearer to the village.

3.7 DDC – Covid-19 Restart – Local Transport

Reducing speed limits, cycle ways, traffic calming – these are all ideas to help with the speeding problem through the village. A questionnaire will be produced to get the views from the parishioners. The PC will then ask advice, and hopefully get some action, from both NCC and DDC.

3.8 Mobile Vehicle Speed Activated Device with Data Collection – K Cox has confirmed that the quote received from Morelock is still valid, which is £2,657.00 plus VAT. This device has LED flashing warnings, data logging and Bluetooth.

3.9 Thank you letter from Citizen's Advice, Daventry & District for the grant payment received of £150.00 – Noted

4. FINANCE

It was proposed by J Powell, seconded by A Haywood, that the following accounts be paid:

4.1 Approve Accounts to be paid:

Chq No 1306	Leics Gardens	Churchyard & Cemetery	£ 220.00	Open Spaces Act 1906
		Grass Mowing – April 2020		
(Cheque No 1305 was cancelled by A Haywood as incorrect amount claimed for on invoice)				
Chq No 1307	S Porter	Clerk's Salary – May 2020	£ 201.80	LGA 1972 s112
		Clerk's Expenses – May 2020	£ 27.60	LGA 1972 s112

PAYMENTS RECEIVED

DDC	½ Year Precept Payment	£6,750.00
Nat West	Interest	£ 1.50

Bank Balances

(as at 30/04/2020) - £ 14,097.85

5. PLANNING

DA/2020/0313 – Construction of workshop together with removal of canvas canopy and revocation of planning permission DA/2019/0609 – **Venture Caravans, Toll House, Watling Street, Watford**
No Objections

6. PUBLIC TIME

The Village Hall Committee have confirmed that the fence will be reinstated between the Hall and the green.

The motorway services barriers remain open for emergency vehicle access during the Covid-19 crisis.

There are dog waste and litter problems around the village, with there being very few litter bins in the parish, the Clerk will ask for a quote to install one along Kilsby Road, by the cattle grid, and another one along the path which leads from the Stags Head to the canal path.

Date of next Meeting – Thursday 2nd July – 7pm

Meeting Closed: 8:07pm