



MINUTES (SUBJECT TO AGREEMENT AT THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING) of the Full Meeting of the Parish Council held on 8th September 2020 at 7.30pm.

This meeting is allowable 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 ("the 2020 Regulations") which came into force on 4th April 2020 in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. The 2020 Regulations enable local councils to hold remote meetings (including by video and telephone conferencing) for a specified period until May 2021. The published agenda for this meeting contained a link enabling members of the public to join the meeting.

Councillors present: Cllr Adrienne Wood (Chairman), Cllr Steve Lennon, Cllr Karen Licence, Cllr Carli Burke (from agenda item 7).

Also Present: Clerk – Liz Dowie, 5 members of the public

1. To receive apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllr Ken Davey, Cllr Anna Hollaway, Cllr John Workman and Borough Councillor Mike Dean.

2. Co-option to fill Councillor vacancy.

This item was deferred until later in the meeting.

3. To receive Declarations of Interest.

No declarations of interest were received.

4. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 11th August 2020.

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th August 2020 were approved unanimously and were signed by the Chairman.

5. To receive reports from County and Borough Councillors.

Cllr Dean and Cllr Hollaway had provided updates regarding the closure of the Cleeve Hill Golf Course. A press release had been issued by Tewkesbury Borough Council stating that an independent review had concluded that golf could not be financially sustainable at Cleeve Hill without substantial investment. The land would return to the control of the owners, Cleeve Common Trust, on 1st April 2021, but the area will remain open to the public.

Cllr Dean had also followed up an enquiry regarding the delegated report in respect of planning application 19/00986/FUL. This will be published on the planning portal once the document has been redacted.

6. To receive reports from Parish Councillors and Clerk.

Cllr Wood reported that the AGM of the Village Hall Committee had taken place on 25th August and an additional committee member had been co-opted. Cllr Davey's request that the Committee allow part of the open space by the Village Hall to be utilised for a children's play area was considered at the AGM. The request was declined due to the small size of

the space, the potential impact on residents and the fact that the outside space is available to hirers as part of the letting agreement.

The hall would re-open on 20th September and bookings were being taken from regular hirers, provided they could comply with Covid regulations.

Cllr Licence reported that the Cleeve Common trustees had carried out their annual inspection.

7.41pm Carli Burke joined the meeting.

The Clerk reported that:

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) had notified councils of 3 consultations on changes to the current planning system and links had been circulated to councillors. No input to the consultations would be submitted by the Parish Council at this stage.

A resident of Mill Lane in Prestbury had made an enquiry regarding the boundary of the parish since she had a complaint about the overgrown verges and hedgerow along the lane. The Clerk had inspected the area and there did not appear to be any safety issues which Gloucestershire County Council would act upon at this stage. The Clerk had requested the resident to contact her so that the matter might be discussed further.

Co-option to fill Councillor Vacancy.

An application had been received from Carli Burke and, having been proposed by Cllr Wood and seconded by Cllr Licence, all councillors **agreed unanimously** that she be co-opted to fill the vacancy. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office had been received by the Clerk and the Register of Members' Interests Form will be completed within the statutory timescale. Cllr Burke would undertake training in October and November.

7. Public adjournment.

Community Speedwatch - John Donovan reported that two speed checks were being carried out each week. There had been some changes in the team of volunteers and they were seeking one further member to join the team.

A resident had commented on damage to the verge on School Lane near to the post box due to a vehicle parking on the verge. This would be investigated.

It was noted that the footpath on the west side of the B4632 between Prestbury and Southam had become very narrow due to overgrown vegetation. In addition, there were weeds along the edge of the full length of the carriageway. It was noted that the Highways Department had previously advertised the closure of the footpath in order to widen the pavement. The Clerk will follow these matters up with the Highways Department.

8. Planning.

8.1 To consider the following applications:

- 20/00206/FUL – Ladythorn, Cleeve Hill, Southam – Erection of a front and side extension and erection of an additional second storey extension. (Revised Plans) **Objection – although the scale of the proposed development has reduced, it will still be much larger than the existing property. Southam Parish Council therefore reiterates its previous objection since, despite revisions to the plans, the proposed development is considered excessive and is inappropriate due to its location within the AONB. The Council's main concern is with regard to the addition of the second storey and this means that the revised plans do not lessen the impact of the development on the surrounding area and, in particular, on neighbouring properties.**
- 20/00767/FUL – Kayte Farm, Southam Lane, Southam – Change of use of agricultural building to B8 use for storage (retrospective). **No objection in principle on the basis of the current level of visits of 1 – 2 per week being maintained. Would suggest that, if permitted, a condition being included regarding a transport plan.**

8.2 To consider commenting on appeal against refusal:

20/00301/FUL – Racecourse Cars, Evesham Road, Bishops Cleeve – Construction of 7no. dwellings and associated parking and landscaping. (Neighbouring parish). No comment submitted since no comment had been made on original application.

8.3 To consider and approve publicising planning applications within the parish:

It had been noted at the August meeting that planning notices were not always displayed by Tewkesbury Borough Council in a timely manner and that residents were not always aware of current applications. **It was agreed** that details of all new applications received by the Parish Council would be advised to the webmaster so that they might be added to the Southam Today email updates. This information would also be added to a new page on the website with details of how residents may submit their own comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council Planning Department.

8.4 Other planning matters:

Previous application: 20/00598/FUL – Land adjacent Springbank, Old Road, Southam. A resident had contacted the Clerk requesting a copy of the Council's objection to this application.

The Nest, Southam Lane – outline proposals to replace the dwelling had been circulated to councillors. The applicants had been advised that the Council will consider the proposal in detail at the application stage.

9. Website accessibility.

The Clerk advised that the website had now been reviewed and updated in order to make it more accessible. The required statement (previously circulated) which gives details of the work undertaken **was agreed by councillors** and would be available on each page of the website from 14th September 2020. The regulations require that all minutes uploaded since September 2018 be updated to a more accessible format. **It was agreed** that this would be a disproportionate financial burden to allocate paid hours to this work. The Clerk would update all minutes dating back to January 2020 and if a request were received for a more accessible version of any previous minutes these would be produced separately.

10. Finance.

10.1 The accounts and bank reconciliation as at 31st August 2020 **were approved** by the Council.

10.2 Payments for September 2020 **were approved** by the Council: data protection fee £40.00, CPRE subscription £36.00, payroll services £23.25, grass cutting £408.00, Clerk's salary £252.60, PAYE £63.20

It was noted that the NALC National Salary Award had now been confirmed with a 2.75% increase backdated to April 2020. This would be applied from October 2020 with an adjustment for April to September included in the October payroll.

11. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th October (virtual meeting)

The meeting closed at 8.15pm