

Lea & Cleverton Parish Council

Minutes of the Lea & Cleverton Parish Council meeting held on the **17th March 2021** via Zoom at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs J Cull (Chair), J Crockett, P Fuller, S Suter, S Masson, N Maidment, D Maidment & J Pugh

Also present: Claire Mann (Parish Clerk), Cllr E Threlfall (Brinkworth PC,) Cllr T Sturgis (WC) & 1 member of the public

28/21 To receive apologies for absence

None received

29/21 To receive declarations of interest

None

30/21 To receive any public questions

None

31/21 To approve minutes of the meeting held on the 19th January 2021

The minutes were approved as a correct record all minutes approved during lockdown will be signed at the next opportunity.

32/21 To receive an update from Cllr T Sturgis (WC)

Cllr Sturgis noted that the Parish Council's concerns over a lack of volunteers within the Parish is not unusual. It was also noted that C19 figures are down and that the return of Schools has not created further issues at this stage.

Cllr Sturgis expressed thanks to all Wiltshire Council staff for their work during the pandemic and praised the NHS. Hills Waste has also provided an excellent service throughout. Cllr Sturgis stated that he would not be standing for re-election in May. Members thanked Cllr Sturgis for his exemplary guidance over the years and stated that he would be missed.

33/21 To receive Chaiman's comments

Cllr Cull notified members that the tree work had been completed and that the Tennis Court surface would be cleaned when the ground at the playing field is suitable.

It was noted that once a gain a lack of volunteers offering services creates a strain on the Parish Council; maintenance/upkeep of the Village Hall and the Playing Field.

Parishioners have raised concerns about 'Cold Calling' in the Village & Cllr Cull will make enquiries.

34/21 Finance

a) To note financial position

Balances of accounts were noted

b) Approve payments made

It was agreed that the Payment Schedule would be sent to all Councillors for information with copies of invoices

c) Outline of online banking process

Cllr Cull detailed the new process and more Councillors would apply to be online delegate users of the account with two members plus the RFO required to approve.

35/21 Planning

a) To approve minutes of the meetings held on the 15th February & 2nd March

Minutes of both meetings were approved as a correct record

b) To note planning applications received (listed below) & those determined.

20/11298/FUL – Loumar House

It was resolved that the Parish Council **objects** to the application

c) To further consider an approach to WC with regard to the Planning Process

Cllr Cull suggested that the document is circulated to other Parishes. This would be included in a future agenda once the new Council has taken office.

36/21 To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan

The Policy has been drafted but more representation from the Community is required. It was agreed that progression of the Plan would be put on hold for a couple of months in the hope that extra support can be encouraged from Parishioners. Ideas included a stand at a Village Fete.

37/21 Update & review of Village Hall plans

It was noted that the Village Hall Management Committee is struggling because no members of the Parish are volunteering to join the group. It was agreed that a further call for volunteers would be made at the Annual Parish Meeting.

38/21 Highways

a) To receive an update on Highways and note actions on new issues

It was noted that the work at the top of Crabb Mill Lane, onto The Street, has been successful and that the Parish Steward is filling pot holes in the Parish.

b) To consider replacement & additional bins.

It was resolved to replace the bin at Little Badminton Lane and that the bin by Aquetong Farm would be moved to maximise use.

39/21 Rights of Way

a) To receive an update on Public Rights of Way

Nothing to report

b) To consider creation of a Footpaths Working Group

It was agreed that this was an excellent idea & Cllr Suter would lead and co-ordinate the group.

40/21 To receive an update on allotments

It was reported that the tree work has now been completed and the hedge cut by 2ft. Thanks were expressed to the farmer for doing this. It was also noted that some allotment holders are throwing waste vegetation over the hedge – this is dangerous and a request will go to all tenants **not** to do this.

41/21 To consider participation in Best Kept Village 2021

It was agreed that participation would evoke a sense of community but that many volunteers would be needed to assist. Cllr Fuller will progress.

42/21 To review Risk Assessments

It was noted that the Risk Assessments would be circulated to Councillors between meetings and that Cllr Cull would sign at the earliest opportunity.

Meeting closed at 9.14pm