

DEERHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the virtual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 23 September 2020 by Zoom

Present: Len Attard – Chairman
Laura Bromberg
Ben Oldham
Jim Pollard
John Rutter
Jonathan Smith
Anthony Wilkes
CC Awford
Fiona Wallbank – Clerk

Parishioners: None

1 APOLOGIES: BC McLain.

2 MINUTES OF MEETING: The minutes of the meeting held on the Wednesday, 22 July 2020, having been circulated with the agenda were agreed and signed by the Clerk

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Councillor Wilkes and the Chairman declared an interest in agenda item concerning the Cricket Club

4 PUBLIC COMMENT: None

5 PLANNING:

5.1 Applications:

Applications considered prior to the meeting:

20/00786/FUL Lark Rise, Wick Lane, Apperley: Erection of a single storey front extension. Demolition of existing en suite and replacement with single storey extension. Conversion of first floor garage with dormer extension

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

The Parish Council has no adverse comments to this application

20/00774/PIP Land Adjacent to Manor Cottage Walton Hill Deerhurst: PIP for the erection of up to 2 no dwellings

Comments to Tewkesbury Borough Council:

The Parish Council would like to make the following points:

- No objection in principle to a PIP for housing, as it is infill between existing dwellings and adjacent to a road
- No issue with the relocation of the footpath
- Concern that the location may not be suitable for two houses
- Noting the comments from Highways, the safety of the access and the adequacy of screening must be addressed at the technical details stage

5.2 Decision: 20/00366/FUL Land to Northwest Of 5 & 6 Westview Apperley: T. Application for Technical Details Consent pursuant to Planning in Principle application ref. 19/00791/PIP for the erection of 1 No. infill dwelling - Granted

5.3 Appeals: None

Appeal Decisions: None

5.4 Neighbourhood Plan (NP): The first draft is ready for the initial check and then there will be consultation meetings. Unfortunately, due to Covid not much consultation with local parishioners has taken place. There is plenty of time as the next referendum will not be until May.

6 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

6.1 Accounts for payment and receipts:

Mrs F J Wallbank –			
Salary for 1-30 September 2020	363.07		
Back for the period 1 April to			
31 August 2020	123.93		
Less Tax	97.40	389.60	Via Bank Transfer

Inland Revenue – Refund due to Clerk		97.40	Via Bank Transfer
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Countrywide: Ground Maintenance			
13 & 26 August	250.00		
12 & 23 September	250.00		
	<u>VAT 100.00</u>	600.00	Via Bank Transfer

Apperley Cricket Club – donation towards			
Building works		100.00	
Total:		£1187.00	

Receipts:

HM Customs and Excise – Refund of VAT	828.22		
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Total Receipt:	£828.22		
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6.2 Financial Statement: Circulated with the agenda. The Councillors agreed for the Clerk to sign this.

County Councillor Awford reported:

- There will be an increase in traffic down the B4213 over the next 5 nights . He has spent best part of 72 hours trying to sort out a mess that Glos Highways has created.
- The A417 is closed at Maisemore but also working at Highnam at the B4215 the diversions in place are extremely lengthy. If Glos Highways pulled one of the schemes this would cost the public purse £47,000
- Several white papers being released by Government about potential reorganisation of local authorities and on planning

7 MATTERS ARISING

7.1 Apperley Village Hall: Councillor Oldham reported that the VH is badly struggling due to a lack of bookings due to Covid. Normally rentals would be £7,000 but is only £500.

Carpark: Gumbie’s pizzas has asked if they could use the carpark once a month for pop-up pizzas. It was agreed they could use the carpark on a Wednesday night and the first time would be for to see how they did and following that it would be £10 per visit.

Play Area: Following the ROSPA inspection carried out in July by the Play Inspection Company highlighted several high-risk issues. It was agreed with Brian Leeke to close the big Hags unit as severe risks however the smaller Hags unit will remain open as the risk injury was low.

Following the £50,000 spend several years ago Councillor Oldham was surprised that there was no money in the pot for ongoing maintenance. Brian Leeke has applied for a grant of £400 from the GPFA for ongoing maintenance matters. Councillor Oldham has managed to secure a donation from Litchfields of £1000 plus a donation from a parishioner of £180. Regarding the wood rotting on the equipment – Brian Leeke has involved Brian Lovejoy to have a look at the repair works required-replace the bridges between the major units and the platform and it has been suggested that this would be wrapped with decking materials. Councillor Oldham asked whether this would pass a ROSPA inspection and the reply suggested it was not a particularly good idea and the PC should be contacting the original manufacturers.

It was agreed that Councillor Oldham would contact Hags to obtain a quotation for the necessary repairs to the platform area.

At the recent DPPFA AGM it was reported that the tennis court was doing well, and the court had

recently been cleaned.

Allotments: Nothing to report.

Playing Field: Chris Freeman has been contacted by Staunton and Corse Football club who have asked if they could use the football pitch and changing rooms urgently. Apparently, they are happy to cut the grass and mark the pitch. I suggest that we say they can have the changing rooms for £10 a game and they are responsible for cleaning it as they will be the sole users of it. Councillor Oldham will send Chris Freeman an email.

7.2 Highways:

Closure of Deerhurst Road: Residents are fully aware both gates will be shut. Dates: 10 October – 8 November 2020.

Closure of Wainlode Lane: Bridge strengthening works will be carried out to the first bridge however a pedestrian walkway will be provided for walkers, cyclists, and horse riders. Dates: 21 September – 16 October 2020

Traffic Count carried out at the Court on Court Drive

Trees have been cut back at Moores Ground and Sawpit Lane

Road Signs: These are being obscured by the hedgerows. Councillor Pollard to report.

7.3 Public Rights of Way: Councillor Pollard said that the fallen trees have been reported. The bridleway gate at Crabb Villa is being smeared with a “brown substance” to deter people from using the bridleway.

7.4 Provision of Defibrillator for Deerhurst Walton: It was agreed that the defib would be fitted to the outside wall of Manor Farm as there was an existing power supply.

The post-box has been sited opposite where the previous one was and it was agreed the noticeboard should be erected there too.

7.5 Grass Cutting throughout the Parish:

Councillor Oldham reported that Countrywide were unaware they had to cut the area around the horse chestnut tree. Councillor Pollard produced a map for the contractors as per the agreed contract and this was given to the contractors when they were on site.

It was agreed that the Clerk would speak with Samantha Jenkins.

This is the 3rd year of the grass cutting contract so we will have to go out to tender. Clerk to action.

Verge Grass Cutting: Ken Preece will need to be instructed in a few weeks to carry out the second verge cut. Councillor Rutter requested a 2-metre sweep for Deerhurst.

Councillor Pollard will create a new map for Ken Preece based on the old one on file which the Clerk will send to him and ask if these are the areas that he is cutting. The map can also be sent to Glos Highways to ensure that the Parish is receiving the correct grant for verge cutting as it has not changed in the last 25 years.

7.6 Parish Council Website: Councillor Bromberg reported that Ben Davies was still happy to create a new website for the PC. Councillor Bromberg has produced a template and it was agreed that the System Force IT would host the website at a cost of £30 plus VAT. Councillor Bromberg will also get Charlotte Forbes to check the new website for compliance.

7.7 Path: Councillor Smith shared an overview of the planned path. From Deerhurst Walton to get anywhere of any distance either walking cycling or riding you must go on the B4213 which is dangerous. The proposed route of the path would be out of Deerhurst Walton, passed Notcliffe House, crossing over the B4213, created a 1km path directly adjacent to the B4213 to Whitefield Manor and this would provide a link from Apperley and Deerhurst Walton and the A38 and then people could go to the shop/pub/garage without going on the B4213. The land in discussion is pretty much one landowner with Whitfield Manor the Apperley end. It was agreed that Councillor Smith would speak with the landowners concerned.

8 MATTERS RAISED FOR NOTIFICATION:

Raising of the road at Maisemore: Letter received from Staunton PC regarding the frequency of flooding on the A417 between Maisemore and Over and the consequence of this major road closure has a significant impact for thousands of residences, businesses and education establishments within Parishes north-west of Gloucester. They raised the following points:

- The diversion of traffic via minor roads during A417 closures is now at an unacceptable level.

- The economic & social impact to our communities, businesses, and education in this area of Gloucestershire cannot continue to be marginalised
- Severe problems faced when the emergency services need to gain access to any residents of the effected villages.

DPC would need a causeway from Tirley and Apperley too so the only benefit to Deerhurst residents would be having a Causeway on the B4213 as when the A417 is flooded the B4213 is flooded. Clerk to respond to Matt Fuller.

Planning Matters: The Chairman read out a copy of a representation to Paul Skelton at TBC from someone who lives outside the Parish who is concerned about the following planning application 20/00464/FUL: Hybrid planning application seeking; 1. Full planning permission for the erection of a B2 unit (general industrial) with associated landscaping, access, and parking. 2. Outline planning permission (all matters reserved except access) for a mix of B1, B2 and B8 use classes (employment). Part Parcel 3152, Tewkesbury Road, Deerhurst

After a short discussion it was agreed that this would not have any direct impact on Deerhurst and that the Chairman would send the letter to the Clerk at Elmstone Hardwicke

4 Moores Ground: The PC had been asked by English Rural housing to help advertise the sale of this property as part of an affordable housing development. English Rural Housing Association aims to work with local partners and the shared owner to find a suitable buyer as quickly as possible. To achieve this, they use the cascade mechanism set out in the S106 agreement. Initial applications for the purchase will be taken from potential buyers with the connection to Apperley. If there is not any interest or a strong applicant does not come forward from Apperley, we will cascade the process out to the surrounding parishes listed in the S106 agreement.

The Chairman was concerned that the PC are consulted about the applicants' connections with the Parish. Clerk to email English Rural Housing.

Cricket Club: Councillor Wilkes reported that due to Covid income and fund raising has been greatly affected the cricket club small donation to the CC crowd funding looking to raise funds to start planning once permission is granted by TBC to do works to the pavilion. It has become a central community hub for the villages and the surrounding villages, and it is vital that the CC gets the PCs support. It was agreed that the PC would donate £100 to support the works to the pavilion.

Noticeboard for Walton Hill, Deerhurst: Posts will be required, and the size will need to take 6-8 pages of A4. Green or wood in colour. Clerk to obtain some quotations.

Dog Bins: Councillor Pollard has obtained the recent two dogs bins have been supplied for by TBC which is an excellent result.

9 DATE FOR NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING: Wednesday, 28 October 2020 commencing at 7.15pm.

The meeting closed 20.59pm