

Minutes of the Meeting of the Village Improvement Committee held in the Millennium Hall on Thursday 9th January 2020 at 10.00am

Present: Cllr. Fleetwood (Chairman), Cllr. Bates, Cllr. Bucke, Cllr. Burge, Cllr. Brylewski, Cllr. Mellor, Cllr. Palmer, Christine Hodgson (RFO) and Mrs. L. Cooper (Clerk)

In attendance: A. Merryman (The Oasis Project) and M. Perry (National Director of Worth Unlimited)

The meeting began at 10.00am. The Chairman welcomed the representatives from The Oasis, (Worth Unlimited) to the meeting.

1. To resolve to receive apologies and accept reasons for absence

No apologies were received.

2. Disclosure of interests in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 and to consider requests for dispensation and disclosure of any gifts or hospitality

There were no declarations or disclosures of gifts and hospitality.

3. To receive the notes of the Village Improvement Committee meeting held on 28th November 2019 and resolve to approve as Minutes

It was proposed and **RESOLVED** that the notes were a true record and were duly signed.

4. Cherry Fields

At this point of the meeting it was **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Orders to allow the representatives of The Oasis (Worth Unlimited) to speak.

Ms. Merryman began by apologising for not seeking permission from the Parish Council for bringing the caravans on site. The reason for this omission was that they did not see the Caravans as structures. Discussion moved on to what Worth Unlimited was planning to do with the caravans to blend them into the background and the projects these caravans would facilitate on site. The representatives asked for permission to keep the caravans on site.

At 10.30am it was **RESOLVED** to resume Standing Orders.

The chairman began by clarifying that bringing the caravans on site was in breach of Section 16.1 of the tenancy agreement which stated:

'the tenant must not demolish or rebuild any buildings, erect new buildings, make alterations or additions to the Property without the Landlord's consent...'

There was a lively discussion and Councillors gave opinions on the matter. It was noted that there had been negative comments from residents. It was **RESOLVED** to take this to the next Full Council meeting where a vote would be taken to reach a decision on the site.

5. Items in progress: to consider and agree any action as appropriate

a. Update on the Emergency Plan

Cllr. Bates discussed the Emergency Plan however it appeared many Councillors had not

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seen the updated Plan circulated in November 2019. The Chairman deferred this item to the next meeting to allow Councillors to read the Plan.

ACTION: Clerk to circulate the plan again.

b. Update on Community Speed Watch Scheme

Cllr. Burge stated there had been 146 sessions, 33,800 vehicles and 773 reported. The scheme was continuing to reduce speeding in the village environs. Permission was sought to purchase the body cams for volunteer safety. It was **RESOLVED** to purchase the equipment and to allow Cllr. Burge to choose the body cam most suitable.

i) Review of CSW Risk assessment

A copy of the risk assessment had been circulated prior to the meeting. After discussion it was agreed that the risk assessment was up to date and did not require amending.

c. Update on litter picking

The chairman commented that the village looked very clean.

d. Update on grass cutting matters

The RFO discussed the tendering process, the circulated figures and quotes received. The committee discussed the tenders but all were in agreement that Glendale had performed well over the past year. It was **RESOLVED** to retain Glendale as the contractor for 2020-21.

e. Consider the following Millennium Hall matters and, if applicable, approve expenditure and quotes:

i) Replacement carpet

Samples of the proposed carpet replacement were shown to the committee. A quote would be obtained and the committee **RESOLVED** to allow Cllrs. Brylewski, Mellor and Palmer delegate responsibility to purchase the tiling.

ii. Replacement lighting

Lighting had been investigated. No decision had yet been reached.

iii) Update of redecoration work

The toilet and sink had been installed and the tiling was being done. The curtains had been hung.

iv) To extend office area

This was deferred indefinitely.

f. Work involving Probation Service

Cllr. Fleetwood discussed the work of the Probation Service and indicated that work days would move from Thursdays to Saturdays, unless a volunteer could be found to supervise the group.

g. Resolution to virement of unspent maintenance budget to the budget for improvement of Millennium Hall

The RFO discussed the request to vire funds from different budget codes and circulated figures. There was underspend in the Village Upkeep budget, which could be used to cover costs at Millennium Hall. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the reason for virement and allow.

6. Update on barriers at Croft Lane

Following a letter sent by the Clerk to Network Rail the complaint was reopened. Network Rail responded by requesting evidence of growth in the village that would necessitate the upgrade to the barriers. The Clerk collected data from the Speed Watch Scheme as evidence of vehicle numbers on the road. A letter was received from Priory Pembroke Academy supporting the Parish Council's efforts.

ACTION: Clerk to continue gathering evidence to send to Network Rail.

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7. Update Little Cherry noticeboard

Nothing to report deferred to the next meeting.

8. Holding Items

a. Create footpath from Green Lane to Hawthorn Road

Cllr. Welburn is working with the Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) Rights of Way. Nothing to report. Deferred to the next meeting.

b. Create footpath from Church Lane to Gilbert's Pond

Cllr. Brylewski advised that the project is ongoing, awaiting better weather.

c. Update on extending Xmas lighting on Parade

The reactions from the public had been very positive. To be deferred to later in the year.

9. Defibrillators

i) Update of review of existing defibs in the village

There was some confusion over whose responsibility this was. It was agreed to liaise with Cllr. Robinson who might be able to advise.

ii) WLDC Defib scheme / installation of new defib in the village

The clerk had arranged to meet the officer from WLDC organising the scheme at Little Cherry, with a view of placing a device there. The Chairman suggested that this could be done at the same time as the replacement of the noticeboard in Little Cherry.

ACTION: Clerk to meet and discuss options with WLDC and report back.

10. Update on bulb planting

Cllr. Palmer updated the committee on work that had been done and possible sites for further planting were discussed. It was **RESOLVED** to create a sub-committee for bulb planting.

11. Matters for report and future agenda items

Alterations at the Co-op

12. To confirm date for the next meeting.

The next meeting of the VIC committee was agreed as 6th February 2020 at 10.30am.

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