Portbury Parish Council MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held 4TH February 2020 Village Hall, High Street, Portbury

Present:

<u>Councillors:</u> Cllr Mr Cooke Cllr Mr Romanski Cllr Mrs Cowlard

Cllr Mr Coles Cllr Mr Lanham

<u>Chairman:</u> Cllr Phipps

Clerk: Minutes taken by Dawn Drower - Clerk

Representatives: Nigel Ashton - NSC Mr L Summerfield – footpaths Mr S Walsh Highways

England (HE)

Others: 1 member of general public

Meeting commenced at 7.40pm

No	ltem	Action
PC/0220/01	Declaration of Interest by Members – None declared	
PC/0220/02	Apologies received – None	
PC/0220/03	Minutes of PPC's monthly meeting held on the7th January 2020 were presented. Proposed Cllr Mrs Cowlard Seconded Cllr Mr Lanham Resolved that: Minutes were agreed by all.	ALL
PC/0220/04	Chairman's report Prior to the meeting Cllr Mr Phipps had circulated a report for review to councillors. Cllr Mr Phipps commented on crime and disorder, planning, and council administration. All are covered in the relevant sections.	МАР
PC/0220/05	Finance (a)Payments for authorisation – As per schedule presented prior to meeting. RESOLVED that: The payments as scheduled in the Finance Report were approved.	ALL

	Clerk Mrs Drower commented that at the end of January there had been no unscheduled spend and we are still on target for budget spend. Clerk Mrs Drower further added that the £1000 voted at the last meeting to be ring fenced for the toddler equipment had been moved on the finance documents into ring fenced reserves. Clerk Mrs Drower confirmed that our precept request had been accepted for 20/21.	DD
PC/0220/06	Crime and Disorder (a)Crime Stats -Clerk Mrs Drower commented that there were no crime stats for January. Cllr Mr Phipps commented that he had not heard any reports of crime. (b)Local crime – No local crime has been reported.	DD
PC/0220/07	Planning Applications received: (a)19/P/2007/FUL -2c Priory Road – no update. (b)19/P/3016/FUL – The Priory – External alterations – Cllrs agreed no objection (c)19/P/3017/LBC – The Priory – Listed building consent – Cllrs agreed no objection. (d)19/P/3019/ADV – The Priory – Advertising consent – Cllrs agreed no objection. (e)19/P/3162/LBC – Thatched Cottage – Sheepway – Listed building consent – Cllrs agreed no objection. (f)19/P/3161/FUL – Thatched Cottage – Sheepway – Proposed oak frame orangery – Cllrs agreed no objection. (g)19/P/3086/FUL – Barn at Honor Farm – Demolition of part agriculture building – Cllrs agreed no objection. (h)19/P/2947/FUL – Royal Portbury Dock – Extn to existing building, and new building for preparation of cars – Cllrs agreed no objection. Enforcement: Paddock Lakes update – Cllr Mr Phipps commented that the barrier erected across the entrance has no planning and does not belong to Paddock Lakes, it is part of the highway. Cllr Ashton commented that Highways do not seem to have a problem with it. Cllr Nigel Ashton also commented that he will follow up on the enforcement and the barrier.	MAP
PC/0220/08	Maintenance (a)Lengthsman – Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that there were no issues but added that she is still to meet with Kevin to determine cost for cutting back the hedgerows. Cllr Mr Phipps commented that perhaps we could ask NSC to add Mill Lane to their cutting schedule. Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that the pavements are impassable in places along Sheepway, and where pedestrians have to walk in the road, there is now a build	DD

	up of mud for them to manoeuvre too. Clerk Mrs Drower commented that the situation has been reported to NSC, but will now follow it up with Alex Hearn. (b)Contractor for hedge cutting – no update.	
PC/0220/09	Council Administration/Correspondence (a)Task monitor – Clerk Mrs Drower commented that HE had confirmed that the broken fence at the end of Station Road will be repaired and a team will be sent out to clean and clear the footbridge. (b)M5 – Jct 19 – reconfiguration – Cllr Mr Phipps suspended standing orders while Mr Sean Walsh from HE gave a presentation on the works to Jct 19 which will commence 24th February 2020.	DD/MAP
	In summary there will be a change to the lane arrangement on the Southbound slip road, the left lane becoming services and A369 (Bristol & Portbury). The lane divider island will be removed and adjacent to the services exit an extra lane will be achieved, thus making for easier flow of traffic towards Bristol. Within the scope of funds available Mr Walsh thought that this offered a good improvement to the current situation but agreed that over time traffic was likely to increase further and thus other solutions might be needed. When pressed to offer a long-term solution not constrained by funding, Mr Walsh thought that some form of elevated lane taking Bristol traffic over the island to the Portishead side would be the sort of scale of scheme needed if a new junction couldn't be created elsewhere. Cllr Phipps thanked Mr Walsh for attending the meeting and giving us an insight into the proposals for jct 19. Cllr Phipps reinstated the standing orders at this point.	МАР
	(c)Bristol Clean Air Zone – Cllr Mr Phipps commented that we had been contacted by Wraxall and Failand Parish Council for our opinion on the possible unintended consequential impact of the Clean Air Zone due to start in Bristol. Cllr Mr Phipps, after doing some research, concluded that there is no real evidence to suggest a Clean Air Zone impacts on areas around it. Cllr Mr Cooke commented that there may be physical effects such as increased parking in outer areas, Cllr Phipps thought that this was not shown by the limited survey work carried out elsewhere. Cllrs all agreed that Cllr Mr Phipps respond to Wraxall and Failand saying we think, as far as we can assess, that there will be little or no impact on outlying villages.	MAP
	(d)Support for the church – Clerk Mrs Drower commented that previously ALCA had informed parish councils that supporting local churches with donations for running costs was not allowable. However further advice from ALCA has indicated that whilst expenditure on the building is prohibited, donations to an expense e.g.	

heating oil when the church is used by residents for communal activities such as a toddler play group may be acceptable. Cllr Mr Phipps commented that this advice was still not clear from ALCA.

(e)20mph speeding lights – Cllr Mr Cooke commented that on the way out of the village the 20mph flashing light, the sign above the light advising drivers that it's 20mph when lights are flashing has disappeared. Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that it was extremely confusing, as it's a 20mph zone anyway. Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that when she was risk assessing the area with traffic officers for the Speed watch, the officers were going to try and get the signs removed as it was so confusing. Cllr Mr Ashton commented that we could purchase some speed camera stickers to cover the comment. Cllr Mrs Cowlard agreed.

(f)Parish council planning – commenting – ClIr Mr Cooke commented that he felt we should put supporting comments on the planning portal for applications we are happy with. ClIr Mr Phipps explained that at a previous council meeting ClIrs had agreed to minute "no objection" to a planning application, but not to put this on the planning portal. On occasion planning officers have asked for our comments on an application and we have referred then to our minutes where a no objection comment could be found. ClIr Mr Cooke commented that he thought we should at least put a "no objection" comment on the planning portal. ClIr Mr Cooke suggested carrying this discussion forward to a future meeting.

(g)Portishead Branch line – Section 56 process – Cllr Mr Phipps commented that the process including compulsory purchase of land for the project, including storage compounds is going ahead. The field behind Paddock Lakes will be compulsory purchased as an agreement with the landowner could not be reached.

(h)Play area – update – Cllr Mr Phipps suspended standing orders while resident Mr R Larder who is assisting the Parish Council with the siting and raising funds for the proposed new toddler play area. Current estimates for a suitable scheme for toddlers, including all the necessary groundworks and possible fencing, are £23,000. Various sites around the village have been considered which had been discussed at stakeholder group that he had organised. Current thinking by parents is to site all play equipment together, even if this means moving the current equipment. 4 possible sites have been considered and conclusions are as follows –

- 1. The village green discounted at this stage as there isn't enough total space
- 2. The unused field adjacent to the Village Hall discounted again due to size and also the ability to secure a lease for the purpose.
- 3. Alongside the western edge of the Church whilst this would mean moving the existing equipment, this site is

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WC/RL

favoured, being near to the school and church and access from Church Lane. 4. Alongside the current equipment - whilst this is a good option and offers better ground conditions and less cost it was felt that access was less good and was further from the school and church. Mr Larder is investigating grants available and fundraising options and also types of suitable play equipment. A decision on site would be made when the scope of funds available is clearer. Mr Larder asked Cllrs to consider his proposals so far and provide any feedback. Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that our lengthsman has some heavy duty pieces of play equipment which he'd like to donate to the parish. Cllr Mr Cooke enquired about once the equipment was installed where would the funds come from for the ongoing maintenance. Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that the precept would cover it. Cllr Mr Cooke commented that it would be useful for Mr Larder to talk to the residents at the ARM on May 12th for further feedback. Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that she would post information on the village Facebook page re fundraising and feedback from residents. Cllr Phipps made it clear to the Council that there might be some preparatory work necessary to put a grant application package together, and this could only be covered at present from the ring-fenced reserve. Council has to accept that this expenditure might be written off if grant funding attempts fail. Mr Larder was hopeful that he could cover any preparatory work by pro-bono arrangements with expert help, but nevertheless he accepted that we need to consider the possibility of writing off funds. Councillors understood this. Council was very pleased with the fact that the project was now moving forward and was grateful that Mr Larder was fully engaged. Council thanked Mr Larder for all his effort and invited him to brief Council again, possibly in Cllr Phipps reinstated standing orders for the remainder of the meeting. PC/0220/10 **Sheepway issues** – no issues **Allotments update** – Cllr Mr Phipps commented that the PC/0220/11 new Terms & Conditions have now been finalised. Cllr Mr Coles commented that the changes will enable the allotments to be self-governing. The possibility of creating a separate bank account for the allotment was re-visited. No change was felt necessary at this stage since there is now a separate balance sheet showing the I and E position of the allotments.

Meeting finished at 9.10p.m.
Portbury Parish Council Adcroft House, 15 Roath Road, Portishead, BS20 6AW