

Portbury Parish Council

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held 2nd February 2021
via Video Link

Present:

Councillors: Cllr Mr Romanski Cllr Mr Phipps Cllr Mr Lanham
Cllr Mr Cooke Cllr Mr Coles Cllr Mr Cheek

Chairman: Cllr Mrs Cowlard

Clerk: Minutes taken by Mrs Dawn Drower – Clerk

Representatives: Mr Nigel Ashton NSC

Others:

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

No	Item	Action
PC/0221/01	Declaration of Interest by Members – There were no declarations of interest.	
PC/0221/02	Apologies received – no apologies	
PC/0221/03	<p>Minutes of PPC's monthly meeting held on the 5th January 2021 were presented. Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that she would now go through the points from the last meeting before signing off the minutes.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that she would now go through the points from the last meeting before signing off the minutes:-</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that she had contacted Kylie to offer our assistance with NW but would like to stick to our format. Also due to GDPR we are unable to provide her with our mailing list but would be happy to forward things for her. When we do our next newsletter we will ask her if there is anything she would like to contribute re NW.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Cooke had followed up with David Bailey about the £800 contribution towards the weight limit signs at the top of Mill Lane. Cllr Mrs Cowlard asked Cllrs if they were in favour of the cost.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>WC</p> <p>PC</p>

	<p>Proposed Cllr Phipps Seconded Cllr Cheek</p> <p>All in favour Cllr Mr Romanski confirmed that he had obtained the weedkiller.</p> <p>The minutes were Proposed Cllr Mr Lanham Seconded Cllr Mrs Cowlard</p> <p>Resolved that: Minutes were agreed by all.</p>	
PC/0221/04	<p>Finance (a) Payments for authorisation – As per schedule presented prior to meeting. RESOLVED that: The payments as scheduled in the Finance Report were approved.</p> <p>Clerk Mrs Drower commented that the only expenditure in the finance report is for maintenance, the clerk and zoom subscription. Clerk Mrs Drower commented that Kevin has now sent in all the missing playground inspection sheets. Due to our underspend on the maintenance in this financial year, Clerk Mrs Drower asked Cllrs to consider they would like to ring fence any of the free reserves before the end of the financial year. Cllr Mr Phipps commented that he would like to ring fence £5k towards the local plan – to be voted on at next month’s meeting.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Mr Cooke Seconded Cllr Mr Coles</p> <p>Payments were agreed by all Cllrs.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>DD</p>
PC/0221/05	<p>Crime and Disorder (a) Crime Stats -Clerk Mrs Drower commented that the local crime stats for January (not Portbury specific) were 2 burglaries, 1 non-specific and 2 of violence. (b) Local crime – Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that there had been no reports of any local crime.</p>	WC/DD
PC/0221/06	<p>Planning Applications received: (a) 20/P/1982/OUT – Cole Acre – no update. (b) 20/P/2303/FUH, 20/P/2304/LBC - The Thatched Cottage, Sheepway– approved. (c) 20/P/2314/FUH, 20/P/2315/LBC, - The Thatched Cottage, Sheepway – withdrawn by applicant. (d) 20/P/3048/FUH – Bracken Barn, Sheepway – Two storey extension and double garage – no update. (e) 21/P/0035/LDE – Elm Tree Park – Certificate of lawful development – Cllr Mr Phipps commented that the new</p>	MAP

	<p>owners are investigating how much they can actually develop the site. Cllr Mr Phipps produced site plans showing the boundary of the planning certificate for the site, and the allowance for 50 properties per hectare. The developer appears to now be trying to bring in peripheral land into the permissible development site and doing this by using land along the entrance.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Phipps commented that he thought an appropriate comment would be that we don't see any change in the conclusion made by NSC in the last application.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Lanham commented that this particular application is for the entrance land, and several concerned residents have approached me. Cllr Mr Lanham further commented that some large 30 year old mature trees have already been cut down which were part of the original landscaping scheme.</p> <p>Mr Nigel Ashton NSC commented that the new application does not seem to sit anywhere near the original permissible development area. A previous application had already been turned down and it was not apparent what had changed from then. Mr Nigel Ashton commented that the residents have been advised to set up an Association which gives them a legal right to negotiate with the landlord/developer.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Cooke commented that the trees form a natural screening barrier from the docks.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Phipps will respond to NSC commenting that nothing has changed since the last application.</p>	
<p>PC/0221/07</p>	<p>Maintenance (a)Lengthsman – Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that Kevin has confirmed that he has not been advised to shield during this lockdown. Clerk Mrs Drower commented that this confirmation has been received in writing. Clerk Mrs Drower has also advised Kevin that Cllrs will be reluctant to sign off his monthly invoice if the playground inspection reports for the month are not submitted.</p>	<p>WC/DD</p>
<p>PC/0221/08</p>	<p>Council Administration/Correspondence (a)Docks directional sign - Jct 19 – Cllr Mr Cooke commented that he has had some difficulty getting to speak to anyone and is not much further forward. Cllr Mr Cooke will keep trying. (b)Children's play equipment update – Clerk Mrs Drower commented that Newcombe Estates have agreed to renew our lease at for an initial two year term, but then want a rolling term after that for 6 months. Cllr Mr Phipps will contact Newcombe to discuss this with them to see if we can discuss the 6 month rolling term as this could</p>	<p>PC/MAP</p> <p>DD/MAP</p>

cause future problems if the play equipment be re-sited due to development.
Cllr Mr Phipps proposed to accept the new lease terms at two years plus a six month rolling notice if we cannot negotiate anything better.

Proposed Cllr Mr Phipps Seconded Cllr Mr Cooke

All in favour

(c)Nature reserve – PPC to join Portishead TC to manage and contribute to maintenance – Cllr Mr Phipps commented that he was contacted by PTC (email circulated to Cllrs), NSC are taking ownership of the nature reserve, and there is enough money in the kitty to maintain this for two years. Going forward NSC wish to avoid the budget commitment to continue the maintenance of the reserve estimated at between £20000 and £40000 per annum. PTC have expressed an interest in taking over the running of the reserve, but have not yet approved a contribution to the maintenance and since the reserve is in Portbury Parish we have been asked if we would be prepared to contribute towards the annual maintenance, which is estimated at between £800 and £1600 per annum, assuming PTC can reduce the annual maintenance costs by using volunteers. Nigel Ashton commented that that volunteers are already helping to keep the maintenance costs down which are around £25000 per annum currently, and PTC have not yet assumed control of the reserve. The freehold will be retained by NSC. The contribution from local precept is also under review as the nature reserve is enjoyed by people from everywhere, and therefore contribution should come from general rates. Nigel Ashton also commented that it would be a good idea for Portbury to have a representative at board meetings. Cllr Mr Phipps commented that he thought it should be supported from general rates. Cllr Mr Phipps also agreed that Portbury should have a representative at decision making meetings.

Cllr Mrs Cowlard will respond in writing.

(d)Layby – litter picking. Cllr Mrs Cowlard that the layby should be litter picked by Glendale three times a week. The rubble is still in the hedgerow, and this has been added to by a pile of tyres. There is also a dumped car in the layby. Clerk Mrs Drower commented that she will report it. Clerk Mrs Drower also commented that she had been in touch with John Carson NSC to follow up as to why Glendale are not litter picking the layby 3 times a week.

Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that there are a group of residents who are volunteering and litter picking now.

(e)Local plan update - Cllr Mr Phipps commented that he had already circulated a draft format for our local plan

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	<p>previous to the meeting, and asked Cllrs to read it and give as much feedback on their thoughts as possible.</p> <p>(f)Road warning signs for horse riders – Cllr Mr Phipps commented that after consultation with local horse riders they had come up with the suggestion that a warning sign at each entry point to the village. PPC will now approach NSC – Cllr Mr Cooke offered to speak to David Bailey NSC.</p> <p>(g)Gulley maintenance – cost – Cllr Mr Phipps commented that as we are aware the maintenance of gullies have changed by NSC to emergency only, with Mill Lane and Priory Road now in a very poor state. Cllr Mr Phipps has put in around 7 requests for gulley emptying. NSC have responded and are planning a road closure in about 6 weeks which will include some roadworks. Cllr Mr Phipps has investigated the cost of hiring in a contractor direct to us as discussed at the last meeting, and for a day’s hire would cost around £2000 plus a waste disposal charge. This is obviously not relevant currently as NSC are now going to clear the drains at the beginning of March.</p> <p>To avoid getting to a critical situation before NSC will get involved in the future, Cllr Phipps asked Cllrs if they would consider an interim jet wash to relieve the pressure on the drains maybe once a year. This cost would be approximately half to full day as we wouldn’t need to clear so many.</p> <p>Clerk Mrs Drower commented as to whether or not our insurance would cover us for drain clearance. Cllr Mrs Cowlard expressed concern too.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Coles expressed concern that we would be setting a precedent for paying for drain clearance which is already covered in our rates.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Cooke also expressed a concern over passing any of the cost onto the precept.</p> <p>Cllr Mr Phipps proposed the motion to employ the services of a contractor in the future to clear drains, however there was no seconder.</p> <p>(h)Entrance to playground and path, latch on field gate – Cllr Mrs Cowlard commented that the entrance gate into the field is classed as a finger trap gate, and wondered if it might be a good idea to remove it. Cllr Mr Phipps commented that as the gate was not on our land we would need to discuss with the landlord, or the tenant. Cllr Mrs Cowlard will talk to Chris the tenant. Cllr Mr Cooke commented that he thought PPC may have originally installed the gate. Clerk Mrs Drower will check if this is the case.</p>	<p>MAP/PC</p> <p>MAP</p> <p>WC/DD</p>
<p>PC/0221/09</p>	<p>Sheepway issues – no issues</p>	
<p>PC/0221/10</p>	<p>Allotments update – no issues</p>	

Meeting finished at 9.30 p.m.
Portbury Parish Council Adcroft House, 15 Roath Road, Portishead, BS20 6AW