# Minutes of the Meeting of Plumtree Parish Council held on Monday 22 November 2021, in the Burnside Memorial Hall, at 7.00pm.

Couns. Mike Bylina (chairman),

Adrian Kerrison, Jonnie Richards, Andrew Burnett,

Penny Perkins, Mike Clark, Richard Fielding

Also present Clerk Mike Elliott, Coun. John Cottee and one resident.

1. Apologies for Absence

There were none.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

1. Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 September 2021

Accepted as presented, approved and signed by the chairman.

1. Report from the Borough and County Councillors

Coun. Cottee said he was awaiting information from Nottingham County Council and the police on the matter of the traffic situation, and the recent fatal accident, and would pass on to the clerk as soon as he could.

He advised the meeting that the Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) operated by the County Council to make grants available was now named the Local Community Fund (LIC). It could make grants up to a total of £20,000 match funded by a parish.

Coun. Cottee said he had community funds he could hand out to help with small amounts, saying he was allocated £5000 by the County which he used to help the 10 parishes in his constituency.

He suggested if the council were to proceed with a scheme for new village name signs he could perhaps help with a grant. The matter was to be an agenda item for the next meeting.

1. Open Session for members of the public

No questions were raised.

1. Clerk’s Report

There was no movement by the government to look again at their refusal to stop council meetings being held on Zoom.

The borough council had extended their free trees scheme initially limited to members of the public to parish councils.

1. Correspondence

Village resident John Rowlatt asked in a letter to the parish council if they had funded the £15,000 scheme of highways works to pave the verge from the village to the cricket ground and was told they did not. Parish chairman Coun. Mike Bylina said the work had been funded by Nottingham County Council as part of their flood improvement scheme and to allow safer pedestrian access to the cricket ground. He confirmed the council have been keen to encourage alternative parking arrangements for both parents and teachers attending the private school at the head of the road leading to the ground. But the school had so far been reluctant to fully engage with the council on the matter.

A series of emails had passed between Mr Rowlatt, the council chairman and PCSO Tony Davies and after further discussion the clerk was asked to write to the school headmaster Paul [Phil] Simpson to ask for a meeting between those involved.

A request from Plumtree parish church asking for funding towards provision of new LED lights in the church grounds was discussed. The clerk said NALC had spoken out on the question of funding churches and have taken the position that legal principle states specific legislation overrides general legislation. They pointed out that there is specific legislation from 1894 preventing parish councils from giving to churches. The general legislation that has come since then reads as if it would permit such funding cannot be used because the specific legislation takes precedence. They therefore advise that councils have no power to give funds to the church and until someone takes this to court their advice will not change. The clerk was asked to convey the information to the church.

Severn Trent water had confirmed they would make a £25 payment to the council in recognition they had failed to respond within a stipulated 10 day period into a complaint from the council concerning the unreliability of water supplies in the village.

NALC had repeated an earlier effort asking parish councils to look at the need to get young people to be councillors. Coun. Fielding said he would investigate the matter,

Nottinghamshire Neighbourhood Watch and the Police were to stage a ‘leave a light on’ campaign aimed at indicating there were occupants in the property.

Members had been given copies of a paper entitled ‘Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Case for Devolution’ prepared and backed by all nine authorities in the county. Members were asked to study the information provided which aimed to reduce some costs of local government by linking services that are provided.

1. Finance

Accounts for Payment were approved as circulated.

Members would be sent proposals for the budget for 2022-23 as a decision on the precept was required in January.

1. Broadband upgrade update

Councillor Clark updated the meeting about the latest situation with regards to the FTTP Broadband Scheme. This morning Open Reach had reported to him that good progress is being made and residents will have seen much activity in Plumtree and surrounding areas recently.

The underground ducting has now been checked for blockages caused by wear and tear or blocked over time with mud and silt. Now the underground path is clear they can begin to install the cable and blow through the fibre optics. It is hoped to complete all this work in the early new year. Testing and commissioning will then take place.

1. Church Hill parking

The matter of parking had been dealt with under correspondence but was further discussed with members being advised the police were considering issuing notices for instances of poor parking in an attempt to remedy the cause of complaints.

The matter of parking by both parents and staff for the village school was raised and concerns expressed about congestion brought about by inconsiderate parking. The clerk was to write to the headmaster, Mr Philip Simpson, on behalf of both the council and the Councillor Kerrison on behalf of the cricket club to ask for a meeting as soon as convenient to discuss this issue.

1. Environment - Dog Control Public Space Protection Order, Plumtree Church Yard

Rushcliffe Borough Council had issued details of a proposed Dog Control Public Space Protection Order to deal with control of dogs in public spaces and dog fouling instances. There was support for the basic idea of the proposals but not in respect of the possibility of a ban on dogs in the village cemetery, it being pointed out that the pathway through that area was the only one for a safe passage for pedestrians needing to reach the area on the East side of the village because there was no footpath on the highway if they had to travel on it round the church corner.

1. Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, Case for Devolution

The matter had been dealt with under correspondence.

1. HM The Queen – Platinum Jubilee June 2, 3, 4 and 5 2022

Coun. Perkins presented a report on the Working party looking at ways for the village to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Queen’s reign next June, and for a link to be established with the neighbouring village of Normanton on the Wolds for at least one joint event.

A dance was proposed for the Burnside Hall. Coun. Clark told the meeting that the maximum to be allowed to attend would be 80. He said there would also be a space difficulty if a six-piece band was needed to play from the stage. A further meeting of those involved in the arrangements would be held in January.

The pending retirement of the Revd Trevor Kirkman from the parish church was remarked on. His input into the life of the church had been tremendous and his popularity with everyone involved at St Mary’s was immense.

1. Planning

Rushcliffe Borough Council planning decisions

21/02062/FUL. Greg Ber, 3 Bradleys Yard, 5m deep rear single storey extension and 2 storey side extension over existing garage footprint. Grant,

1. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as **Monday 24 January 2022**

The question of standing orders would be dealt with.