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Cold Ashby Parish Council

A meeting was held on Wednesday 4th August 2021 at 7.30 p.m. Sports Pavilion,
Cold Ashby

Minutes

Present: Councillors Bailey (chair), Harpham, Peel, Taylor, Williams Rd, Williams RI; the Clerk; Cllr J Harris. Two residents KS, RH.

Interests: none

1. **Apologies:** Councillor Roper – annual leave: apologies accepted
2. **Minutes: approved as accurate:** a) minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 2nd June 2021; b) minutes of the extra meeting on June 16th; c) minutes of the extra meeting on July 1st.
3. **Matters arising:** the chairman had circulated a note from the applicant of the planning application re the minutes of the above July meeting. Members agreed unanimously that the minutes were an accurate reflection of the points made by those present at the meeting.
4. **Open forum:** the chairman welcomed Councillor Harris to the meeting. Councillor Harris is one of the three representatives on the West Northants Council. The other two had sent apologies and were attending a planning meeting. The two residents raised an issue about inconsiderate parking across the exit to their driveway between the bus shelter and the Church Lane houses. The clerk undertook to consult the Highways Liaison team to establish the best way forward, including white line signage if possible. **(Action)**. As a second issue the residents raised the possibility of a dog bin to be situated at the exit of the Jurassic Way path at Honey Hill. The clerk undertook to include this on the September agenda. **(Action)**
5. **Accounts:** Members **approved** the attached accounts for July and August and **authorized** the payments contained in them. The balance reported at the meeting was **£17,737.62** (£10,455.40 current and £7,282.22 investment). The clerk explained a new method of paying for the Adobe account which would lead to a £125.02 refund and monthly payments recorded from September. The clerk also explained the significance of the 'via' payments as a necessary expedient in an online world. It was accepted that there were adequate and appropriate checks in place to ensure confidence in the system. The internal auditor was aware of the arrangements and the safeguards.
6. **Village Hall:** the council considered a strategy document to be used only in the not improbable event that the VH committee were unable to replace the current resigning officers and **It was resolved: that the strategy outlined in the document attached as an annex has the support of the Parish Council which hereby gives its permission to circulate the explanatory leaflet should the VH committee be unable to find new volunteers for the roles of Chairman, secretary and treasurer in the coming weeks.**
7. **Insurance: Year two of three-year cover.** Capfa representatives were asked to confirm any changes to cover needed as soon as possible and to report that the PC intended to continue the same charging arrangements agreed in 2020-21. **(Action)**
8. **Queen's Jubilee June 2022.** The chairman received his support for the active involvement of the PC in developing the arrangements for celebrations next June, to be held on the playing fields. The chairman's suggestion for a time capsule was received with great interest.

9. **Environment:** a regular agenda item dealing with matters relating to improving the village environment.

- a. village hall bench: repair to be investigated before purchase of a new bench **(action)**.
- b. Litter pick feedback. Following successful pick, the council would follow with interest the transfer of responsibility to a team of residents.

10. **Verbal reports:** the chairman reported the outcome of the meeting with WNC's new highway community liaison team. The meeting was largely introductory in nature and covered a wide range of topics without significant conclusion. There was disappointment over the decision not to support 20 mph signs in Church Lane and the clerk was asked to reinforce the importance of inclusion in the 20mph trial for the whole village **(action)**. **Councillor Harris** reported on the possibility of presenting petitions to the new council and this was received with interest. **(action?)** The liaison team were also asked to check whether Cold Ashby was a route protected for emergency vehicles, which would prevent some traffic calming measures. **(Action)**

11. **Post:** the council did not wish the clerk to pursue alternative energy suppliers following EON's decision to increase electricity consumption charges by 15% (probably £75 p.a. for CA).



Graham Jones 6th August 2021