

RATCLIFFE ON THE WREAKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Thursday 17th September 2020 at 7.30 PM via Zoom

Present:

Cllr Tom Chaplin, Cllr Pauline Lewis & Cllr Ken Wood & Cllr James Poland and the clerk.

The clerk reported that due to COVID-19 the parish council were meeting virtually using Zoom.

442/2020 – Resolution to receive apologies for absence

- Cllr Emily Le Gros

443/2020 – Resolution to receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda

- Cllr Chaplin and Cllr Lewis on item 452 as residents of Church Lane

444/2020 – County/Borough Councillor & Police reports.

- N/A

445/2020 - Public Questions

- The clerk reported that no police had been received but that she had made them aware of the zoom meeting.
- Cllr Poland reported that small businesses are getting a helping hand to bounce back, thanks to a new fund – with over £100,000 already awarded. Leicestershire County Council's launched the £750,000 pot this summer and so far has given grants of up to £10,000 to 16 companies to help them recover from the effects of the coronavirus pandemic.

Businesses from across Leicestershire in sectors covering agriculture, tourism, hospitality, creative and retail have benefitted from the match funding grant, so far. Small businesses are still being urged to apply for their share of the £750,000 Leicestershire Business Recovery Fund - to find out more and apply visit <http://www.oakleaves.org.uk/leicestershire-business-recovery-fund.html>

Applications can be made for grants between £2,000 and £10,000, to ensure business recovery, through projects to help the business diversify, improve skills, or new technology or equipment. All small businesses from every sector are encouraged to apply including those from the tourism, retail, agriculture, and creative sector. Businesses who apply will initially talk through their business plans with an advisor who will be able to assist with their application. There is currently no deadline for applications, but businesses should apply as soon as possible as funding will be allocated at a first come first served basis.

- Cllr Poland reported that secondary school place applications for next year now open and that parents and carers with children due to start secondary school in Leicestershire in September 2021 can now apply for school places. The application process is now open, with parents required to apply for their preferred schools by Saturday, 31 October 2020. Last year over 95 per cent of Leicestershire's children secured a place at a preferred school, so we'd like to remind parents to maximise their opportunities by applying for three schools, including their catchment school. There is no automatic entry for any school, so it is very important for applications to be submitted before the closing date of 31 October.
- Cllr Poland reported that grants available for Charnwood homes and businesses affected by storms in February. Residents of Charnwood who were victims of flooding after Storms Ciara and Dennis in February 2020 may be eligible for a grant. The Property Flood Resilience (PFR) Recovery Support Scheme Grant 2020 is funded by the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and administered by Charnwood Borough Council to residents on their behalf.

The recovery grant can cover works up to the value of £5,000 (inclusive of VAT) with the aim of helping home or business owners to make their properties resilient to future floods as a part of the repair process. The Council is aware of approximately 40 properties (across the Borough) that were affected and are contacting the owners directly, but any property owners who could benefit from the support are encouraged to check the eligibility criteria and apply. Claims will be

dealt with promptly, and all eligible funding is expected to be claimed within the current financial year (March 31, 2021). The final date for applications is December 31, 2020. In exceptional cases, extensions to these deadlines may be granted.

Visit www.charnwood.gov.uk/flooding_grant for full details and to apply. If you require more information, contact the Council at FloodResilienceGrant@charnwood.gov.uk.

446/2020 – Resolution to approve and sign minutes of the Parish Council meeting of the 16th July 2020

The minutes of the meetings were circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting for them to be reviewed. The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting and signed and will be uploaded onto the website.

447/2020 - Resolution to approve payment of outstanding accounts

The clerk reported that the first instalment of the precept had been received. The clerk represented the following payments for approval. Cllr Lewis proposed the approval of all payments and this was seconded by Cllr Wood.

• Charnwood Borough Council, Church Lane rent	£350.00
• BHIB, annual insurance	£284.54
• Creek Environmental, garage removal	£780.00
• Helen Chadwick, clerks salary	£150.00
Total outgoing cheques:	£1,564.54

448/2020 – To discuss planning applications

The Chair asked whether there was an update from the planning department on the work being done at Ratcliffe Hall, the clerk agreed to contact the planning department and ask for an update.

449/2020 – To discuss planting of memorial trees and agree action

Councillors discussed the proposal to plant a memorial tree for councillors that have passed away, including Mr Wells and Mr Preston. Cllr Wood proposed that we allocate up to £150 for two trees, this was seconded by Cllr Lewis. The Chair agreed to source the trees and arrange for them to be planted.

450/2020 – To discuss installation of defibrillator and agree actions

The clerk reported that it would be possible to source a defibrillator in the region of £2,000 and that we would need written permission from the Village Hall Committee if we are going to install it at the village hall. We also need to take into account ongoing maintenance and ensure that this is budgeted for each year. Cllr Chaplin proposed that we proceed with the purchase and installation of the defibrillator, this was seconded by Cllr Wood and all councillors were in agreement. Cllr Chaplin confirmed that he would source the necessary permissions from the Village Hall Committee and the clerk would order the equipment.

451/2020 – To discuss the Neighbourhood Plan and agree actions

The Chair reported that a plan was produced in 2008/2009 and suggested that we discuss this at a future meeting and agree whether we wish to update it.

452/2020 – Update on Church Lane

The Chair reported that the garage has now been removed and he has cleared away some slabs to make the area wider. Fence panels have been put up to mark out the areas and some samplings have been planted. It was suggested that we should look to plant an additional 15 saplings along the hedge side and behind the fence.

453/2020 – To receive an update on progress made with the speed camera

The clerk reported that the first speed camera was due to be installed during the week. It was noted that we still need to know how to access the data and the clerk will look into this.

454/2020 – To receive an update on a rubbish bin in the village and agree actions

The clerk reported that she had spoken with Cllr Poland at Charnwood Borough Council regarding a bin in the village and had been advised that the only possible locations are by the Church or the village hall. Councillors agreed that if a bin was going to be installed it would need to be located in the middle of the village.

455/2020 – Parish Councillor Updates

- Cllr Wood reported that the lights on the Church spire did not work last year and it would be nice to have them on this winter. Cllr Chaplin agreed to speak with someone at the Church about this.
- Cllr Chaplin reported that there had not been much feedback regarding the street lights so it was agreed not to proceed at this time with the installation of additional street lights.

456/2020 – Date of next meeting

The clerk confirmed that the next parish council meeting will take place on Thursday 3rd December at 7.30 PM via Zoom.

The Chair closed the meeting at 20:40

Signed:

Date: