

## WALL PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of Wall Parish Council held remotely by Zoom at 7:30 pm on Tuesday 16 March 2021

**Present:** Cllrs M J Crowe (Chairman), R Barker, F Robertson, C Rubisch, A Ryman, P Sampson and R Saxton.

**In Attendance:** District Cllrs A Little and J Silvester-Hall, and Peter Young (Clerk).

**Apologies:** None (all members present).

#### **137. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

Cllrs R Barker, C Rubisch and A Ryman applied for and were granted a dispensation to run until the annual meeting of Council in May 2023 permitting them to speak and vote on matters relating to St John the Baptist, Wall, in which they had a disclosable interest under Part B of the Council's Code of Conduct.

Cllr R Barker declared an interest under Part A of the Council's Code of Conduct with respect to planning application 21/00299/FUH, the Bungalow, Grange Farm, Ashcroft Lane, which was a neighbouring property to his. He left the meeting at this point and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

#### **138. Minutes**

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 19 January 2021 were approved and it was agreed that these be signed as a correct record.

#### **139. Matters Arising on the Minutes:**

130d **Action:** Cllrs F Robertson and P Sampson to prepare a draft of a Newsletter for consideration at the next meeting, with estimates of printing and circulation costs.

133a The Clerk reported that a letter of thanks had been received from the Treasurer of St Johns PCC for the Council's grant towards churchyard maintenance costs in 2020.

**140. Policing Matters:** No items raised. **Action:** Clerk to contact Police for information on their current attendance policy for parish council meetings.

#### **141. Reports from District and County Councillors**

County Cllr David Smith had submitted apologies.

District Councillor Janice Silvester-Hall reported that the District Council was undertaking a consultation on a parking strategy for Lichfield City. A new Council-run lottery had commenced and charities could apply for grants from the lottery proceeds.

District Councillor A Little reported that a consultation was commencing on a revised Local Plan for the District and encouraged people to get involved. The District Council was seeking to make its Scrutiny Committee role more effective with committees reducing from four to one. The process of appointing a new Chief Executive was underway.

#### **142. Lagoon Bullmoor Lane**

The Clerk read a response from the Environment Agency to questions regarding the slurry lagoon off Bullmoor Lane. This had suggested that some matters be referred to the District Council. **Action:** Clerk to contact the District Council on these matters.

#### **143. Application 19/01736/FULM for Barn Farm, Hilton Lagoon Bullmoor Lane**

The Clerk reported that an amended drawing had been submitted regarding access and drainage. The drainage proposals were an improvement on what had previously been submitted. The plans also showed the existing access being retained in addition to the new access proposed.

**Resolved: That the Council submit objections to the retention of the existing access.**

*District Councillors A little and J Silvester-Hall were thanked for their reports and attendance and left the meeting at this point.*

#### 144. Reports from Chairman, Councillors and Clerk

Phonebox electricity supply. The supply contract would end 31 March. A revised contract price was awaited, but the current costs were £292 per annum, of which £55 was the electricity cost and the remainder the Npower “administration” charge. A complaint regarding the high administration charge had been submitted to the Ombudsman and the outcome was expected by 31 March. A solar powered light in the kiosk would probably be all that was needed, but the existing unmetered supply could only ended by it being disconnected by the Western Power Distribution for which the estimated cost was £1,300. **Action:** Clerk to obtain detailed costings and the various options would then be considered further.

#### 145. Highways and Open Spaces

- a. Speed sign. There appeared to be a problem with the battery charger as the batteries were not holding their charge. It was suggested that the rotation of the sign could be extended to 2 months at each site. There were difficulties erecting/dismantling the sign at the Manor Farm location because the post was mounted on a bank. **Action:** Cllrs P Sampson and A Ryman to liaise regarding whether Cllr Ryman could arrange to erect the sign when placed at this location.
- b. Highway Verge Grass Cutting. The contract has been renewed with SJL Landscapes with an extra cut per annum.
- c. Car park leaf clearance and some grass cutting had been successfully undertaken by a self-employed handyman and it was felt the car park hedge-cutting could be undertaken by him in the autumn, along with other jobs that may arise.
- d. Stiles and Public Footpaths. Cllrs F Robertson and P Sampson had assessed the condition of existing stiles and would investigate options for repair or replacement.

#### 146. Planning Applications

##### a. New applications:

##### **21/00299/FUH The Bungalow, Grange Farm, Ashcroft Lane**

Single and two storey extensions and alterations to form kitchen, lounge, utility, dining room and bedrooms includes changes from flat roof to pitch (amendment of application 20/00661/FUH).

**Resolved: No objections.**

##### b. Previous applications: Decisions on previous applications were noted as follows:

Reference	Details	Wall PC Comment	LDC Decision
19/01736/FULM Barn Farm, Hilton	Erection of agricultural building for cold storage with lean-to.	Recommend Refusal	Awaited
20/00055/COU 20/00056/LBC Land adj. Moatbank House, Moat Bank	Barn conversion to form a 3-bedroom dwelling and erection of a detached double garage	No objections.	Awaited
20/00480/FUH Church Farm, Green Lane, Wall	Single and 2-storey extensions and conversion of outbuilding	No objections subject to various comments regarding its location in the conservation area and proximity to the Scheduled Monument	Awaited
20/01265/FULM Springhill Farm, Walsall Road, Muckley Corner <i>NB Not in Wall Parish but would impact on the parish</i>	Variation of conditions to approved plans 09/00069/FULM relating to site layout including access and reception building	Recommend Refusal: original approval required a roundabout access, and this should be retained for highway safety grounds. Revised reception building is higher than previously and would therefore represent an unacceptable non-conforming development in the green belt.	Awaited
20/01796/FUH Allandale, Walsall Road, Muckley Corner,	Erection of granny annexe	No objections, subject to condition that the annexe can only be used in connection with the main property.	Awaited
21/00071/FUL Chesterfield Grange, Ashcroft Lane, Wall	Erection of a 3-bedroom detached dwelling and associated works including new access	Recommend refusal: Non-conforming development in the green belt and would generate increased traffic with dangerous access onto a narrow section of Ashcroft Lane	Awaited

#### 147. Grant Requests

Members considered a request from St John's PCC for a contribution towards the cost of rebuilding a retaining wall alongside the steps into the lower churchyard, the cost of which had been £5,220. At the previous meeting the Council had agreed to ask the PCC to obtain additional quotations for the work, but the work had begun the day after the meeting before this request had been communicated to the PCC.

**Resolved: that the Council make a grant of £1,000 to St John the Baptist PCC as a contribution towards the cost of the repair to the retaining wall. That the PCC be informed that if they wished to seek grants from the Council for any future works they should first liaise with the Council before placing orders for the works to proceed.**

#### 148. Bank Mandate

It was **Resolved:**

**1. That the mandate for online banking be amended so that any two councillors authorised for online banking, plus the Clerk may make payments from the Council's online account.**

**2. That the 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence of Council Financial Regulation 6.15 [internet banking] be amended to: "The bank mandate approved by the council shall identify the councillors who will be authorised to approve transactions on those accounts, of which any two plus the Clerk will be authorised to approve online transactions on those accounts."**

#### 149. Accounts for Payment

The bank reconciliation at 16 March 2021 with a balance of £22,206.73 was noted.

**Resolved: Payment of the following:**

Payee	Details	TOTAL
SPCA	Membership (1 year from 1/4/21)	153.00
P. Young TOTAL £492.44	Net Salary Feb/Mar + expenses + home allowance	463.66
	Zoom Feb/Mar	28.78
HMRC	PAYE on salary	99.80
G E Collis & Sons	Repair Muckley Corner bus shelter	750.00
St John's Wall PCC	Grant contribution for churchyard wall repair	1,000.00

#### 150. Calendar of meetings 2021-22

It was agreed that the meeting dates 2021-22 be as follows [3rd Tuesday of every second month]:

~~Tue 18 May 2021, 7:30 pm (Annual Council Meeting) \*\*~~

Tuesday 20 July 2021, 7:30 pm

Tuesday 21 September 2021, 7:30 pm

Tuesday 16 November 2021, 7:30 pm

Tuesday 18 January 2022, 7:30 pm

Tuesday 15 March 2022, 7:30 pm

Tuesday 17 May 2022, 7:00 pm (Annual Parish Meeting)

Tuesday 17 May 2022, 7:30 pm (Annual Council Meeting)

Meetings to be held at Wall Village Hall but may be held remotely if deemed necessary by 'lockdown' legislation.

**\*\* NB** Due to the remote meetings legislation ending on 7 May 2021, the date of this meeting has been changed to **Tuesday 4 May 2021, 7:30 pm Annual Meeting (by Zoom)**

**There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8:41 pm**

Chairman: .....

Date: .....