



BUCKMINSTER PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 24th November 2020

Present:

Councillor Liz Exton Chairman
Councillor Jill Arnold
Councillor Kate Bygott
Councillor Graham Exton
Councillor Daniel Bird
County Councillor Byron Rhodes
Borough Councillor Malise Graham

MINUTES

45/20-21 **Apologies for absence** – Councillor Hiam and Police Constable Roscoe had apologised for being absent

46/20-21 **Approve the minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2020 -**
The minutes were approved without amendment

47/20-21 **To receive declarations of interest both personal and prejudicial on matters arising on the agenda** – No declarations were made

48/20-21 **Public Participation** – Members of the public were not present

49/20-21 **To receive reports** –

County Councillor Rhodes

The Council had received a briefing from the Director of Public Health. Lockdown appeared to be working and the rate of Covid 19 infections were falling in Leicestershire to around the mid 300s. Leicester itself was about third in the rankings in the county. Delivery of free school meals was going ahead. There was cautious optimism that Leicestershire would come out of Tier 3 and might possibly be out of Tier 3 by Christmas.

Progress was being made on the southern bypass to Melton with positive news of the work between the developer and the County Council. The intention was to resolve outstanding issues within the next 3 weeks.

Borough Councillor Graham

The Borough Council was also managing to maintain services and was being reactive to Covid issues.

In discussion on the planned Tier arrangements county councillor Rhodes confirmed that they would be county based. However, there was a lack of clarity on the guidance for some aspects, such as shopping between tiers and some concern was expressed on how the application of post codes to tier arrangements might be applied.

Councillor Graham added that he would be continuing as Mayor, possibly until May 2021.

Police Constable Roscoe

A police report had not been submitted nor had there been any further advice on what actions were being considered to reduce speeding through Buckminster and Sewstern.

The chairman reported that one of her outbuildings had been burgled.

Borough Councillor Graham asked whether issues with 4x4 joy riders had continued in local bye ways. The Chair confirmed that this was a continuing issue. Lanes were being damaged; the 4x4s were becoming stuck and drivers were utilising hedgerows to winch their vehicles free resulting in the hedgerows being severely damaged. Motor bikes were also present. Access lanes used by farmers were being damaged and were becoming inaccessible. The police had been asked to assist in controlling the issue. It was agreed that a further approach to the police should be made.

County Councillor Rhodes added that concerns had been raised over Hare coursing had been raised with him and he had been approached over the legality of this activity. Councillor Exton confirmed that it had restarted. County Councillor Rhodes had raised the matter with both the Chief Constable and his deputy. Borough Councillor Graham added that the police now had drones that could be used to monitor such activities.

Parish Clerk

Installation of Airfield Memorial Plaque

In response to the clerk's query on the costs for installation of the memorial plaque the Chairman advised that two verbal quotations had been obtained; they would be presented in writing for approval by the Council.

Highways Issues – Speeding

The outcome of the application for funding from the Communities fund to support the installation of active speed signs and the response from Highways to the request for installation were awaited. In the interim the Clerk had written to Greasley Electronics for information on the installation and the costs involved; Greasley Electronics apparently conducted work for the County Council. A response was awaited. Council members confirmed that speeding continued through Buckminster and on Timber Hill in Sewstern. The option to also put markings on the roads, similar to those used by Lincolnshire County Council, was suggested by Councillor Arnold as another approach to manage traffic speeds. The clerk would follow up this option with CSC parishes.

Website Accessibility Compliance

The Parish Council's web site provider had almost completed the assessment for the work to be completed on the website for it to meet the WCA 2.1 regulations. Information from the NALC on one aspect was awaited but a request for an estimate of the likely costs involved had been made in the event of a delayed response from the NALC. The clerk expected to receive the estimate within the next week.

Safety Mirror at the Sewstern Timber Hill crossroads

A report at an earlier meeting this year advised that a Sewstern resident considered that the safety mirror at the crossroads was not presenting a full reflection and consequently was hazardous because drivers' vision of vehicles or cyclists was partially obscured. Highways subsequently confirmed that responsibility for the mirror fell to the owner of the land on which the mirror was installed. A second resident had now commented over the mirror's poor condition. In response to a question on ownership, it was confirmed that although the mirror was placed outside the boundary wall of the property, the land belonged to the property owner. However, after discussion it was agreed that the mirror provided sufficient visibility to satisfy its purpose and replacement was not required.

The Chairman

It was disappointing that action to address the excessive vehicle speeding through the Parish was not being addressed.

Councillor Arnold had attended a course on a course on rewilding and councils were being encouraged to support this activity; many had already done so. Councillor Arnold Councillor had identified the verge on Back Street as a suitable location for this to take place and would contact the County

Council to prevent grass cutting and the landowners concerning hedge cutting. More details would be provided at the next meeting.

50/20-21 **Traffic Speed Control Measures**

There was nothing further to be added on this topic.

51/20-21 **Bus Transport Changes**

The clerk had now received responses from all parish clerks with parishes on the route to Grantham and there appeared to be no concern over the plan to introduce on demand transport. County Councillor Rhodes advised that details were available using 'DRT' in the Council's website search engine. Currently transport was only provided within the County and would require a Cabinet decision to extend it into Lincolnshire to reach Grantham. Councillor Rhodes would investigate that aspect. It was confirmed that the proposal had been discussed with residents and they were happy to use the scheme when it became available if they could reach Grantham.

52/20-21 **Precept for 2020/21**

In the absence of costs for the Website revision it was agreed that a meeting on this topic would be deferred until December.

53/20-21 **Website accessibility measures**

Details had been provided in the Clerk's report.

54/20-21 **Planning Matters**

New planning matters: None

Planning applications refused: None

Planning applications withdrawn: None

55/20-21 **Invoices for Approval: None**

56/20-21 **To approve and sign the bank reconciliation for the current period**

Current Account: £10,002.11

Deposit Account: £1,157.41

Pending invoices: Nil

Total: £11,159.52

57/20-21 **Correspondence received: Nil**

58/20-21 **Next Meeting:** 23 February 2021

E Exton

Chair Date: