

MINUTES OF AWLISCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 10th August 2020

This was the first Parish Council meeting held virtually by Zoom.

- Present: Councillors R. Lawrence, W. Furnival, T. Harvey, N. Boulton, C. Wright, P. Gillingham, A. Summers

- 1. **Apologies for absence:** District Councillor D. Key.
- 2. **Items from County/District Councillors:** No reports given.
- 3. **Declarations of Interest:** There were none.
- 4. **To receive, confirm and sign minutes of the meeting held on Monday 17th February 2020.** The minutes were agreed to be correct and true. No signature was taken due to remote meeting.
- 5. **Matters arising from the last minutes:** There were none.
- 6. **To explain the new legislation regarding Clause 78 of the Coronavirus Act 2020:** The Clerk explained that since lockdown on 23rd March a new Clause has been brought by law regarding the use of virtual meetings to avoid the need for face-to-face meetings. This would allow councils to have more than 6 people to join particularly as all meetings should be available to the public. Since our last meeting in February there hasn't been a huge amount to discuss and therefore we have prolonged holding one of these meetings but one of the laws that wasn't changed was the 6 month rule for councillors to attend and therefore this meeting was called to avoid councillors having to be co-opted back onto the council. NALC (National Association of Local Clerks) have now said that this should be mandatory until at least May 2021 unless there is a very strong reason for not holding a virtual meeting. No AGMs or Annual Parish Meetings would be held this year and all officers would continue until next year.
- 7. **Planning:** A number of applications had been discussed through email over the summer. These are listed below.
20/1236/FUL & LBC Mr & Mrs N Thwaites, George Park, Awliscombe - Removal of render from boundary retaining wall to the front of the house and replacement of coping; replacement of the steps to the front; repairs and re-pointing of the boundary wall to the front; construction of garden wall and gate; replacement of stone paved terrace; construction of new garden steps and repairs to existing garden steps; associated landscaping including new bank terrace and stone walls –
20/0813/FUL – Mr & Mrs M. Beeken, 1, Church Hill - Construction of two storey rear and single storey side extensions; provision of cladding – **Permission granted**
20/0806/FUL – Mr & Mrs T Rosewell, New Park Farm - Agricultural machinery and general purpose store – **Permission granted**
20/0675/FUL – Mr & Mrs Russell, Hunthays Farm, Awliscombe - Construction of replacement sunroom – **Permission granted**
20/0601/FUL – S. Gigg, 5, Marles Close, Awliscombe - Erection of a timber garden shed and an aluminium and glass greenhouse. – **Permission granted.**
Update on the entrance at Titford Hold, Awliscombe. And Woodcroft Copse, Weston – Nothing has happened since a letter stating the Parish Councils' concerns over the entrance at Titford Hold. This was sent to the relevant department who is dealing with the appeal. During lockdown no site visits were carried out but I understand from the enforcement officer all planning issues in the village are being kept an eye on.
- 8. **Discuss way forward for the Awliscombe & Weston Times:** The Clerk had received correspondence from Timandra and Gel who have been successfully running The Times who have both decided to step down from this role since they have had change of circumstances since lockdown. The Clerk suggested that a post on social media should be done to advertise the job. The council agreed. The Clerk also suggested sending both Timandra and Gel something to say thank you for their hard work and time over the last few years. This was agreed and an amount of money to spend.
- 9. **Update on Gigaclear:** An email had been received from Richard Olive from Gigaclear saying that hopefully by the autumn the connection into the village for superfast broadband. Some

work is still to do in parts of the village to allow connection. It was suggested that we should ask Richard to attend the next meeting to discuss.

10. **Parishioner Questions:** No parishioners questions

11. **Highways:** Cllr Harvey reported that a socially distanced meeting with Phil Morgan from Highways and the Clerk was had back in June to discuss issues in the village. A map was produced between us to show priority issues with potholes, drainage and general maintenance. The major issue is the drainage at Tracey Ham, Greenway Lane and the road from Three Corners to Wolverstone Hill. Phil gave us the impression that hopefully this would be looked at fairly soon depending on conditions.

12. **To collect any funds and confirm cheques for this meeting.**

Balance as at 31/01/2020	£5873.65
Advertising (end of March)	£ 318.00
Precept – 1 st April	£2500.00
Advertising – May	£ 40.00
Total receipts:	£2858.00
Payments since February	
30/03/20 A. Dimond	£ 195.00
26/05/20 Vector 7 – Website	£ 78.00
26/05/20 DCC – Weston signs	£ 251.43
26/05/20 Community First – Insurance	£ 305.74
26/05/20 Church – Churchyard maint	£1000.00
20/07/20 D.A.L.C – Subscription	£ 121.97
Clerk’s Salary since February	£ 825.00
Total Payments	£2639.64
Balance as at 31/07/20	£6773.98

11. **Date of the next meeting:** Monday 21st September 2020

12. **Any other Business.** The Clerk asked the councillors how they felt the meeting had gone using the Zoom platform. Everyone was happy and agreed we should carry on with regular meetings. With this in mind Cllr Boulton suggested that the council should purchase a subscription to allow us to have unlimited time. The Clerk to sort this before the next meeting.

As there was no further business the meeting was declared closed.

Signed:..... Dated:.....