

CULMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mr Ian Steele

Heather Coonick, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, Hopton Gate Cottage, Haytons Bent, Ludlow, SY8 2BE – 07817607355 culmingtonpc@gmail.com www.culmington.org

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

On TUESDAY 5th January 2021, conducted remotely. The Meeting commenced at 7pm

Present: Cllr Steele (Chair), Cllr Pike, Cllr Alderson, Cllr Holland and Cllr Norton.

In Attendance: Cllr Motley (Shropshire Council) and Heather Coonick, (Clerk)

1.0 Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Mear, Seabrook and Turley.

2.0 Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting

Members are requested to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in matters to be considered at this meeting in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

3.0 Public involvement session: (Agenda Items only) No members of the public.

4.0 Minutes: RESOLVED (unanimous) that the Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Culmington Parish Council held on 3rd November 2020 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. PROPOSED Cllr Holland SECONDED Cllr Pike.

5.0 Matters Arising: Cllr Pike wanted to thank Mr Jubb for his many years of support to the community and to wish him well. The Clerk reported that a card had been sent on behalf of the Parish Council.

6.0 Reports from Members:

6.1 Cllr Motley (Shropshire Council): reported that she hoped that there will soon be some clarity on farming regarding Brexit. She had been informed that vaccinations were being rolled out across Shropshire although infection rates in this area are low compared to the rest of the West Midlands. Grants of up to £9000 for business affected by Covid are being made available. Cllr Motley has been informed that when canvassing for the planned elections in May only leaflet drops are allowed. The Financial Settlement for Local Government has been decided but the Rural Services Delivery Grant remains the same. The Rural Service Network have responded with dissatisfaction as this does not recognise the extra costs in running services in a rural area.

6.2. Cllr Steele (Flood Action Group): reported that Shropshire Council had not yet taken any action on the overflow pipe and Cllr Turley was very dissatisfied. It is not clear if the B4365 drains had been jetted. He would be attending a FAG meeting this week and would ask John Bellis for an update on these issues. He also reported that one of the leaky dams in Seifton Batch had been breached and that once the 'Slow the Flow' money ceases in March 2021 the responsibility for maintaining the dams will go over to the landowners. A bunt has been placed behind no's 1&2 Seifton Lane.

6.3. Cllr Mear (Village Hall): sent a report stating that the Village Hall remains closed and this will be reviewed after lockdown has lifted.

7.0 Correspondence: The census is planned for 21st March 2021.

8.0 Finance:

8.1 Accept Finance Report/Bank Reconciliation: The current account balance is £12, 217. 54. RESOLVED (unanimous) to Approve the Finance Report and the Bank Reconciliation. PROPOSED: Cllr Alderson SECONDED: Cllr Holland.

8.2 Make Payments: J Williams (Footpath Group) £69.96 and H Coonick (Clerk) Salary for Oct-Dec £814.32 (which includes any payment to Inland Revenue). RESOLVED (unanimous) PROPOSED: Cllr Alderson SECONDED: Cllr Holland.

8.3. Prepare Budget: The draft budget was considered and the need for a reserve was discussed and agreed to be necessary and it will hold the money set aside for the election. It decided to set a precept of £4664.00 for 2021-2022 which will be an increase of less than 4% upon last year. RESOLVED (unanimous) PROPOSED: Cllr Pike SECONDED: Cllr Norton

9.0 ‘We Don’t Buy Crime’ Smartwater Initiative: The Clerk reported that 65 kits had been requested by parishioners but another 20 more need to be registered before free posters will be installed by the Police and Crime Commissioners department. Almost every property has been leafleted at least once.

10.0 Lorries Parking on the Road: Councillors are very concerned about the road safety issues of lorries parking on the B4365. The Clerk was asked to write to the police requesting they look into the matter.

11.0 Speed Sign: A post for the Speed Sign needs to be erected by Kier on behalf of Shropshire Council. This was requested by Culmington Parish Council in October 2019 and has been followed up by requests to Shropshire Highways by Cllr Motley, Graham Oliver (Police and Crime Commissioners Community Ambassador) and by Philip Dunne (MP) with no success so far.

12.0 New Site for Parish Council Notice Board: Cllrs Pike and Steele reported that a larger replacement board had been found and will be positioned at the end of the garages near Fern Cottage in Culmington either in the verge or attached to the wall.

13.0 Decide Upon the Use of Internet Banking: The council considered the guidance from the Financial Regulations and decided to support the use of Internet Banking and asked the clerk to set this up. PROPOSED: Cllr Pike SECONDED: Cllr Holland

14.0 Review and Adopt Risk Assessment: The council considered the Risk Assessment and agreed to adopt it.

15.0 Review the Environmental Maintenance Grant: Options for 2021-2 were discussed and it was decided that a mixture of minor and major maintenance works would be appropriate, including the use of machinery to clear ditches. This would be considered further at the February meeting when the Clerk will present an application for the grant.

16.0 Items for the Next Meeting: Environmental Maintenance Grant.

17.0 Date of the Next Meeting: Tuesday 2nd February, 2021 at 7pm.

The meeting Closed at 8.10pm