

Draft

South Luffenham Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 6th January 2021 at 7.00pm, held remotely via Zoom

Present: Parish Councillors: Cllr. Vic Bacon (Chairman) (VB), Cllr. John Hall (JH), Cllr. Tracy Steward (TS), Cllr. Claudia Cockburn (CC), Cllr. Mike Lane (ML), Jan Bradley (JB)

County Cllr. Gale Waller (GW), County Cllr. Ken Bool (KB)

SL1/74/20 Open Forum

PC Pete Icke Report.

PC Icke talked through a crime report for the local area the last year, where they have seen crime drop in certain areas, burglaries, theft of motor vehicles and major core crime overall has dropped, with the majority of incidents relating to Covid breaches. The total number of burglaries for Rutland for the year was 40, with 9 for the South and only 2 of these were dwellings. There were 70 motor vehicle thefts for the year, with 19 being for the South which is a big reduction from 61 for the previous year. The local police are currently running 4 operations, Rural Vitality, Covid-19 breaches, Op Galileo and Op Black Form.

VB asked about speeding through the village as the speeding sign at the Morcot end of the village is not working and the number of incidents has increased.

PC Icke confirm that speeding is a priority for the police and every officer has now been trained with speeding cameras to enable more to be done. The police focus on two villages a month who are experiencing speeding issues, but this can be increased. 6 villages have signed up to the Committee Speed Watch, including South Luffenham which is an issue as those involved are mostly over 60 which is not ideal in the current climate. More speed cameras have been requested as there are not enough.

PC Icke asked if the chicanes have any impact?

VB confirmed they didn't and occasionally vehicles increase their speed as people race to get through them before the on-coming traffic.

PC Icke will request the Police to attend South Luffenham more and to also request the speeding van to attend the area more.

VB asked about Rutland TT and if anything was being done about it?

A project was conducted throughout the summer and will start again come spring as the police are aware it is a big issue. Will continue with the engagement with the bikers to slow them down.

VB asked about mud on the road and if it is the farmers responsibility to clean it up on side roads as well as main roads?

As far as PC Icke is aware it is the farmers responsibility to clean it up on any road.
PC Icke to check with Road Management and come back to us.

SL2/75/20 County Councillors Report

No reports were received due to the attendance at another meeting.

SL3/76/20 Apologies for Absence

Apologies have been received from Cllr. Susan Seed (SS).

SL4/77/20 Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 18th November 2020

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate account.

SL5/78/20 Matters Arising

(a) Dog fouling issue. VW contacted RCC who supplied signs and pink spray to be used on fouling. The signs have not yet been put up as they are sticky signs, and the weather needs to be drier.

(b) Using Names on Minutes. All Councillors agreed they are happy for names to be used on the minutes.

SL6/79/20 Standing Items

(a) Governance

No items for discussion.

(b) Finance

(i) Retrospective Approval of Payments

Date	Cheque Number	Payee	Item	Amount	Budget Head
13.11.20	101258	Wicksteed	Zipwire repair	£2770.80	Play Area Maintenance
13.11.20	101259	Viking	Printer Paper for the newsletter	£21.32	Stationary & Equipment
14.11.20	101260	Rutland County Council	Tree Report	£679.42	NEC
13.11.20	101261	Aquatic Solutions	Pond work	£8940	NEC
25.11.20	101262	V. Webster	Payroll and expenses	£797.93	Clerks salary
25.11.20	101265	Biffa	Grass Cutting	£746.40	Mowing
30.11.20	101266	TCV	Volunteers	£792	NEC

10.12.20	101267	LRALC	Virtual Climate Emergency Action Day	£22.00	Councillor Training
10.12.20	101268	TCV	Volunteers	£396	NEC
10.12.20	101269	V. Bacon	Zoom subscription	£14.39	Meetings

Monies Received

Date	Received From	Reason	Amount
30.10.20	Bellamy	Land Rent	£806.55
23.11.20	John Hickie	Grave Plot payment	£255.00
24.11.20	Grantscape	Grant for NEC	£7450.00

ML asked when the Bellamy land rent was last reviewed?
 VB confirmed it is reviewed yearly by Richardson's.
 This will continue to be kept under review by ML.

Internal Transfers

Date	From Account	To Account	Amount
13.11.20	Business	Community	£9000

(ii) Bank Reconciliation as of the 31st December 2020

Balance: Community Account £4650.36
 Business Saver £10,615.15

(iii) Budget head review (Paper B)

This was circulated to all members for information and reference.

(c) Planning Applications (Paper C)

New applications received since the last meeting.

Application No	Name	Address	Item
2020/1130/FUL	South Luffenham Golf Club		Demolition of existing timber working and replacement. Extension to vehicle workshop

Permission granted since the last meeting.

Application No	Name	Address	Item
2020/1137/CAT	Mrs Young-Thompson	Adam and Eve House	Remove Damson stems
2020/1140/CAT	NEC		Tree work
2020/1199/CAT	Brookes	19 The Street	Tree work
2020/1209/CAT	Mr Hodgkinson	2 The Square	Tree work

Permission pending

Application No	Name	Address	Item
2020/1233/CAT	Mrs P. Traylen	4 Angle Lane	Tree work
2019/0785/ADV	The Boot Inn	The Street	Signs
2019/0918/FUL	Forest Homes	Stable Yard, The Street	Barn conversions and house
2020/0783/CAT	Mr Wilson	The Orchard, The square	Tree work
2020/0890/CAT	Mr Rowlands	Pinfold Lane	Tree work

VB asked fellow Councillors to assist with the planning. Cllr Seed volunteered and JB was also invited to join in with the planning as a way to learn about the process.

(d) Highways

No update has been received about the speed sign which is still not working. A request has been submitted through Fix My Street for roads to be swept and drains to be cleaned just before Christmas.

TS asked if the light at the top of Hall Lane have been reported.

Action: VB to report this.

Cty. Cllr. Waller has reported the water down Back Lane via Fix My Street.

Cty. Cllr. Bool requested that emails in relation to drains be copied to himself and Cty. Cllr. Waller as they can support the village with this.

A complaint has been received from a villager about mud on the road. This was discussed above with PC Icke.

The village experiencing flooding down by the bridge at the bottom of Pinfold Lane, which has caused a little bit of the verge to be washed away.

Action: TS to report this via Fix My Street.

JB asked how the grit bins get filled as some are rather low.

VB confirmed the council visit each autumn to fill them, but we can request a top up which the Parish Council would have to pay for it.

(i) Grass cutting Highway verges

VB will shortly be putting a letter together to village residents asking if anyone wants to take on their own verges. VB hopes for it to be distributed via the Newsletter at the end of the month.

ML asked if those verges that are taken on by villagers will be removed from the grass cutting contract with Biffa?

VB confirmed they would be.

JB asked if someone takes on their own verge, do they have the option in the future to go back into the village cut?

VB confirmed they would have this option.

(e) Footpaths

The leaves on Pond Close and Church Lane is an issue.

The entrance to Station Fields is also an issue which has been reported to those responsible. It really needs a permanent solution

(f) Play Areas

Play areas are still open even with the new Covid restrictions.

Small issue with people still leaving the small gates to the park open.

(g) Natural Environment Committee

Carolyn Welsh has handed her resignation in as Chair.

VB has updated the Terms and Aims for the Committee and reviewed the suggested work/budget for 2021/22 which has been adjusted slightly.

VB and JH will continue to look after the NEC until a new Chair can be appointed in May.

(h) St. George's Barracks

Cty. Cllr. Waller gave an update. RCC aim is to have all the pertinent responses to regulation 19 on the RCC website, along with a summary soon.

Cty. Cllr. Waller asked RCC to identify how many responses will not be included as they have not been deemed as pertinent. RCC have agreed to this.

The February meeting will be looking at these responses, from the point of view to see if they could usefully feed into the consultation exercise as there is no point in asking people twice if something is obvious i.e., reoccurring issue.

Planning permission for the lorry park was turned down but the lorries have not yet been moved. Asked on behalf of Edith Western if a stop order could be used, and they responded to say they would talk to MoD and suggested we wait until the end of the week to take further action.

SL7/80/20 Precept 2020/21

This was circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.

The budget overall has increased, and the precept will be increased this year. A reasonable amount of funds has been allocated for setting up the new website. The NEC budget has decreased this year. The clerks Salary has increased due to PB not previously taking a full wage. Community Infrastructure has reduced. Grass cutting will not increase, despite taking this on ourselves.

All Councillors agreed to the proposed budget/precept.

SL8/81/20 Standing Orders

TS queried if these have been reviewed recently enough as there are some discrepancies with what they state and what is happening. We need to ensure these are reviewed and that the Parish Council are compliant with the Standing Orders. TS has been looking at other Parish Councils and ours aren't very explicit in comparison, others have more detail.

Cty. Cllr. Waller said Standing Orders should be thoroughly reviewed every 4 years after the election as very good practice.

Action: VB to review the Standing Orders by the next meeting.

SL9/82/20 Village Green Christmas Tree

A resident had donated £100 for a village green Christmas tree with a view of the carol singing becoming an annual event around the tree. All councillors agreed a village Christmas tree would be a nice idea, creating a focal point. There are issues that need to be discussed to ensure the longevity of this which should be discussed by the NEC who can then bring back suggestions to the Parish Council.

Action: To be forwarded to the NEC for further discussion.

SL10/83/20 New Email and Website

Emma Rose has volunteered her services to help the Parish Council with this. Emma has a computing background; she used to teach digital marketing and won an award for contributing and supporting entrepreneurs in business. She has been looking at website providers to find the best match for our requirements with the minimum cost and maximum function. The decision has been made to keep the current website address and not a gov.uk address. The easiest option would be to have own hosting package which several people can have access to. Emma is recommending One.com as the year one cost implications are relatively low amongst meeting our suitability requirements. Emma is happy to donate her time to transition the website from the old to the new and to continue to support the Parish Council with the website for the foreseeable. VB recommended that Emma and VW work together on this.

VB commented that whichever website is chosen the Parish Council must ensure it meets government regulations i.e., accessibility and that it is secure.

Emma confirmed that by using sites that offer templates, such as One.com accessibility is built in and is responsive to all who will use the site.

TS commented that it would be useful if the information that is already on the website could be reviewed prior to it being transferred over to the new site to ensure accuracy.

Action: VB and VW to review what is already on there and review before transferring over.

TS asked if the website would link in with email addresses?

There is a data protection issue using personal emails, data protection could be made more robust by getting official email addresses.

All councillors thanked Emma for her help already and the offer of future help.

SL11/84/20 Cemetery

Currently, due to Covid, VB has the plans for the burial plots and the markers. VB would like another councillor to go through this with him to ensure someone other than him know what happens. It is the Parish Councils responsibility to mark a grave out. TS volunteered to do this with VB.

SL12/85/20 Correspondence/Meetings

Both TS and SS have each attended a meeting which the minutes have already been distributed.

Forums coming up, 8th January Covid, Budget and Parish and the Committee. VB happy to attend this one. 8th February, Dying Matters and the Census 2021. Another Councillor to volunteer for this please.

The Health Consortium on the 12th January. TS volunteered to attend this meeting.

SL13/86/20 Any Other Business

Letter of thanks to go to Carolyn Welsh.

Action: VW to put together.

CC spoke about long term social activities within the village due to the number of people who are now working from home i.e., coffee van etc.

TS has ideas for long term permanent fixtures to provide the sense of community people want and need, including the coffee van. All of which will start once restrictions are lifted and is permitted.

TS was thanked for everything she does for the village.

SL14/87/20 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 3rd March 2021.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm.