

BRIGHTWALTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting Held via Video Conference on Monday 11th January 2021 at 8.00pm

Present

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| Shaun Orpen | Chairman | Clive Hooker | Downland Ward Councillor |
| Annie Agnew | Councillor | Laura Farris | MP for Newbury |
| Sue Sayers | Councillor | Sarah Youldon | Clerk |
| Tim Wyatt | Councillor | Apologies | |
| Mike Cooper | Councillor | Christine Delahunty | Councillor |

| | Action |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minutes: The minutes of the November PC and Millennium Green Trust meeting were agreed and signed as accurate records. ▪ Declaration of Interests: There were no declarations of interest. | Resolved |
| PCC & APSIRE Project Update | |
| <p>ASPIRE Update: It has been agreed that no fundraising can take place in the current climate. The project is currently £13,000 short from being able to commence the Phase 1 work. Clerk agreed to look at grant opportunities.</p> <p>PCC Update: It was agreed by all that the village Christmas Tree and Carol Service had been a great success and very welcome in the run up to Christmas with all the Covid restrictions. It was agreed that the tree should continue year after year. Clerk to double check money owing to neighbour for providing electricity.</p> | SY SY |
| Matters Arising | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Laura Farris, MP for Newbury: Laura joined the meeting from 8 until 8.30pm. Laura was pleased to report that the vaccination centre had gone live at Newbury Racecourse today, this has been a link up between 10 GPs in the area. 5,000 vaccinations are expected to arrive in the next 10 days and these will be distributed equally amongst the GPs taking part in the link up. It is expected for this to just be a starting point and going forward vaccinations will be able to take place more locally in surgeries and pharmacies. West Berkshire has been slightly slower than some, but both Wantage and Didcot were part of the trial scheme hence why they started earlier. All the local GP's were hesitant about making the programme work which is why the Racecourse centre has been a joint operation. The Oxford /AstraZeneca vaccination is on its way out to the care homes in the district. Questions were asked about how older patients were expected to travel to the Racecourse from the rural villages, it was expected that the WBC hub and surgeries would be sending more details on this over the coming days. Also questions regarding how the government scrutinises statistics, Laura confirmed that death rates were 24-72hours after the event which does cause the mid-week rises, but the 30,000 stated as currently in hospital was a true representation, with the situation on hospital capacity in London at a critical level. Laura agreed to write a small update for the Brickleton News. ▪ WBC Report: Councillors thanked Cllr. Hooker for the December report. It was noted that the opportunity to bid for some of the £500,000 CIL money had now passed and the PC expressed disappointment that this had not been publicised better in December, especially as it may have been useful for the ASPIRE project. Cllr Hooker to feedback. Cllr Hooker reiterated the concerns that many have had with the delays to the vaccination programme locally and the frustration WBC have had with this. It has been led directly by the Government and the GP's and it was reassuring to hear that the Downland practice were one of ten in the district working jointly to put this in place at the Racecourse. ▪ Diocese of Oxford lease for playing field: The new 20 year lease was agreed and a cheque for the additional June 2020-June 2021 of £71 plus VAT was signed. Clerk to formally sign and return lease to Diocese of Oxford solicitors. Clerk reported that the lease would need to be registered with the Land Registry at the cost of £70-£100. Clerk to organise. ▪ Review budget and agree precept for 2021/22: Despite some unexpected costs for the renewal of the playing field lease and the addition of the village Christmas tree, savings elsewhere had left spending in line with income at £7,340. Costs for 2021/22 were forecasted at £7,100, a small 3% | LF CH Resolved SY Resolved |

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| <p>increase in precept was agreed to keep spending in line with income taking the precept to £7,100, equating to a £40.36 contribution from D band house in the village (previous year £40.11).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Latest Covid-19 Lockdown: The Downland pharmacy are in the process of setting up deliveries through village volunteers for those identified as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable who have been told to self-isolate and are not able to ask family or friends to collect for them. Other patients have been asked to collect medication as they normally would. Further details to follow. Reminder posted on Facebook and website of contact details for help if required just before Christmas. ▪ Memorial to Sir Philip Wroughton: Councillors agreed that an avenue of trees down from Keepers Cottage junction to Woolley would be a fitting memorial. The family were in agreement and stated that Sir Philip had already discussed replacing the trees on this roadside before his passing. Cllr Cooper to discuss with the local farmers. Cllr Cooper & Cllr Orpen to walk the route and agreed spacing and number of trees required. Cllr Hooker informed that WBC had been offering some trees for planting previously – Clerk to investigate. Clerk to check location of Gigaclear cables on the verge and also double check required distance from roadside with Highways. A discussion was held on naming the road after Sir Philip as it was believed that this was currently unnamed, however it was reported that the road was already known locally as Brightwalton Hill, so therefore it would be inappropriate to lose the historic name. ▪ Cycling Proficiency: Following the conversation at the November meeting in reference to the School Cycling Proficiency, the PC concerns were raised with the school. The school stated that they had dealt with the matter directly following the parent’s complaint and believed that a satisfactory response had been received from the provider and copied to the parent. The Parish Councillors still felt strongly that the route was inappropriate but agreed it was a school matter and not for the PC to be involved further in. ▪ Playground Maintenance: Councillors thanked Simon Mirams and Dave Judge for replacing the broken gatepost. Conversations with WBC and the VH had not solved the bin emptying issue, Clerk reported that without setting up a new contract with an external supplier at excessive cost, the bin would need to continue to be emptied by volunteers. Temporary bin lid in place to try and stop the bags filling with rainwater. Councillors thanked Stuart and Michael Breadmore for continuing to mow the playground, Clerk to organise letter and thank you gift. ▪ Brickleton News Articles: Memorial to Sir Philip Wroughton. Article form Laura Farris, MP | <p>Resolved</p> <p>MC, SO</p> <p>SY</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>SY</p> <p>Resolved</p> |
| Planning | |
| <p>It was stated for the record the status of: 20/02395/HOUSE The Paddock – One and a half storey extension and addition of dormers to existing dwelling. Amended plans had been granted by WBC.</p> | Resolved |
| Finance | |
| <p>Balance of the Current Account as of 11/01 is £4,474.67, savings account £7,865.12</p> <p>Transactions since the November meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chq 200087 04/12 Wel Medical Defib battery and pads £283.02 (inc £47.17 VAT) - Chq 200088 04/12 S Youldon Christmas Tree Expenses – Lights £265.97, Electrical bits £65.38 (inc £55.22 VAT) - Chq 200089 04/12 S Orpen Christmas Tree purchase £65.00 - Chq 200090 04/12 S Youldon – Weebly 24 months hosting £151.20 (had to be paid online) - S/O 04/01 S Youldon Oct – December wages £419.04 - S/O 04/01 HMRC PAYE Q3 £104.60 <p>Received £165 Members Bid for Christmas tree VAT return submitted for 2020 totalling £634.83</p> <p>The following cheques were signed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chq 200091 Diocese of Oxford £85.20 (inc £14.20 VAT) - Chq 200092 Imprint Colour Brickleton News January printing £65.00 <p>Clerk reported that the Millennium Green Trust Charity Commission annual return for the period 30/03/19 to 01/04/20 completed and submitted 23/12. Zero spend / income.</p> | Resolved |
| Any Other Business | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Memorial Bench for John Hall-Craggs: Permission to replace the bench in the Churchyard had now | |

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| <p>been agreed and contributions from villagers had been pledged to around £400. Cllr. Orpen to discuss contribution from the VHC, PC agreed to make up the difference, up to a total of £200.00.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Broken Drain Cover: Cllr. Wyatt reported a broken drain cover on Pudding Lane, he agreed to post the details on the WBC Report a Problem site. ▪ Footpaths: Since lockdown the dog fouling on footpaths had become particularly bad again. Clerk to supply additional reminder signage. It was also noted that with the bad weather the footpaths across farmland were becoming wider and wider and therefore crops were being trampled. Reminder to respect footpaths to be posted in Brickleton News. ▪ Website: It was noted that the MP and churchwarden details were out of date on the village website. Clerk to correct. | <p>SO TW</p> <p>SY</p> <p>SY</p> |
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Meeting closed at 10.00pm.

The remaining 2021 Meetings will be held: 8th March, 10th May, 12th July, 13th September and 8th November