

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 3rd March 2020 IN
THE JUBILEE ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Councillors: S Cook (Chairperson), P. Wait, M Percy, B Bywater, J Hobson and Lynn Thornton (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr Eardley

REF

44/20 Open Forum

The chairman welcomed Mr Julian Rees to the meeting, Julian is very concerned about the flooding caused by poor drainage on The Street, it starts by Little Orchard and works it way back up. The rain water is getting into the sewer because of its age and older properties feeding into it, this is then over loading the pumping station. Mr Rees has been in discussion with Severn Trent but they have not had enough reports to prompt them to investigate, residents seem to have stopped reporting it through to them due to lack of action. Mr Rees will draft an article for the newsletter to encourage people to log the issues. Mr Rees has also spoken to the flooding officer at SDC and he have been out for a site visit. With the increasingly heavy rains predicated without intervention from Severn Trent there could be a major incident.

Mrs Judith Ashman spoke to the council about the Fox Meadow development, the plans show trees planted along by the hedge to soften the impact on the original properties. Mrs Ashman has spoken to Malcolm the site manager who said the developers are not intending to plant these trees.

There is also a large pond on the site with some very basic railing around, this is a large volume of water and poses a health and safety issue without more adequate fencing. Cllr Cook confirmed the council will pursue these matters with the developers and report back to the residents.

Dr Marion McDowell addressed the council about the proposed development of the allotment site at Far Green which has remained uncultivated for many years, there has been a couple of attempts to use the area as allotments but parishioners have never persisted with the plots. The council has discussed plans to plant trees and develop a social space/nature garden. Dr McDowell supports this proposal.

Cllr Cook explained the proposed plan to parishioners present who were unaware of the scheme. Cllr Cook has spoken to Stroud Valleys project who were very supportive, the council will apply for a grant trees from rural England of £500 to make up for recent Ash dieback. The idea is to plant native fruit trees for the village to self harvest or sell in the shop, the grant would allow for approx 10 trees which would be a mixture of pears, plums and apples, guarding from rats/deer and a maintenance schedule in place to keep the grass down, SVP are also offering a planting day for the community, this would need to be within the next month to coincide with the correct planting season.

Mr Andrew Griffiths wished the council to consider retaining an allotment at the Far Green site as he would like the opportunity to cultivate a plot. Mr Griffiths would be willing to take on the whole site and maintain it.

Clerk

Mrs Wilkins wanted to ask the council if there are any plans to install a water supply into the Far Green allotments, the clerk explained this is very expensive and is not being considered at the moment.

45/20 Apologies for absence
Cllr Eardley.

46/20 Declarations of Interest by Councillors
None.

47/20 Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4th February 2020 were approved and signed as a true and correct record by those present at the meetings.

48/20 Accounts

Incomes received and payments for authorisation

None.

Payments for Authorisation

L Thornton	406.40	Wages February 2020
L Thornton	151.68	Grit bin
S Marshall	1243.98	Village maintenance inc Far Green
B Bywater	21.02	Stationary for climate meeting
L Thornton	234.00	Annual mileage
Npower	28.80	Fee to disconnect electricity
Npower	0.55	Electricity for tennis courts
Npower	27.73	Electricity for tennis courts

49/20 Clerks Report

1. The clerk received an email from Julian Ashman regarding the tree planting at Fox Meadow, this has been discussed and an action agreed further to the open forum.
2. Mick Thorpe has sent an update, details under footpaths and PROW's.
3. The clerk confirmed the grit bin has been ordered and will advise highways once it is in place for it to be filled.

50/20 Tennis courts

The trees at the back of the courts have now been cutback by GRCC, the clerk has spoken to Npower about disconnecting the electricity and this will take place in the next couple of weeks.

An article to be placed in the newsletter to try and gain an understanding in the level of interest in maintaining the courts.

51/20 Village shop

Cllr Wait reported the committee is holding a for the volunteers to reiterate all the rules and regulations.

The committee are keen to make people using the shop aware of the coronavirus and provide information on help groups etc.

Further to a discussion with Stroud transaction group they may be able to broker a deal for solar panels.

52/20 Village hall update

The hall has received a quote for solar panels, £18,018.00 19kw 39 panels, it is estimated it will be 10 years to pay back and then the panels will start making money. The hall is also replacing 8 ceiling tiles in the main hall, these will be slatted ones.

53/20 Coaley climate action network

This was a successful evening with 40 people attending the meeting, the 3 most popular proposals were solar feasibility, an energy efficient survey, e bike transport back and forth to the station.

A suggestion was made of E tips being placed in the newsletter, Belinda will submit a summary of the meeting to go in the next newsletter.

To move the scheme forward project groups will be formed for each project.

54/20 Policing

Cllr Hobson has received a neighbourhood alert regarding credit cards being scammed.

Martin spoke to the police about the motor home which is parked before the bridge heading out of Coaley, it has been moved into the hedge and 2 cones added but it is a hazard on the road, Martin to complain again. Clerk to report also.

Cllr
Pearcy/clerk

55/20 Telephone Box

Nothing to update.

56/20 Footpath, ditches and stiles to be discussed

The clerk has received an update from Mick Thorpe from the Cotswold wardens:

1. Haw Street Farm stone bridge, this has now been looked at by the Wardens Work Party Coordinator (WWPC) who has agreed that it will be tackled by the Cotswold Wardens. Although he thought the easiest solution would be the provision of a wooden bridge above the stone, given the desire of the Parish Council to keep it as a stone bridge, he felt that a re-build of the stone supporting wall on the south side was necessary. Materials needed will be sourced through PROW at the County Council. He did not suggest that the cracking stone (the east side of the two on the bridge) needed replacing yet. Apparently such a stone would cost £4-500, but getting this to the site and fitting would be a difficult operation.
2. The wardens also looked at repairs needed to the retained stream/path leading off from the playing field and the WWPC has similarly referred this to PROW.
3. Long Distance Walkers Association has offered a grant to Dursley Welcomes Walkers to fund 8 kissing gates along the Lantern Way route Mick is pleased to report that, subject to final confirmation of 2 of these on County Council owned land, all 8 will be in Coaley Parish on Corner Farm, Haw Street Farm and Ham Farm. Those on Haw Street Farm will create another stile free route from the Street through to Trenley Road.

57/20 Annual Assembly

A date and potential speaker to be given thought and confirmed at the next meeting.

58/40 July meeting date

Due to the clerk being an annual leave, the July meeting will take place on 28th July, 7.30pm. As the council does not historically meet in August this date should assist with any planning applications which are received.

- 59/20 Allotment Update
The councillors looked at a draft plan for the Far Green site and all voted to support this proposal, the clerk will submit the grant application and Cllr Cook will meet with Mr Griffiths on site to agree a plot for one allotment.
- 60/20 Village Maintenance
Rocket Rentals has offered the PC the use of any machinery they have in stock over a weekend free of charge. The PC is very grateful for this offer.
- 61/20 Highways repairs and maintenance
Cllr Wait reported a pothole on Peak Lane, there is also a large crater next to the triangle. Cllr Wait also asked whether the grass triangle could be reinstated it is presently just a lump of mud.
- 62/20 Playarea Update
Nothing to report.
- 63/20 Recreation field subcommittee report
Cllr Bywater will contact SDC to meet with the recreations officer, Richard Fishlock has been identified as the best person to approach for any grants.
- 64/20 Matters for forward consideration
Annual Assembly
- 65/20 Items for press release
Minutes
Deadline for the newsletter is 16th March.

Meeting closed at 8.55 pm.