

**MINUTES** of the **REMOTE MEETING** of **SILKSTONE PARISH COUNCIL** held on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020** via Zoom Conferencing facilities as permitted by paragraph 10 of the Local Government Act 1972.

On 2nd April 2020 HM Government published 'The Local Authorities and Police and Crime panels (Coronavirus) Regulations which allows Silkstone Parish Council to hold remote meetings until 7th May 2021. The Council's Standing Orders have been amended by the Clerk using delegated powers to confirm the procedures for holding a lawful and effective meeting, including voting rights, how members of the public can access documents and allows remote access for members of the public and press.

## **PRESENT**

**Meeting Chaired by:** Cllr Meryl Liddell

**Zoom Host:** Richard Bell, Parish Clerk

**Councillors:** Derek Liddell, Peter Millar, Alan Thompson, Debra Smith and Richard Leech.

**Also, In attendance:** Parish Clerk, Cllr John Wilson, Cllr Robert Barnard and Barnsley Chronicle reporter.

## **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No issues were raised.

The Chair asked all Councillors and participants of the meeting to observe a minute's silence in memory of Tony Fieldsend who passed away last week; the Chair said that he was a true friend of the Parish and he would be sadly missed.

## **STATEMENT FROM CHAIR**

Prior to commencement of the Meeting and in accordance with guidance, a statement was read by the Chair outlining the procedures to be undertaken to hold a lawful and effective remote meeting including the requirement for Councillors with voting rights to observe the code of conduct adopted by the Council.

Members are reminded to note the addendum to the Standing Orders of the Council under paragraph 27 - Remote Meetings.

The Clerk will mute all participants except the Chair - if anyone wishes to speak could they please clearly raise their hand. Voting will be undertaken by the same method.

## **20-057 APOLOGIES**

**RESOLVED** to note and approve apologies received from Cllr Ron Stier.

## **20-058 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**RESOLVED** to note a declaration of interest from Cllr Alan Thompson concerning the Allotments.

## 20-059 MINUTES

**RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Silkstone Parish Council meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020 as a true and accurate record. The Chair signed the minutes. The signed document will be collected by the Clerk within 7 days.

## 20-060 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

<https://wwwapplications.barnsley.gov.uk/PlanningExplorerMVC/Home/ApplicationDetails?planningApplicationNumber=2020%2F0650>

2020/0650 (AMENDMENT)	Single storey rear extension and pitched roof over existing garage at 1 All Saints Close, Silkstone, Barnsley, S75 4LQ
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**RESOLVED** to make no comment.

<https://wwwapplications.barnsley.gov.uk/PlanningExplorerMVC/Home/ApplicationDetails?planningApplicationNumber=2020%2F0753>

2020/0753	Variation of condition 2 application 2019/0231 land adjacent to Glebe Farm, Silkstone, Barnsley, S75 4NG.
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The Chair opened by sat that the Clerk had sent an excellent letter to BMBC Planning in relation to the variation which was for a 6 feet high stone wall being built adjacent to the Wagonway. Cllr Smith agreed that the letter to planning was excellent.

Cllr Thompson reported that he'd had contact from several residents who were very unhappy at the proposed wall. Cllr Leech asked if Ward Councillors had been made aware; Cllr Robert Barnard said he was unaware but asked if he could have a copy of the letter and he would take up with Planning. Cllr John Wilson agreed to support.

**RESOLVED** to ask the Clerk to send a copy of the appeal letter to Cllr Robert Barnard and Cllr John Wilson.

## 20-060 DECISIONS MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

**RESOLVED** to ratify the last three paragraphs of the decisions made by the Proper Officer of the Council under delegated authority and minute all as one.

## 20-061 PARISH BUSINESS & DEVELOPMENT PLAN WORKING PARTY

Cllr Thompson if the document could be amended to record that it is a 'living document' and will evolve over time.

**RESOLVED** to accept the draft Business Plan as presented.

## 20-062 CHRISTMAS TREES AND LIGHTS 2020

The Clerk reported that one provider had not come back with a quotation, however, either way the proposal is to have a mini Christmas Tree with LED lights hung from streetlights in both villages in place of the Hanging Baskets. The cost will be in the region of £80 each.

The Trees themselves will be cost neutral, the only costs being solar LED lights which cost in the region of £10 for 100 LED lights. The Silkstone tree will be installed in a tube on Hillside – the one in Silkstone Common can be placed on the Roses cobbled area. Cllr M Liddell asked that the residents in the 4 houses on the Roses are canvassed in advance.

Cllr M Liddell said she was happy with a budget of £3,000 and asked Councillors for their views. and Cllr Millar to meet up within the next two weeks to discuss and agree menu structure for the website.

Cllr Smith said that if we were spending that amount of money, we would need to be sure the lights were 'fit for purpose' and would give a good display. The Clerk said that the providers were professional and had given details of other Council's who had used these lights before.

Cllr M Liddell thought it was important after the year we have had to make a show this Christmas to help brighten peoples lives.

The Clerk assured Council that financial scrutiny will be adopted in ensuring we get the best deal for the Parish.

will email existing hanging basket sponsors asking if they would like to sponsor lights.

Cllr Leech agreed we needed to be getting on with it soonest and agreed the proposed budget of £3,000. Cllr Thompson and Cllr Smith agreed.

**RESOLVED** to agree a budget of £3,000 for Christmas Lights in both villages.

#### **20-063 SILKSTONE PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE FINANCE REPORT for Q1 2020/2021**

The Committee have asked the Parish Council to consider reduced fees for Cricket teams for summer 2020 due to the Coronavirus pandemic cutting short the season. Furthermore, the junior cricket team have not played this year for the same reason. The Clerk reported that the normal charges would be £525 for the adult team and £500 for the junior team. The Club have not this year collected subscriptions or been able to raise revenue through refreshments sales etc.

Council are therefore asked to consider waiving the fee in entirety for the junior team and reducing the adult fee by 50%. Cllr Thompson thought it would be 'churlish' under the circumstance to refuse the proposal. Cllr D Liddell asked if the cricket club had asked their members for donations if they had not collected subscriptions. The Clerk was unaware if this had been done.

**RESOLVED** to accept the proposal to reduce the adult fees by 50% and waive the junior team fee for 2020.

#### **20-064 INVOICES FOR PAYMENT**

**RESOLVED** to approve the payments schedule dated 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

#### **20-065 GRANT APPLICATIONS**

**RESOLVED** to note no grant application have been received. .

#### **20-066 SILKSTONE RECREATION GROUND**

Cllr Leech reported that Risk Assessments had been undertaken by football teams. The only team using the changing rooms would be Silkstone United FC adult team. He also reported that a new team, Penistone Church Ladies FC would be using the football pitch and facilities with effect from Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October.

**RESOLVED** to note the updated current situation.

#### **20-067 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

The Clerk reported that the National Association of Civic Officers released guidance last month, including their view that 'to do noting' in terms of remembrance was not an option as the public will expect some form of remembrance.

Subject to further guidance, it is envisaged that we would be able to hold a socially distanced event without parade or road closure.

#### ***Standing Orders suspended at 7.15PM.***

Cllr John Wilson said that there is to be a meeting of BMBC to hopefully provide a 'memorandum of understanding' about what will be taking place across the Borough. There will also be remote video presentations.

#### ***Standing Orders reinstated at 7.20PM.***

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk will produce a Risk Assessment and plan for discussion at the next meeting of the Parish Council on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020.

## 20-068 MEETINGS

Cllr Alan Thompson	Neighbourhood Planning Meeting, Business Development Working Party Meeting.
Cllr Richard Leech	Neighbourhood Planning, Silkstone Playing Fields Committee Meeting, Meeting with Clerk at Silkstone Recreation Ground, Finance Committee, Business Development Plan Meeting, Meeting at Pavilion regarding heating control solutions.
Cllr Derek Liddell	Neighbourhood Planning Meeting.
Cllr Meryl Liddell	Neighbourhood Planning Meeting, Business Development Working Party Meeting.
Cllr Debra Smith	Business Development Working Party Meeting, Neighbourhood Planning Meeting,
Cllr Peter Millar	Meeting at Pavilion regarding heating control solutions.
Clerk	Neighbourhood Planning, Silkstone Playing Fields Committee Meeting, Meeting with Clerk at Silkstone Recreation Ground Finance Committee, Business development Plan Meeting, Meeting at Pavilion regarding heating control solutions.

## 20-069 CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

**RESOLVED** to note the following correspondence:

- 1) Report on the Council FB page about Himalayan Balsam on the Wagonway. Cllr Leech reported that this is an intrusion vegetation pest that proliferates around watercourses. Cllr Robert Barnard will send the Clerk a report form.
- 2) Report of dog waste appearing in large quantities on the day of collection in Silkstone; there is a suggestion it could be coming from a commercial operate or of pet services. BMBC made aware.
- 3) Several complaints have been received by an allotment holder Mrs Julia Thompson. Cllr Thompson has already declared an interest in this item and explained that in his personal view, the allotment greenhouse and sheds on the allotment site rented by his wife were dangerous. Cllr Thompson thinks that the Parish Council in having not asked the previous holders to remove the structures have taken on a liability. Furthermore, he is of the view that overhanging branches may cause damage to the structure rendering it dangerous. He also has concerns about several asbestos sheets on the roof which may be damaged by tree branches.

The Clerk reported that a demolition contractor attended site in April 2020 – his quotation for removing the structures was in excess of £3,000. However, that was dependant upon us

being able to get permission from the landowner to bring industrial plant and skips onto their land. A local contractor also visited site and gave a quotation for making the structure safe. This work costing £500 was carried out in May 2020.

Cllr M Liddell reminded Cllr Thompson that in view of his declaration of interest he can't vote or contribute fully to the discussion.

Cllr Thompson said that there were rotting timbers in the eaves and gable together with broken glass. His view was that the Council should put aside a budget for making the site safe.

Cllr M Liddell suggested that 'Profell' could have a look at the trees as part of their annual inspection. Cllr Leech suggested that the contractor who undertook the work could re-attend site and give his assessment. Cllr Smith pointed out that if we had a Statutory Duty to provide Allotments, did that extend to maintaining the site. She thought that the Parish Council should set aside budget for making sure the allotments are suitable such as skips.

Cllr Leech raised the issue of an appendices in Item 6 – Appendix D about Speed Indicator Signs had not been discussed.

Cllr Thompson suggested that the item be deferred to the next meeting as he had not had the opportunity to consider the proposals as the document only arrived just prior to the meeting.

**RESOLVED** to defer until the next meeting and have as a standalone item on the Agenda.

#### **20-070 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next remote meeting of Silkstone Parish Council will be held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020 via Zoom conferencing facilities commencing at 6.45pm.

*The Chair closed the meeting at 7.33pm.*

Chair's Signature	Date
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