

Arkholme with Cawood Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held Monday 12 April 2021

This meeting was held remotely due to the social distancing requirements of Covid-19

Present: Cllrs David Howarth, James Huddleston, Chris Preston, Helen Dinsdale, Co Cllr Phillippa Williamson and the Clerk, Claire Helme. (Technical difficulties were experienced with Cllr Dinsdale unable to connect to the first half of the meeting and Cllr Preston unable to reconnect to the second half).

1 **Apologies:** None

2 **Declaration of conflicts of interest:** None declared.

3 **Minutes of the last meeting:** Co Cllr Williamson proposed acceptance of the minutes of 1 March, and this was seconded by Cllr Huddleston and will be signed as a true record by Cllr Howarth.

4 **Matters arising:**

It was noted that after the last meeting the Parish Council had written to Planning in support of the Bullcopy Farm application (**20/00786/FUL**) after viewing another map outlining the reduction in residential curtilage. It was noted that the cypress at Crossroads Garage (**21/0030/TCA**) had also now been felled.

5 **Planning notifications:**

21/00083/LB Brunthill House, Main St, Arkholme, LA6 1AX

Listed building application for the retention of solar panels to the rear facing roof slope.

Councillors were not able to support the application given the listed building status of the property in the conservation area. It was not felt appropriate to set a precedent for this type of retrospective planning consent.

21/00245/FUL and **21/00246/LB** Cort House, Main St, Arkholme, LA6 1AX.

Various works including demolition of existing 2 storey and rear storey single extensions and erection of single storey rear extension and various internal renovations.

Councillors had no objections to the application(s).

6 **Finance:**

a) The Clerk read out the deadlines for the AGAR and internal audit. The Parish Council declared their exemption from external audit as a small authority. The Certificate of Exemption must be received by P K F Littlejohn by 30 June. It was resolved that Derek Whiteway be reappointed as Internal Auditor.

b) The Clerk declared the end of year balance to be £4,219.60 with total receipts of £4,429.18 and total expenditure of £3,321.55 including one cheque not yet presented.

c) Cheque 659 for E-On for seasonal illuminations (£38.99) had been approved by all councillors since the last meeting.

d) The BHIB Insurance Renewal of £475 was discussed and would be agreed at the next meeting. The Clerk stated the importance of making sure that all aspects of the insurance cover are reviewed thoroughly on an annual basis.

7 **Risk Assessment and Asset Register:**

Cllr Howarth stated that he has recently completed a risk assessment of council assets which was not completed last year because of the Covid restrictions.

Bus Shelter

Lancashire County Highways have done some work on the bus shelter. An electrical technician has replaced the metal door to the electrics which were exposed - it will need further work but for now the lamp column will provide enough electricity for the bus shelter lighting.

Village pounds

The gate on the first village pound has been repaired.

On the asset register the pounds are valued at £70 each. It was resolved that they be revalued and to contact John Hughes at Armistead Barnet. This was proposed by Cllr Huddleston and seconded by Cllr Howarth.

Hopewell Cup

The cup still needs to be revalued for insurance purposes as well as for the asset register and Cllr Howarth agreed to undertake this when possible.

Benches

It was decided to scrap the bench near Crossroads House as it was no longer used and in a bad state of repair. This was proposed by Cllr Huddleston and seconded by Co Cllr Williamson. Mr and Mrs Ireland have also agreed that the grit box from the village green could be moved across to this position outside Crossroads House which would make the green look less cluttered.

The bench on the village green was donated by Bruce Metcalfe, in memory of his father, 31 years ago. Cllr Huddleston has spoken to Mr Metcalfe and he has kindly agreed to donate another bench as the current one needs repair. The council needs to check who is going to install the new bench.

The Queen's memorial bench outside The Nook is also in need of repair. Valuations of £300 and £650 have already been obtained but it was resolved to try and obtain a third quotation before proceeding further.

8 **Compliance documents review:**

The Clerk stated that all the compliance documents had not been reviewed for some time and that it was necessary to update them over the coming months beginning with the asset register.

9 **Public Rights of Way:**

With regard to the grant from last year it was resolved to look at some of the local stiles which may need attention and decide how best to use the money. The broken sign at footpath no 4, off Main Street has still not been repaired by the Public Rights of Way department.

A problem with a padlocked gate on the footpath at Storrs Hall had been reported to the council but this was later found to be a mistake as the wrong footpath had been identified as the right of way.

10 **Annual Meeting and Parish Assembly:**

Both meetings had been scheduled for 10 May after their cancellation last year. After 6 May legislation to allow remote meetings will end but village halls cannot reopen until 17 May. It was decided to postpone the parish assembly for a further year and to aim for later in May for the Annual Parish Council Meeting if the hall is able to accommodate this.

11 **PACT report:**

In the Kellet and Borwick area 12 crimes were reported in February but none in Arkholme. These were classified as 6 anti-social behaviour, 5 classified under the category of violence/sexual offence and one theft.

12 **Additional business:**

The Clerk had been informed that if the village wanted to undertake a litter pick the city council had relaxed the covid restrictions around this and could provide bags and take away any rubbish collected. It was considered that the main road was too dangerous to safely carry out this suggestion as an organised village activity.

13 **Date of next meeting:**

To be decided.

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