

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Acklington Parish Council held on 7.00pm on 2nd March 2021 via Zoom.

PRESENT: Cllrs J Newton (Chair), D Barras, L Craig, S Ingleby, S Malone, T Mezza, J Price, S Thorpe, and the Parish Clerk Miss E Brown.

Also, present County Councillor J Watson

7 x Members of public were present.

There were no questions from the public in attendance.

C062/20 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Critchlow and Orr.

RESOLVED that the apologies be accepted.

C063/20 Disclosure of Interests

No interests were declared.

C064/20 Minutes of previous meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held 5th January 2021 were agreed as a true record.

C065/20 Personnel Committee meetings

- The minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held 19th January 2021 were noted for information.
- The minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held 9th February 2021 were noted for information.

C066/20 Standing Item – Report from County Councillor

County Councillor Watson had written an article for the Pelican regarding nuisance bikes encouraging resident to take note of licence plate numbers and report to the police.

He noted the resurfacing of Churchill Way was complete and an impressive job had been done by NCC.

Councillor Watson reflected on the precept figures for 2021/22 across the County and noted that Acklington as a Parish was doing very well to keep costs low.

Ahead of the forthcoming county elections Cllr Watson thanked the Parish Council for the co-operation and work during the last 4 years.

C067/20 Finance:

- Financial Summary on 24th February 2021 Treasurers Account £976.24, Business Bank Instant £12067.98
- The bank reconciliation and budget monitoring on 24th February 2021 was noted for information.

c) **RESOLVED that** following payments be authorised.

Date	Cheque number	Supplier	Reason	Amount
07.01.2021	582	The Pelican	Donation	£100.00
07.01.2021	583	St. John PCC	Donation	£500.00
13.01.2021	584	ICO	Subscription	£40.00
23.02.2021	585	HMRC	PAYE	£45.80
23.02.2021	586	Clerk	Wages/expenses	£193.14

d) The following receipts were noted.

Date	Payee	Reason	Amount
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09.01.2021	Lloyds	Interest	£0.11
10.02.2021	Lloyds	Interest	£0.10

e) Financial Risk Management and Internal Control

RESOLVED that the Risk Management and Internal Control Policy be agreed.

C068/20 Planning:

- To consider any planning matters:

20/04349/FUL - Barnhill Farm, Guyzance, Northumberland, NE65 9AG

RESOLVED that Cllrs Craig and Ingleby with the Clerk draft a letter maintaining the objections of the Parish Council to proposals to convert derelict farm buildings to 6 residential dwellings on the grounds it was not compatible with a conservation area. The letter would be circulated to all Members and the County Councillor.

21/00175/FUL Former Acklington Church of England First School the Village Acklington Morpeth Northumberland NE65 8BW

RESOLVED that there were no objections. Members agreed that the sympathetic restoration and conversion to residential use was welcome as it would bring the building back into use.

21/00303/FUL | Two storey rear and gable extension | Virginia Acklington Road North Broomhill NE65 9XD – Comments would be received by email.

21/00511/FUL Acklington Park Acklington Morpeth Northumberland NE65 9AA

C069/20 Acklington Village Hall Trustee Arrangements

RESOLVED that the Parish Council agree to become Custodian Trustee to Acklington Village Hall.

C070/20 Footpath Working Party Update

The brush cutting equipment is in secure storage. The equipment will be put to good use clearing overgrown vegetation from stiles, gates, and pathways. Government restrictions permitting.

A company called Landbased Training <https://www.landbasedtrainingltd.co.uk/> will train the 6 X Brush cutter Volunteers to LANTRA Awards and Rural Skills qualification standard once current Covid restrictions are relaxed.

A supply of treated wooden fence posts have been gifted by ACT. The tops of the fence posts will be painted yellow and run the length of the new, 1-kilometre permissive path (300 metres west of the village hall) once social distancing rules allow it.

Permissive pathway signs have been gifted by ACT. The signs will be posted at either end of the new, 1-kilometre permissive path. Government restrictions permitting.

Tribute was paid to Mr Leonard Welch, a former parish councillor who had recently passed away. It was noted he had been a great help in maintaining the public rights of way.

C071/20 Fly Tipping Issues

Fly tipping issues were discussed at length. The Council agreed to highlight responsible disposal of rubbish in the Pelican and the councils support of the 'bin the wipe' campaign following flooding of a local field due to an increase of wet wipes in the sewerage system. Some discussion took place regarding approaching the mart about the possibility of sponsoring a litter bin in the layby. Cllr Newton would make an approach to the mart.

C072/20 Date of Annual Meeting

RESOLVED that the Annual meeting of the Council take place on Tuesday 18th May following the local elections.

C073/20 Exclusion of press and public

RESOLVED that pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960; that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded, and they were withdrawn from the meeting.

C074/20 Appointment of Parish Clerk

RESOLVED that the Council agree to appoint Clair Lewis as Parish Clerk and RFO at SCP 14 with a handover to take place prior to the May meeting.

Elaine was thanked for her hard work, support and commitment as clerk over the years and wished well for the future.