

Flax Bourton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on Monday 16 March 2020 at the Village Hall, Flax Bourton

- 063⁽¹⁹⁾ **To note those in attendance and receive apologies** - Members present were noted as Councillors: J Moss (Chair), G Coombs, S Ellis and C Walker. **Apologies** were received from A Crawford (holiday) and N Baillie (work).
Also present: L Roslyn, Clerk, NSC Cllr Hugh Gregor and 3 members of the public.
- 064⁽¹⁹⁾ **To receive any declarations of interest in items on the agenda and to consider any written applications for dispensations** - There were no declarations of interest received.
- 065⁽¹⁹⁾ It was **resolved to approve** the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 10 February 2020 and they were duly signed by the Chair.
- 066⁽¹⁹⁾ **Public Forum Session** – matters raised included: the withdrawal from the Joint Spatial Plan by North Somerset Council (NSC) – Cllr J Moss and Cllr H Gregor gave advice on the new Local Plan; the planning application for vehicular access at Land to West of Castle Farm – Cllr J Moss advised that this would be discussed at the Parish Council Meeting; positive comments on the village approach in supporting vulnerable residents due to the Covid-19 outbreak; problems of flooding being caused by blocked drains, overflowing springs and a (suspected) leaking water pipe at the top of the Combe, near Stancombe Lane on the A370 – Cllr J Moss advised that the Council will discuss and resolve the matter at item 070⁽¹⁹⁾.
- 067⁽¹⁹⁾ **Planning, Licensing and Development**
- a) **North Somerset Council Local Plan**
- i. Cllr J Moss reported that NSC had produced a Pre-commencement document that marks the formal start of the plan making process with regard to whether NSC have identified the correct content, scope and methodology for producing the new Local Plan.
- ii. **Pre-commencement document** – It was **agreed** that the working group would draft a response to the consultation. It was noted that no strategic policy on Air Quality had been included in the document and that the next major event timetabled was the Issues and Options Consultation in May-June 2020.
- b) Other planning matters –Cllr G Coombs agreed to take a look at the new planning application for vehicular access at Land to West of Castle Farm for decision at the next Parish Council Meeting.
- 068⁽¹⁹⁾ **Finance**
- a) It was **resolved to approve** the monthly accounts statement and new invoices totalling £1,015.15 and online payments were authorised with one cheque being duly signed. The Clerk advised that the new Lloyds Bank Account was now operational and £68,000.00 had been transferred to the new Business Bank Instant Savings Account.
- b) It was **resolved to approve** up to £250.00 for the professional cleaning of the wetpour safety surfaces at Farleigh Green Play Area. The Clerk was asked to liaise with the contractor about cleaning all the surfaces.
- c) It was **agreed** that Cllr S Ellis would contact members of the Flax Bourton Youth Group to clarify their position with regard to the equipment and remaining funds following the closure of the club in July 2019.
- 069⁽¹⁹⁾ **Highways - A370** - Cllr G Coombs reported that David Bailey, Senior Engineer, NSC Highways has now confirmed that the study the Council requested will now go ahead in 2020-

2021. He has submitted the Council's proposals for the traffic calming measures and Speed Indicator Device to NSC Highways and had arranged a meeting with them for later in the week.

(20.30 – Cllr H Gregor left the meeting).

070⁽¹⁹⁾ **Flooding** – It was **agreed** that, following the discussions during the Public Forum Session, the Council would contact the NSC Gully Cleaning Team as a matter of urgency to resolve the issue. Cllr J Moss reported that the pipe to the rear of Church Lane was filling up with silt and agreed to monitor it.

071⁽¹⁹⁾ **Designated Community Land** – Cllr J Moss reported that she will be requesting a meeting with Network Rail to discuss this matter and would update NSC accordingly.

072⁽¹⁹⁾ **Surveys & Consultations**

- a) **NSC Parking Review Consultation** – it was agreed that the Clerk respond saying that the Council felt that charging for parking in Nailsea would have a negative effect on shoppers.
- b) **NSC Your Neighbourhood Consultation & Engagement Consultation** – Cllr J Moss reported that she attended one of the engagement sessions. It was agreed that the Clerk respond only on Garden Waste – require fortnightly collections and to review the amount being charged; and Street Cleansing – to restore regular cleaning rotas to encourage more walking and to mitigate against dangerous, slippery pavements that are affecting access to the bus stops.
- c) **NALC & University of Plymouth Research on Dementia survey** - it was agreed that the Clerk respond No to all answers except the one requesting a copy of the guide.

073⁽¹⁹⁾ **Somerset Village of the Year** – it was agreed not to enter due to the uncertainty surrounding Covid-19.

074⁽¹⁹⁾ The **Clerk's Report** was received. (Forms part of these minutes and is available on request from the Clerk). Cllr A Crawford volunteered to organise a Village Tidy-up to take place in May 2020.

075⁽¹⁹⁾ **Personnel – Parish Clerk** – it was **resolved to approve** the satisfactory completion of the probationary period in accordance with Section 4 (Probation) of the Clerk's Contract of Employment.

076⁽¹⁹⁾ The date of the **next meeting** of Flax Bourton Parish Council was noted as **Monday 20 April 2020*** in the Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm. (**Subject to Covid-19 safety measures*).

Meeting ended 21.10.

Chairman.....

Date.....