

KNOWSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 28th July 2020, held remotely via Zoom

Present: Cllr D Barrett, Cllr J Filmer-Bennett, Cllr R Howe, Cllr D Maidment, Cllr T Moore (Chairman), Cllr J Pomfret

In attendance: W Sweet (Clerk), 1 x members of the public, C/Cllr J Yabsley (part), D/Cllr E Ley (part)

Before opening the meeting the Chairman announced that the meeting was being recorded for the purposes of assisting the clerk with writing up the minutes. The recording would be deleted once the minutes had been completed.

20/30 Apologies for absence - none

20/31 Declarations of Interest (re. matters appearing on this agenda) - none

20/32 Approve Minutes It was RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 30th June 2020, Cllr Moore proposed, Cllr Filmer-Bennett seconded, all agreed.

20/33 Correspondence (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

- DALC newsletter #36 dated 30.06.20, new model Code of Conduct - the Chairman said that he had read the new model Code of Conduct and noted that every council should have an internal resolution procedure to address breaches of the Code of Conduct. KPC has it within its Standing Orders but not as a separate policy.
- DALC newsletter #37 dated 6.07.20, easing out of lockdown;
- Email dated 8.07.20 from Rural Housing Enabler, DCT re. Housing Need Survey – the survey will be going out to residents during August.
- DALC newsletter #38 dated 20.07.20, DALC training returns.
- **Note any correspondence received after the preparation of the agenda.**
- Two emails from C/Cllr Yabsley with information from DCC.

20/34 Public Questions – Cllr Moore reported that a parishioner had brought to his attention the poor state of repair of Hittsford Lane which runs past Rosemary Cottage which makes it dangerous for farmers who use it. He was unclear as to the exact nature of the lane. Cllr Filmer-Bennett said that as it is shown on DCC's website it is their responsibility so it could be reported to them.

20/35 East Hill Farm – Update: Cllr Moore reported that according to Right Move both barn conversions and the refurbished farmhouse have been sold STC. Jono Poole has been reminded to supply the Council with a ballpark figure for levelling the ground at East Hill. An email had been received from Sam Kingston in which he said that NDC had found a different company which may be interested in taking on the affordable houses

20/36 Finance

a) It was RESOLVED to settle the following accounts, Cllr Howe proposed, Cllr Barrett seconded, all agreed:

W Sweet – pay (£220.66) and expenses (£5.70)	£226.36
Mr R Ridd (Beaples Stone area clearance as quoted)	£300.00

b) The accounts to date and expenditure to date against budget, previously circulated, were REVIEWED.

20/37 Review Standing Orders The Chairman reported that since the Council had updated its Standing Orders a couple of years ago based on the 2013 version of Model Standing Orders, a new version dated

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2018 had been produced which contained some new mandatory clauses. He therefore suggested that a Working Group is set up to look at the Standing Orders to see what is needed to be added in and to report back to the Council with recommendations. Cllr Pomfret and Cllr Filmer-Bennett volunteered to serve on the Working Group along with the Chairman and the Clerk. The Code of Conduct procedure would also be looked at.

20/38 Review Financial Regulations It was RESOLVED to move this item to next month's meeting in order to give councillors more time to look at the document, Cllr Moore proposed, Cllr Filmer-Bennett seconded, all agreed.

20/39 Planning

- (i) Application notified since last meeting – none
- (ii) Applications notified since the preparation of the agenda – none
- (iii) Cllr Howe mentioned, as a matter of interest, a couple of planning applications in other parishes for large barns submitted by the applicant at Oaklands Poultry Farm in East Anstey. One of them in Rose Ash had been approved and the other is under review. Cllr Howe felt that things had gone quiet in East Anstey regarding the Poultry Farm whose retrospective planning application had been refused.
- (iv) Crosside Hill – no update from Planning Enforcement Department yet.

20/40 Third Party Reports

- a) District Councillor D/Cllr Ley said he had nothing to report that directly affected Knowstone; however there is a similar situation in the parish of West Down where permission was given to build 25 houses plus 5 affordables. The developer is now saying that it is unviable and is trying to get permission to sell the 5 affordables on the open market. It will be interesting to see how this situation is resolved and he will keep KPC informed. With regard to Oaklands Poultry Farm, when the enforcement notice is served the applicant has one last chance to appeal.
- b) County Councillor (report given later in the meeting between items 20/41(b) and (c)) C/Cllr Yabsley said that he was trying to recoup the situation at The Huntings. He had suggested to the owner that a private camera is installed and a cheeky sign which has worked well in other similar situations . Alternatively reflective posts could be installed within the owner's own property. He plans to visit the property owner. If there is any project within the Parish that needs funding the Council needs to get on and apply for it. Unless there is any bid to change an authority there will be County Council elections next year alongside the election for the Police and Crime Commissioner.

20/41 Members Reports

a) Highways

- (i) Regarding the problem with The Huntings' wall frequently being knocked down, Cllr Filmer-Bennett reported that the occupier having received a letter from DCC's Highways Officer that he was not happy with, has written to the MP. This means the situation is now out of the Council's hands; he will keep KPC informed of any developments.
- (ii) With regard to the Roachill gateway and the possibility of applying for a locality grant, the Highways Officer has already dealt with it and new verge markers have been ordered.
- (iii) Cllr Filmer-Bennett had reported the clogged gully in East Knowstone which could have easily flooded and has been informed that Highways will clear it in the near future.
- (iv) A reply has been received from the Highways Officer about the camper vans and dumped mobile home at the picnic area informing the Council that the camper van is no longer there and that DCC will formally contact its tenant and advise that he needs to remove the mobile home.
- (v) Re. Hittsford Lane mentioned under Public questions, Cllr Filmer-Bennett suggested that he reports it on DCC's system as there was no point in taking any other action until it had been reported. Generally the DCC reporting system does work.

b) Footpaths & Beaples Stone

(i) To consider and agree quote from M Ridd for additional scalplings for the Beaples Stone area. The quote had previously been circulated and it was generally felt that the area needed a deeper covering. Cllr Pomfret proposed, Cllr Moore seconded, all agreed, that the quote be accepted and that the Ridds are invited to undertake future maintenance of the area.

(ii) Cllr Pomfret reported that some footpaths in the parish had been strimmed recently. Some paths had not been passable for a couple of months and it was good that people were now using them again. It was suggested that perhaps next year strimming could be done earlier in the year by the Parish Council using volunteers or contractors. The recent P3 newsletter had contained a lot about volunteers and if a Parish Council uses volunteers it becomes the council's liability and in previous years KPC has avoided getting involved due to this. Cllr Pomfret raised the issue of who people should inform if they come across a sheep with its head stuck in a fence or animals wandering on the road having escaped from a field. He suggested having a central number to call which could be displayed on signs on path gateways around the parish and that person having a list of who owned which field. Cllr Filmer-Bennett said that when he had had a similar problem he had phoned Cllr Stanbury who had dealt with it. Cllr Moore suggested that he asks Moors Management how they would like the problem to be handled as many local farmers are represented at their meetings.

c) Police Report – Cllr Moore said that it had been noted at the last meeting that the Council had been unhappy with the response it had received from the Police regarding the parked van on Haresdown Moor but had not agreed to undertake any formal action. It was waiting to be asked by the OPCC whether it had been satisfied with the Police's response. In the meantime an email has been received from the area's new Neighbourhood officer – PC M Young. It was generally felt to be a good idea to invite PC Young to a Parish Council meeting and hopefully he would be able to talk to the Council in layman's terms about how the 101 reporting system works.

d) Welcome Pack – Cllr Maidment had circulated to all councillors a copy of the revamped copy of the Welcome Pack. Any comments or suggested amendments that councillors have should be sent direct to Cllr Maidment. Cllr Moore said that he had a new neighbour and would like to let them have a copy of the Welcome Pack as soon as possible.

e) Parish Hall – Cllr Filmer-Bennett reported that the hall re-opening subcommittee had met. A questionnaire had gone out to regular hall users and three positive responses had been received. On Saturday a risk assessment of the hall will be undertaken. Other things that will need to be done include informing the hall's insurers that it will be re-opening, printing and putting up signage, buying PPE and cleaning materials. It has been decided that just the disabled toilet will be in use when the hall re-opens. The committee room will be used as a decontamination area. New conditions for hirers to abide by will be produced. There will be a procedure in the event of someone being taken ill whilst in the hall. The number of people using the hall at any one time will be limited to 30. It is hoped that the hall will re-open in approximately 2 – 3 weeks' time. This will be publicised on the parish noticeboards and on the website.

Cllr Filmer-Bennett put forward a suggestion that the Council holds a public meeting along the lines of the Annual Meeting of the Parish to take place towards the end of the year. No more than 30 people usually attend the Annual Meeting. An update of what has been happening could be given covering issues like East Hill. A video of the meeting could be produced for people unable to attend. This idea will be on the agenda to be discussed at next month's meeting.

(f) Before giving his report, Cllr Howe paid tribute to Annie Mott (née Norman) who had died in a tragic accident last week whilst driving her tractor, helping a neighbour with hay turning. She had been an extremely kind person and it was devastating to lose such a community-minded person. The Council will

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send their condolences by card or letter to her son, John, via Cllr Howe. Cllr Howe said that in his capacity as Church Warden he would be assisting the family to organise the funeral and he would let the Clerk know when this would be taking place so the information could be passed on to councillors who may wish to attend.

PCC Report – Cllr Howe reported that a PCC meeting had taken place to discuss when the church might be open and it had been decided that this would not be before September as the requirements were too onerous. A very good Zoom church service takes place every Sunday as well as a bible discussion group on a Thursday morning. He had recently met with the church's architect and Buckingham's to discuss the under pew heating. A wiring plan as required by the Diocese has been sent to them and it is hoped a response will come back with approval to go ahead.

20/42 Business at the Chairman's discretion – None

20/43 To confirm date and time of the next meeting – Tuesday 25th August 2020 at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 21.00.