

Present at e-meeting

Jackie Isden (chair), Roger Davies, Chris Gray, Sue Gyles, Sarah Newport, Mandy Smith, Paul Pinner, James Weeden.

County councillor: Mandy Smith; District Councillor: Sue Ellington.

Parish clerk: Gill Parrish. Members of public: one (observing).

PARISH COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING

Opened at 19.30 via Zoom due to Covid-19.

21/001 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE none

21/002 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None.

21/003 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM Opened and closed at 19.30 as there were no participants.

21/004 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED: the November minutes were proposed, seconded and unanimously approved as correct with no amendments and signed by the chair.

21/005 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND POLICE

005.1 *County councillor's report:*

Mill Road 40 mph speed limit – will be advertised in the press at the end of the month. If there are no objections then the application will be submitted.

Greenways cycle path to busway – progress has been delayed by an objection to the proposed surface as not up to standard.

Potholes in the gravel section of Holywell Ferry Road – apparently last time this was resurfaced there were complaints. Cllr Smith will investigate.

Damage to pavements by recent floods – should be reported online (anyone can do this).

Recent flooding – if anyone had any issues caused by the flooding they should email the clerk who will forward the issue to the CCC flood and water team.

005.2 *District councillor's report:*

The community warden scheme – the new warden started today.

Planning department – seems to be working very slowly with some applications being delayed before being processed.

005.3 *Police matters/crime reports* – none received

21/006 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

006.1 Letter from a resident re the tree planting in the village hall field (21/015)

006.2 Email from the primary school re tree planting

006.3 Email from resident about millennium clock (item 21/012) and using Town Lands funds for the new pavilion (item 21/011)

006.4 Email from a resident about the signage during the floods and the parlous state of the pavements as a result of the flooding (item 21/010)

006.5 Email from two young residents re dog fouling and litter in the village.

21/007 2021/22 BUDGET

R Davies presented the 2021/22 budget to council members. This includes 2% for ongoing costs and a contingency for one-off expenditure as needed.

21/008 2021/22 PRECEPT REQUEST

R Davies presented three options for Fen Drayton's precept request. The council members voted unanimously not to increase the precept. The clerk will submit the request for £26,850 to meet the 20 January deadline. **ACTION:** clerk

21/009 COVID UPDATE

SCDC advice submitted to FDF for the February/March issue.

A few requests have been made to the Covid support group during the current lockdown, which is similar to the first lockdown.

21/010 RECENT FLOODS

010.1 A Zoom meeting with Lee Hillam from SCDC and the PC will be held on 26 January.

010.2 The PC will contact Lee to see if he can meet with J Weeden in the village, prior to the meeting, to look at the flood defences. M Smith offered to attend too. **ACTION:** S Gyles

010.3 The PC delivered Floodsax information to all vulnerable households.

010.4 Damage to pavements/roads caused by flooding should be reported to CCC. The clerk will submit a report. **ACTION:** clerk

21/011 PAVILION

The PC and football club held a Zoom meeting on 12 January and formed a committee, comprising four members of the football club and four parish councillors. The committee will obtain information re building costs, pitch upgrade and available grants and then consider funding options. The next meeting will be held on 21 February. In the meantime, P Pinner will meet with Simon O'Neill to see what repairs/improvements need to be made to the pavilion in the immediate future.

21/012 MILLENNIUM CLOCK

The clerk will contact the electricians about repairing the faulty clock. **ACTION:** clerk

21/013 PLAYGROUND INSPECTION REPORT

The playground inspection found no significant items for concern in the playground or play equipment. However, there were a few minor defects with the new Caloo equipment. Caloo sent an engineer out to inspect these on 11 January and the PC is awaiting a report of its findings.

21/014 REPLACING BENCHES IN THE PLANTATION

The council members unanimously agreed that new benches should be purchased for The Plantation. Prices need to be obtained. **ACTION:** J Isden

21/015 VILLAGE TREES

015.1 The Woodland Trust trees were planted at the end of November in the village hall field behind the school. A nearby resident was not happy with the planting (see 21/006). **RESOLVED**

council members approved (with one abstention) a compromise whereby the PC would move two rows of trees to create more space between them and the resident's fence. **ACTION:** PC 015.2 Recreation ground – the oaks and silver birches will be moved from the top of the flood bank to the west side of the recreation field. **ACTION:** P Pinner
015.3 Village tree policy – the clerk will draft a tree policy based on a template reviewed before the meeting and distribute it to the council members for comments before the next meeting.

21/016 VILLAGE MATTERS AND MAINTENANCE

016.1 RH Landscapes cut the village verges on 17 December 2020.

016.2 Oxholme drain was dredged on 8 January.

016.3 Letters sent to two residents in Cootes Lane asking them to cut back their hedges following complaints on Facebook. One hedge has been cut and one and is in progress.

016.4 The clerk emailed (again) four estate agents requesting that they remove their boards at the entrance to Vermuyden Way. The boards were all removed before Christmas.

016.5 Repairs to lock up: the handyman has sourced a carpenter to refurbish the doors for £120.00 including materials. **RESOLVED:** unanimously approved

016.6 The posters designed by two young residents were submitted to the Fen Drayton Focus by the clerk and will be put on Facebook. **ACTION:** J Weeden

016.7 Christmas celebrations: these raised an amazing £930 in aid of the village hall and primary school! The chair thanked J Weeden, Francis and Lois from the pub and their team of helpers, and Matt and Frances Barrett for donating the Christmas tree.

21/017 UPDATES/ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS *(or see agenda item).*

(20/115) Mill Road speed limit – see 21/005.1.

(20/128/6) Community Youth Worker scheme – on hold until Covid restrictions are lifted.

(20/128/6) Men's Shed scheme – still in hand. **ACTION:** S Gyles

(20/131) Welcome letter for new residents – clerk to send out a draft to council members for approval. **ACTION:** clerk

(20/132) War memorial cleaning: the resident who cleaned the memorial last year is happy to continue doing so as required.

(20/134/7) The clerk emailed SCDC again re Mill Pond willow tree. SCDC repeated its previous assertion that the tree is the responsibility of the resident.

(20/135/1) The community warden started work on 18 January. The chair thanked R Davies for getting the service up and running. R Davies thanked M Smith and S Ellington for their help.

(20/135/2) A14 legacy project: the chair spoke to Pam Hobson again. Pam has a meeting with Highway on 21 January and hopes that the project may be signed off then.

(20/135/7) The Lions sent its pavilion risk assessment to the clerk and it is now on file.

21/018 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

New applications

20/04450/HFUL & 20/04453/LBC 3 High Street, Fen Drayton

Replace rear extension and refurbish outbuilding.

STATUS Awaiting decision.

20/04469 27 Springhill Road

New attic dormers.

STATUS Decided. Permission granted 8/1/21

FEN DRAYTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

18 JANUARY 2021



21/019 FINANCES

019.01 Move SCDC Covid grant (£200) to the Town Lands account. **ACTION:** clerk

019.02 **RESOLVED:** The council members unanimously approved switching to paperless statements. **ACTION:** clerk

019.03 November/December Receipts & Payments

| <i>Business account</i> | <i>Description</i> | <i>Receipts</i> | <i>Payments</i> | <i>VAT</i> |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|
| Atlas | Tree surgery | | 480.00 | Y |
| SCDC | Covid grant | 200.00 | | |
| Opus Energy | Street lighting | | 89.78 | Y |
| Arthur Ibbett Ltd | Spares for mower | | 40.71 | Y |
| G Parrish | November pay | | 338.88 | |
| C Burns | November handyman | | 263.92 | |
| PKF Littlejohn | Audit | | 360.00 | Y |
| Play Inspection Co | Playground inspection | | 81.00 | Y |
| Opus Energy | Street lighting | | 95.24 | Y |
| Cambridge B/S | Interest | 52.39 | | |
| eon | Pavilion electricity | | 33.93 | Y |
| G Parrish | December pay | | 330.68 | |
| HMRC | Payroll liabilities | | 251.60 | |
| Red Shoes | Payroll services | | 45.00 | Y |
| Fen Drayton VH | Committee room hire | | 10.50 | |

RESOLVED: The council members unanimously approved the November/December receipts and payments.

Account balances (as at 11/01/2021)

- Business account = £20,429.34
- S106 account = £2,386.24
- Town Lands account = £26,457.10
- Cambridge B/S = £13,600.00

21/020 2021 MEETING DATES

NALC has advised that meetings should continue to be held remotely until further notice – probably Easter at the earliest.

Next meeting: 15 February 2021, 19.30 via Zoom.