

Sutton Bonington Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Sutton Bonington Parish Council that was held on Monday 6th December 2021 at 7.00 PM in the village hall

Present:

Cllr McMullen-Kerr, Cllr S Collings, Cllr Simpson, Cllr Bembridge, Cllr D Collings, Cllr Jackson, Cllr Raven, Cllr Betts, Cllr Simpson, Cllr Hood, Cllr Matthew Barney and the clerk.

437/2021 – Resolution to receive apologies for absence

- Apologies were received from Cllr Harrod.

438/2021 – Resolution to receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda

- All councillors declared an interest on item 443 as residents of Sutton Bonington and council tax payers.
- Cllr Hood declared an interest on item 449 as a member of the football club.

439/2021 – County Council/Borough Council/Police reports

- Cllr Barney reported that the jubilee tree lights looked really nice.
- Cllr Barney commented that there is a lot going on at the power station and that there is an event at Gotham village hall on the 7th December which will show the outline plans for the site. Cllr Raven asked about the nuclear site, Cllr Barney commented that there is a good chance that it will go ahead on the site of the cooling towers.
- Cllr Barney commented that a meeting had taken place with the Chair of the tennis club following their ongoing concerns about the volume of students parking at the club because they do not want to pay for parking at the university. It was noted that a number of plans are in place with the university to enforce 'no parking' on Landcroft Lane.
- It was reported that there will be raised platforms installed on Park Lane, by the new development, which will slow the traffic right through the village. It was also noted that '30mph for a reason signs' have gone up in the village and these will prove a good visual deterrent. Cllr Barney has met with the head of Highways and has put some ideas forward and he is hoping that a sensible list will be put forward. It was suggested that something should be put on social media to make parishioners aware that NCC are engaging with regards to traffic calming. Cllr McMullen-Kerr asked about the traffic survey. Cllr Barney commented that it is going to be submitted to help facilitate an automated slow down sign in the village, the data will confirm that the village qualifies for a NCC funded speed sign.
- The clerk reported that a copy of the police crime report had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

440/2021 – Public Forum

- N/A

441/2021 – Resolution to approve minutes of the meeting held on the 1st November 2021

- A copy of the minutes of the meeting held on the 1st November 2021 were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr S Collings proposed that they be accepted as a true record of the meeting, this was seconded by Cllr D Collings and all councillors were in agreement.
- Cllr Raven questioned whether we can amend the value of the scout lease because it should be down to the valuation. The clerk confirmed that she has spoken with our solicitor and they have confirmed that we can have the land valued but that we can also review it based on the rental value.
- Cllr Raven commented that the agenda and minutes are not on the noticeboard. The clerk confirmed that the noticeboards will be updated in the New Year.

442/2021 – Resolution to approve payments

- The clerk submitted a schedule of payments totaling to councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Hood proposed the payments, this was seconded by Cllr Bembridge and all councillors were in agreement.

Neil Toothill, cleaning & maintenance	£216.00
Kents Services, mowing	£516.00
British Gas	£88.39

Water Plus x 2 payments	£176.00
Blachere Illuminations, jubilee tree lights	£368.58
NEST, pension contributions for the clerk	£54.52
Belinda Simpson, payment for wildflower plant collection	£238.50
Helen Chadwick, clerks salary	£926.76
TOTAL	£2,584.75

443/2021 – Resolution to approve recommendation from the Finance Committee for the 2022/2023 budget and precept request

A copy of the draft budget for 2022/2023 was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

- As Vice Chair, Cllr S Collings, reported that the finance committee had met and reviewed the draft budget for 2022/2023. It was noted that some budget items have been removed because they will be included within the CIL money. It was noted that we have used quite a lot of the parish council reserves because there was some works that were not planned so came at an additional expenses.
- Cllr Simpson asked about the hedge works at the allotments and whether they had been included, it was noted that they had.
- Cllr Jackson asked about the percentage increase for the 2022/2023 and it was noted that it is about 12%.
- Cllr S Collings commented that we are trying to reduce costs where we can and it has been agreed that hard copies of the agenda and minutes will not be printed off for all councillors.
- Cllr Simpson asked why the finance committee had not proposed a larger increase in the budget. Cllr S Collings commented that we had lots of comments last year from residents about the high increase of our precept. It was noted that everything is increasing and that the committee have done what they can to ensure we can provide the services to the parish whilst being mindful of not reducing our reserves year on year.
- Cllr Simpson asked if it is possible to see what other parish councils are doing, the clerk agreed to look into this.
- Cllr McMullen-Kerr commented that we are trying to find a balance budget by getting our reserves back to what they need to be but not increasing the precept too much.
- Cllr S Collings proposed a precept request of £38,5000 for 2022/2023, Cllr D Collings seconded and all councillors in agreement.

444/2021 – Resolution to approve the recommendation for CIL monies

A copy of the CILreport was circulated to councillors prior the meeting.

- Cllr Hood reported that a working party had been created to look at how the £115k of CIL funds could be spent and noted that they should be received as three installments, the first within 60 days of commencement of work on the site. It was noted that there is an additional £70k which NCC control, we are still waiting for guidance on the criteria we need to meet to access this.
- Cllr Jackson commented that the planning application is not expected to be approved this year so we do have some additional time to approve the recommendations. It was agreed that councillors would review the document again and bring any comments to a future meeting.
- Cllr Jackson commented that there are a lack projects for the village, we have children's youth groups but there is not much for the older age groups.
- Cllr Barney thanked the working party for the work they have done and commented that RBC can offer a bridging loan to fill any gaps in a shortfall of funding.

445/2021 – Working party updates – for information only

- Cllr McMullen-Kerr reported that a copy of the meeting notes from the Biodiversity group were circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that 10-15 of the trees that were planted by the car park and playing field have been lost, possibly being cut down by mistake. It was noted that some thinning has taken place in Diamond wood and the lost trees will be replaced. It was reported that a resident on Landcroft Lane has trimmed a hole row of trees and cleared the area underneath, this land belongs to Highways and no work should be carried out. It was noted that this has been reported to Highways. Cllr Simpson commented that the bonfire area has been reseeded, but the biodiversity group would have preferred for wildflowers to be planted. Cllr Barney said that he would speak with RBC about the free tree scheme. Cllr Jackson commented that the soar land and jubilee woods has been excessively mowed and the trees on the mound have been cleared. Cllr Simpson commented that this was a deliberate decision to clear the area and that the is supposed to be a teaching area and the university do have plans for the area.
- Cllr Bembridge commented that the pavilion extension continues to be the main focus and has sourced an additional quote for the works. It was noted that he had met with colleague from Wymeswold who had shared a copy of their sport England grant application.

446/2021 – Planning & land – for agreement

- The Chair reported that the comments from the planning committee had been circulated prior to the meeting and the comments were agreed by councillors.
- The Chair reported that Cllr Harrod has resigned from the planning & land committee and we need to agree who is to be replace her. Cllr Simpson offered to join the committee and this was agreed.
- It was requested that all councillors provide their comments regarding the Soho Bonington planning application to the committee by Wednesday of next week so that they could be discussed at the next planning meeting.
- Cllr Jackson commented that WH have updated their drawings and these have been circulated to councillors. It was noted that WH have asked for a letter form the parish council in support of their updated planning application. It was agreed that councillors would provide feedback to Cllr Jackson by next Wednesday so that these could be included within the planning committee meeting.

447/2021 – To discuss the Borough Ward Boundary Changes and agree response

- It was noted that a copy of the Borough Ward Boundary Changes had been circulated to councillors in advance of the meeting.
- The Chair reported that Cllr Barney has circulated some information to the parish council and reported that there is a slightly amended version and that it is about the future of the area. It was agreed that it was a fair representation and councillors agreed to accept the proposal and it would be submitted by the clerk.

448/2021 – To discuss the Community Risk Management Plan and agree whether the parish council submit comments

- It was noted that a copy of the Community Risk Management Plan had been circulated to councillors in advance of the meeting.
- Cllr D Collings commented that he, amongst other councillors, agreed that the plan does not affect the village. All councillors were in agreement.

449/20121– To discuss the request from Sutton Bonington Football Club to erect a sign at the pavilion/playing field gate that has been donated to the club and agree actions

- It was reported that the parish council have received a request from the football club to have sign erected that has been donated as a memorial for a player who passed away. Cllr Hood circulated a draft of the sign prior to the meeting and explained that it was hoped that it could be installed on the playing field gate.
- Cllr Bembridge commented that there is a sign that says 'the home of football and cricket' already on the gate. It was suggested that the wording on the sign should include 'Sutton Bonington Playing Field home of the football club and cricket club' with their specific logos and the words 'donated by' on it.
- It was agreed that a further draft of the sign would be circulated for approval.

450/2021 – To discuss the PTA bonfire and agree feedback

- Cllr D Collings commented that he was extremely concerned about the organisation of the vent and the car parking on Marle Pitt Hill and throughout the village. He commented that there were people with hi vis jackets directing traffic in the village and if there had been an accident the PTA would have been responsible. He commented that ambulance or fire engine would have struggled to get through the village due to the way vehicles had been parked.
- Cllr Raven commented that the event had been a huge success and that the site had been put back really well. It was noted that the event was so well attended because other local events had been sold out. Cllr Hood commented that whilst it had been a great success for the PTA there were too many cars.
- Cllr Bembridge commented that the bonfire is a fantastic event for the village and the PTA have been doing it for many years.
- It was suggested that a meeting is held with the PTA prior to the 2022 event to agree the location of the bonfire and to discuss parking arrangements, etc.
- Councillors agreed that moving forward any request for 500 people or more would need to be approved by the parish council two/three months prior to the event. At this point details of the required risk assessments and insurances would be discussed.
- Cllr Simpson suggested that we need to move the bonfire away from the trees and to consider parking, highways, etc.

451/2021 – To discuss the pavilion extension to ensure the building is future proofed and agree action

- The Chair commented that there are concerns about the escalation of building costs because of COVID and whilst it is hoped that the majority of costs will be covered by grants we need to ensure that the facility is for the whole community. It was noted that the pavilion is being improved for the football and the cricket club but not for the wider community.
- It was noted that the pavilion was built over 40 years ago for the football and cricket clubs and their requirements at the time and we need to be confident that the adjustments we are making now will make it sustainable for another 40 years. Cllr Hood community that there is a plan at East Leake for a new

community space and asked whether we should consider making the pavilion available for the wider community.

- Cllr Bembridge commented that the Chair is valid in what they are saying and that it would be advisable to future proof the building. It was noted that we are getting the best for the sports clubs and with that we hope that other groups will benefit.
- Cllr Betts agreed with what was being said and asked whether the pavilion and scout hut could be removed and a new building created that would accommodate both. It was noted that the scout hut is not owned by the parish council.
- Cllr Hood commented that we started looking at the extension of the pavilion 18 months ago and we are about 18 months away from getting the work completed. It was noted that a lot of work has gone into getting the project to this stage and that we should not delay the work any further.
- Cllr Simpson commented that she had raised concerns at previous meetings about the extension and that it would be a good opportunity to look at making the main room a better shape, larger and more accessible which would make it a more usable space and therefore would bring in more revenue. Cllr S Collings commented that she agreed, and that the parish council should review the plans to ensure the building is future proofed and not just extended to meet the needs of the football and cricket clubs.
- Councillors agreed that the plans would be reviewed to incorporate the ideas to increase the main room and the kitchen and that a working party meeting would be held in the New Year. It was also suggested that it might be worth consulting with the community to see what facilities they would want to see. Cllr Bembridge commented that in order to review the plans we need a brief. Councillors D Collings, Cllr Hood, Cllr Betts agreed to meet to look a proposal along with members of the working party. Cllr Barney offered to support the group to see what could be done to future proof the pavilion but not stall what has already been done. It was also agreed that a member of the show committee be invited to the meeting.

452/2021 – Update on the installation of the electricity supply and lights for the jubilee tree

- The clerk reported that the installation of the power supply had been completed and the lights installed and switched on.
- It was noted that there will be some additional charges for the lights, which are on a timer, and the use of the cherry picker, etc.
- Councillors thanked Cllr Harrod for the work she had done to this project completed.

453/2021 – Update on HS2

- Cllr D Collings reported that they are going to electrify the midland mainline and will be starting work on it at Christmas but we do not know where the work will start. It was noted that bridge on Marle Pitt Hill and the bridge on the A0006 will have to come down when the work is done. It was noted that there will be an awful lot of noise and disruption in the village.
- Cllr Barney commented that this is a watching brief and that the Birmingham leg of HS2 does exist and should be reviewed at a parish council meeting when they are available.

454/2021 – Date of next meeting

- The Chair proposed that the next meeting takes place on Monday 7th February 2022 at 7.00 PM in the village hall

Closed at 21:10