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Minutes of the Council Meeting of Nettleden with Potten End Parish Council Meeting

held on

Thursday, 19th May 2022

in the Church Room, Potten End, HP4 2QY at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs D Burfot (Chair), E Brennan, E Spanswick and D Westenholz-Smith.

In attendance: Mr T Douris (County and Borough Councillor), Mr A Farrow (Parish Clerk), and seven members of the public.

| Agenda reference | Agenda item |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 22/060 | Election of Chairman |
| | Resolved - to elect Daniel Burfot as Chairman for the year 2022/23. Agreed unanimously. |
| 22/061 | Election of Vice Chairmen |
| | Resolved - to elect David Grimsdale and Dina Westenholz-Smith as Vice Chairmen for the year 2022/23. Agreed unanimously. |
| 22/062 | Apologies for absence were noted and accepted from Cllrs Grimsdale, Nelson, Smith and Wright. |
| 22/063 | Declaration of interests |
| | There were no declarations of interest or requests for grants of dispensations from councillors for declarable interests on items on the agenda. |

22/064 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Council on the 19th April 2022 as circulated to members be signed as a correct record. Agreed unanimously.

22/065 Public Issues

- **a.** Concern was expressed at the safety of an ash at the end of the Old Green. It hadn't been identified as a risk in the Tree Survey carried out by John O'Conner in 2021 but the Parish Council had agreed to review it when work was undertaken on the Old Green.
- **b.** The status of replacing the bridleway signs on the Old Green was raised; this is scheduled to be reviewed with the responsible Dacorum Officer for the June meeting.
- **c.** The metal slide on the Spencer Holland playground had been retained when all the new equipment was wooden because there had been significant public support to retain it. The slide had been repaired and repainted.
- **22/066** Matters outstanding none that needed discussion or weren't dealt with elsewhere on the agenda.

22/067 Correspondence received

a. Sewerage – noted that Thames Water had agreed to reline the sewers in Brown Springs and that although this didn't address the issue of "hydraulic overload" during high rainfall it should help prevent blockages.

Agenda Agenda item reference

- b. Luton Airport expansion agreed that the Council should be included in the representation being made by LADACAN against the expansion of Luton Airport to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.
- **c. Hertfordshire Migration Strategic Steering Group** noted the update regarding asylum seekers in Hertfordshire circulated to members was.
- **d. Police** a report had been received noting one 'non-dwelling' burglary and a few thefts from unattended cars parked in remote areas of Ashridge where items had been left on display. A representative of the police would be attending the June Council Meeting.
- **e. Dacorum Filming Officer** noted that the Clerk would be meeting the officer so that she could gain a better understanding of the village.
- 22/068 Parish Warden report four fridges dumped on Nettleden Rd had been reported to Dacorum and removed. The wet pour repair around some of the new play equipment was shrinking creating a potential trip hazard and would be monitored, and a metal bolt protruding from the ground after the old equipment had been dismantled had been removed. The water butts at the burial ground had been topped up. Noted that both inner gate posts at the burial ground now needed replacing.
- **22/069 National Trust report** noted that the NT was undertaking thermal counts to establish the numbers of deer on the estate, and that the NT was working with a consultant to look at car park surfaces. Surprise was expressed that the NT Estate Committee didn't appear to be discussing the impact of the issues regarding the Chilterns Beechwoods Special Area of Conservation (SAC) which had seriously impacted planning applications in the Borough (see 22/054.e).

22/070 Report of Traffic and Highways Working Party

- **a.** Little Heath Lane noted that work to address drainage issues had been scheduled in August and would probably involve the installation of kerbs.
- **b. Nettleden and Vicarage Rd fingerpost** noted that the replacement fingerpost had been received and would be installed as soon as possible.
- c. School Gardens the road surface was deteriorating. Cllr Douris agreed to review.

22/071 Report and update from the Planning Working Party

a. Noted the response to a planning application submitted to Dacorum BC since the last Council Meeting under the Clerk's delegated powers.

22/01039/FHA The Grange, Frithsden Copse, Potten End, HP4 2RG No objection Construction of boundary fence to south-eastern boundary.

b. Agreed responses to the following planning applications:

22/01255/FHA 28 Hempstead Lane, Potten End, HP4 2SD No objection

Two storey side and rear extensions and internal alterations.

22/01277/FHA Deers Leap, 18 Rambling Way, Potten End, HP4 2SF No objection

Proposed ground floor rear extension, floor plan redesign and all associated works

22/01464/FUL 26 Hempstead Lane, Potten End, HP4 2SD No objection

Agenda Agenda item reference

Demolition of existing house and construction of a new house in its place to include over the existing footprint, a two storey side, rear and front extensions, increase in eaves height and ridge height, 1 dormer to the front and 3 dormers to the rear, and alterations to the brickwork and fenestration including installation of Heat pumps and Solar Panel. (Amended scheme)

c. Agreed a response to the following planning application received after the agenda was published.

22/01514/FHA Acrefield, Frithsden Copse, Potten End, HP4 2RG

No objection

Part single, part two storey side extension, first floor rear extension and relocation of front porch.

d. Little Heath Lane solar array (22/01106/MFA) – noted the detail of the Parish Council's objection as agreed under 22/054.d and that confirmation had been received that the application would be referred to Dacorum's Development Management Committee for a decision.

22/072 Report and Update from the Open Spaces and Leisure Working Party

a. Allotments

Resolved to contribute £100 toward the cost of removing rubbish from the allotments. Agreed unanimously.

b. Potten End Jubilee Festival

- i. **Noted** that a grant had been received from the National Lottery for £6,658.
- ii. **Noted** agreement for a licensed bar to be operated by the Cricket Club on the Sports Field on the 3rd and 4th June.
- iii. **Noted** that the Council had entered into agreements with Eventbrite, for the issuing of tickets for the open-air cinema, and Square, for the processing of card payments.

22/073 Report and Update from the Finance and Administration Working Party

a. Noted payment of the following invoice

| Xamax Clothing Co | Hi-Vis waste coats for festival | £252.30 |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| Ltd | | |

b. To approve payment of the following invoices:

| DCVS | Clerk's salary for May and back pay | £3,180.08 |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| DCVS | Payroll administration | £31.20 |
| DCVS | Annual payroll fee | £70.80 |
| DCVS | Annual membership fee | £36.00 |
| Nest | Clerk's pension | £169.93 |
| A Farrow | Expenses | £190.30 |
| K Furness | Parish Warden duties | £480.00 |

| Agenda reference | Agenda item | | | | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|
| | Potten End Cricket Club | Re-imbursement of allotment water rates paid by club in error. | £205.13 | | | |
| | J&M Nixon Printers Ltd | The Print Centre - publicity material for the festival | £854.00 | | | |
| | Ernest Newhouse | Internal audit | £375.00 | | | |
| | Sanctuary Art of Sound Ltd | PA hire and engineering services for the festival | £1,320.00 | | | |
| | Paul Rose | Reimbursement of overpaid pitch festival pitch fee | £30.00 | | | |
| | ICCM | Annual membership of the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Managament | £95.00 | | | |
| c. | Noted payments received and held on account | | | | | |
| | Potten End Village Hall | Grant received from National Lottery for Jubilee Festival | £6,658.00 | | | |
| | Potten End School | Rent for use of sports field in 2022/23 | £167.84 | | | |
| | Festival plot fees | | £260.00 | | | |
| | eventbrite | Net ticket receipts for movies on 4 th June. | £1,187.81 | | | |
| | | | | | | |

d. 2021/22 year-end

- Resolved that that the Annual Governance Statement as presented to members is correct and may be signed on behalf of the Council. Agreed unanimously.
- **Resolved** that the Accounting Statements as presented to members are correct ii. and may be signed on behalf of the Council. Agreed unanimously.
- iii. **Resolved** that the Clerk may publish the approved sections of the Annual Governance Review, the completed statement of Public Rights and Publication of Unaudited Annual Governance & Accountability Return, and the notes which accompany the Notice on the Parish Council's website from 13th June to 22nd July 2022. Agreed unanimously.
- **Noted** the comments of the Internal Auditor and **agreed** the response as presented to members.

Noted the recommendation of the Internal Auditor that the Council should migrate from the current, excel-based, accounting system to a software package. Agreed that the Clerk be authorised to investigate the options and commit to a service if he considered it appropriate for the Council's needs.

e. Code of Conduct

Resolved to adopt the model code of conduct as presented to members. Agreed unanimously.

f. Risk assessment

Resolved to agree the risk assessment as presented to members. Agreed unanimously.

22/074 Annual review

Resolved to agree the following in accordance with article 5.j of the Council's Standing Orders. Agreed unanimously.

Agenda Agenda item reference

- i. Delegation arrangements to committees and staff
- ii. Terms of reference for committees
- iii. Standing Orders (including the changes submitted to members as a result of Brexit).
- iv. Financial Regulations (including the changes submitted to members whereby the Clerk would have delegated power to undertake expenditure of up to £500 if within budget, and up to £5,000 if within budget and supported by the Finance and Administration Working Party).
- v. Representation on external bodies
- vi. Inventory of land and assets
- vii. Arrangements for insurance cover
- viii. Subscriptions and regular payments
- ix. Complaints procedure
- x. Policies, procedures and practices in respect of the Council's obligations under the freedom of information and data protection legislation
 - Privacy policy for staff and councillors
 - General privacy policy
 - FOI publication scheme
- xi. The Council's expenditure under s.137 of the Local Government Act 1972
- xii. The times and places of ordinary meetings of the full Council up to and including the next annual meeting of the full council
- **b. Agreed** to defer consideration of the appointment of members to committees and working parties until the June Council Meeting.

22/075 Date and time of next meetings

The next meeting will be held on 16th June 2022 at the Church Room, Potten End at 7.30pm.