

MINUTES

Public Session

Guest Speakers

Cllr Lane reported that a resident had mentioned that the bus was having trouble getting up Station Hill because of the number of vehicles parked on the square. It was not certain that anything can be done about parking, but the clerk will agenda it for the next meeting.

Cllr Luggar congratulated the Glebe Field committee on the new play area. He reported that the Council had a huge task to deal with the business grants available due to the effects of Covid 19, but all were dealt with appropriately. The virus has had an adverse effect on the Council's revenue and is now suffering from a deficit budget.

Cllr Edgell reported that the grants were available from the Biosphere for the renovation of Orchards – Cllr Wadsworth stated that the Glebe Field sub-committee has already approached the Biosphere. David Netherway has made an application for £300 for fruit trees for the Old Orchard site, subject to the agreement of the Parish Council. **All in agreement.**

Cllr Edgell suggested that there is a chance to extend the scheme and apply for further funding.

2020.22 **Apologies and attendance** - apologies received from Cllr Dodd – all others in attendance

2020.23 **Declarations of Interest**

2020.24 **Minutes of previous meeting** – these were agreed and signed

2020.25 **Correspondence**

Updates from NDC – all circulated

Update from NDHT – circulated

DCC – school transport – circulated

Rachel Mephram – re land for sale at back of Mill House. At this point, Cllr Wadsworth declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.

An email was received from this lady with a general enquiry as to whether the parish Council would support her idea for development of this land into an eco-friendly Campoing/glamping business. Cllr Dodd replied to her advising her to submit a pre-planning application to see how the planners would feel about such a development.

Website accessibility report – this will be passed electronically to Cllrs Skinner and Wright, as they had previously agreed to have a look at the website in respect of new accessibility requirements. The clerk will arrange for the Councillors to have admin access to the website to carry this out.

Swimbridge School - re signs (Cllr Wadsworth)The school has had correspondence with Devon Highways with regard to road markings and signage outside the school to assist with drop-off and pick-up time. They have been advised by Highways that their existing measures (zig-zags and 30MPH flashing speed sign) are the standard. Cllrs suggested that the school should request a Road Safety audit which may identify the problems and solutions, if any. The school should also update its travel plan. **Cllr Wadsworth (as a school governor) will reply.**

2020.26

Committee Reports

1. Planning nothing to report, except Cllr Wadsworth is concerned that the lists which are sent to Parish Councils are not reader friendly, in that they are not ordered by Parish or ward, but just numerically by planning application number. The clerk will email Planning again/

2. Finance – a. update re Audit. The Internal Audit has been completed. Unfortunately this year we have exceeded the minimum expenditure for exemption from an external audit. The clerk will email the internal audit report.

b. Movements within accounts approved by emailc. Grants received £495 from Prompt action fund for Covid-19

£4282 from North Devon Council towards play area equipment

3. Community Engagement/Glebe Field

Cllr Wadsworth reported that the play area is almost finished – just waiting for safety sign-off and signage. It is intended that (due to Covid restrictions) there will be a soft opening of the park so that the play area can be used, and an official opening ceremony will be held hopefully next spring.

A Risk assessment for the park was passed to all Councillors for consideration and **all agreed**. This will be held with the other Council policies and procedures.

There will be a weekly visual inspection by Cllr Skinner, but an annual ROSPA safety inspection will be required, and should be considered in the budget for next year.

A Riverbank Enhancement project is to be set up – **Cllr Haworth-Booth will organise this.**

A Just Giving page is to be started, linked with a QR code which will be displayed on the park signage.

There is a question as to whether a litter bin should be on site. Particularly in the present circumstances the public should be advised to take their litter home. It was suggested that this situation is monitored and address later.

One of the main gate posts needs replacing. It is estimated this will cost £60-£100 plus labour. **Cllr Knill will organise this** – all agreed that this amount is acceptable. The Herass fence will remain in place until the gate is repaired.

2020.27 **Payments for approval :**

Clerks Salary	£160.72
Expenses for Old Orchard (DN)	£23.73
Transfer of grant to Jubilee Hall	£495.00
PC Websites	£130.00
Crossways Country Park	£360.00
J Whitton expenses	£229.13
J Snooks – internal auditor	£175.00

2020.28 **Matters for further discussion**

Residents of the High Street/Church Lane area have been advised that road re-surfacing will be carried out 17-18th September. However, the top end of the High Street past the Church rooms, towards Mill Court is not included. Residents have asked the Parish Council to contact Highways and request this part of the street is also re-surfaced. All agreed – **Cllr Wadsworth will telephone them on Monday.**

SWW have asked that one of the sheds in the Jubilee Hall car park be moved as it is impeding their access. Cllr Wadsworth will discuss this with the Jubilee Hall committee.

Mrs Patten has reported that the War Memorial is 100 years old this year (26th September). Evens are planned to mark this.