

**Minutes of the Meeting of Ulley Parish Council**

**held at the Village Hall, Ulley at 7.00 pm on 30th November 2022**

Members: Cllrs: R Robson (Chairman), S Hubbard, C Myers

Apologies: None

In attendance: Sarah Whitaker (Clerk)

 6 members of the public

A public session of 20 minutes was held prior to the formal Council meeting, in accordance with Section 3 of the Council’s Standing Orders.

1. **Countryside Manager - RMBC –** No attendance
2. **Resident** – Congratulated PPSC on Parish Plan
3. **Resident** – Expressed concerns that the hedge had been cut along Penny Hill Lane, without the pickers being informed. This causes broken glass and is dangerous for the pickers. In future if the pickers are not informed before a cut is carried out, they will not be able to pick there.
4. **Resident** – Raised the issue of exploring solar panels on the Village Hall – this is covered later in the agenda.
5. **Resident –** Suggested exploring the option of having tree decorations on lamp posts like Whiston – this has been explored previously and was considered too expensive as it stands.
6. **Resident –** Expressed concerns regarding the state of repair of the footpaths in the village. **Resolved – Clerk to raise with RMBC**.

**106/22 To receive and approve any apologies for absence**

**Resolved:** **There were no apologies for absence**

**107/22 To note any declarations of interest on items to be discussed at this meeting**

There were no declarations of interest.

**108/22 To consider any matters to be excluded from the public**

There were no matters to exclude.

**109/22 To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28th September 2022 and 12th October 2022.**

**Resolved: The minutes of the meetings be approved as a true record.**

**110/22 To receive written applications and to co-opt a candidate to fill the existing vacancy for a Parish Councillor**

No applications have been received. Pat Smith has resigned which means there is now 2 vacancies for a Parish Councillor. Currently, if a Councillor cannot attend a meeting the meeting will not go ahead as it will not be quorate.

**Resolved: Clerk to begin the process to fill the second parish councillor vacancy.**

**111/22 To receive a report from the Millennium Trust**

1. **Caretaker.**  There is a vacancy for a caretaker for the Village Hall, this is causing problems as there is no one to facilitate bookings.
2. **Building Maintenance.** The Village Hall needs repointing with lime mortar and the chimney removing, received 2 quotes, looking between 10-15k. It is hoped this will be completed towards the end of next year with grant funding.
3. **Xmas Events.** 3rd December Xmas Fayre.10th December Over 60’s Meal. 11th December Children’s Party. 11th December Social Evening.

**112/22 – To receive an update from the Parish Plan Steering Committee (PPSC)**

PPSC have been busy fundraising

1. **Play Area.** Revised Park plan received from Hags, does contain 2 errors, it shows a see-saw which should have been removed, this is not on the quotation, and it shows the existing bench is to be removed when it will remain.

Hags have agreed to hold the price on the latest quote until 9th December.

The payment schedule needs to be finalised at the meeting this evening.

1. **Parish Plan**. The action plan has been created and is ready to be sent out. Awaiting a decision to move forward at the next PPSC meeting.

**113/22 To consider any issues arising from the management of the Play Area**

1. **Inspection report.** Accepted
2. **Insurance.** The current level of insurance for the play area is £48,000, this will be the case until May 2024 when the insurance policy is renewed.

**Resolved: Agreed to keep the insurance cover for the play area as it is.**

1. **Park Plan.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Instalment | Joint 1st Payment Feb 23 | 2nd Apr 23 | 3rd Pay Jun | 4th Pay Aug |  |
| Funder | Banks/RMBC | FCC/PC | FCC/PC | FCC/PC | FCC/PC |  |
| Gross | £20,634.80 | £18,241.30 | £18,241.30 | £18,241.30 | £18,241.30 | £93,600.00 |
| NET VAT | £17,195.68 | £15,201.08 | £15,201.08 | £15,201.08 | £15,201.08 | £78,000.00 |
| VAT | £3,439.13 | £3,040.22 | £3,040.22 | £3,040.22 | £3,040.22 | £15,600.00 |

**Resolved: Park plan agreed in principle upon removal of the see-saw and the existing bench is to remain. Payment schedule agreed as above. £2,250 has been fundraised and PC will contribute £1,700 towards the VAT. PPSC to agree to sign over ownership of all equipment to PC at their next meeting.**

**114/22 To consider and agree representation on outside bodies;**

1. **RMBC Network Meeting**
2. **RMBC Joint Working Group**

**Resolved: A Council member will attempt to attend these meetings if available. The Windfarm Liaison and Windfarm Funding groups will be represented by Cllr Myers in replacement of Cllr Smith.**

**115/22 To receive an update on the Village Hall**

1. **Loft Insulation.** No update.
2. **Solar** **Panels.** 2 quotes were obtained by the Clerk, one with a battery and one without.

**Resolved: More research to be carried out to understand the cost benefits of solar panels**

1. **Re-pointing.** Quotes obtained by Millennium Trust. see item. 111/22 b) above.

**116/22 To consider a Memorial Bench**

**Resolved: Cllr Hubbard to speak to the family and finalise a location. Clerk to send application form from RMBC to Cllr Hubbard for completion.**

**117/22 To consider the request that a Laser Printer is purchased**

**Resolved: Cllr Hubbard has the original printer used for the village newsletter, this will be offered to Gill to use.**

**118/22 To receive an update on speeding and highways matters**

It was understood that the outstanding ‘H’ markings would be in place by the end of November and the speed survey has still not been carried out.

**Resolved: Clerk to request an update from Marc Hill and copy in Cllr Pitchley & Cllr Taylor**

**119/22 To receive an update on Footpaths and Rights of Way**

**Resolved: Clerk to contact Richard Pett regarding footpath maintenance.**

**120/22 To receive an update on Greenspaces/Wilding Developments**

1. **Bulbs provided by RMBC.** Bradley Scott (RMBC) has provided some bulbs to be planted in the village. Cllr Hubbard awaiting advice from Bradley regarding planting a tree with funding from the Queens Jubilee.

**Resolved: Cllr Hubbard to follow up with Bradley Scott, RMBC.**

**121/22 To receive an update on the field at the back of the Royal Oak**

The Clerk has spoken to Linda Stewart at the brewery, the matter has been referred to the surveyors.

**Resolved: Clerk to write to Brewery and notify them of need to access the Village Hall over their land.**

**122/22 To consider any Planning Applications received since the last meeting**

No objections/comments

**123/22 To receive a financial update including;**

1. **To receive a report to 30th October, including Bank Reconciliation and Payments for Authorisation**

**Resolved: The following items were authorised for payment:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 01/09/22 | Scottish Water | Water Village Hall |  £35.39 |
| 01/09/22 | Whitaker S | Clerks Salary Aug 22 |  £210.37 |
| 06/09/22 | HMRC | Clerks Tax Aug 22 |  £52.40 |
| 03/10/22 | Southern Electric | Village Hall Electricity |  £97.19  |
| 03/10/22 | Whitaker S | Clerks Salary Sep 22 |  £331.37  |
| 04/10/22 | PKF Littlejohn | External Audit |  £240.00  |
| 06/10/22 | HMRC | Clerks Tax Sep 22 | £83.00 |
| 12/10/22 | Wel Medical | Defibrillator Battery | £192.00 |
| 17/10/22 | Whitaker S | Microsoft Membership | £79.99 |

In addition, agreed to pay £713+VAT for the War Memorial, £1,000+VAT for Ulley in Bloom.

**Balance – Current £8,617.35 Reserve - £3,629.40**

1. **National Salary Award.** Clerks Salary has increased from £15.16 per hour to £16.16 per hour. Backpay to April 22 of additional £121.33

**Resolved: Agreed**

1. **Budget Review.** The budget is very tight, just about covers the necessities but no room for anything general that crops up.

**Resolved; Clerk to provide figures based on increasing the precept by 5%, 8% & 10%.**

**124/22 To consider a review of policies, including:**

1. Financial Regulations
2. Standing Orders
3. Councillor/Officer Protocol

**Resolved: Agreed**

**125/22 To consider any general correspondence received, including:**

1. **White Rose Update** – No update
2. **CAP Meeting –** Raised issues regarding the recent burglaries – ongoing police work. Any questions to the police can be forwarded via the Clerk.
3. **Car Crime Packs**

**Resolved No available budget to purchase these.**

1. **Multi Agency Meeting** – Cllr Robson is not always available to attend these meetings

**Resolved A Council member will attempt to attend these meetings if available**

**126/22 To consider any agenda items and arrangements for the next Meeting of the parish council to be held on 25th January 2023.**

**Resolved: The following agenda items will be added to the next meeting;**

* Budget/Precept

The meeting was closed at 8.40pm.

Signed …………………………(Chairman). Date: 28th January 2023