

**FISHLAKE PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 9<sup>th</sup>  
March 2021 VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE AT 7.00PM**

**1. Open Public Forum (OPF) 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

1.1. There being no members of the public present at the meeting the Chair closed the Open Public Forum.

**MINUTES OF THE FISHLAKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD  
ON 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021 AT 7.00 PM VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE**

**PRESENT:** The Chair, Councillor J S Waite,

Councillors: D Chaffer, P Trimingham, P Webb and D White

2. **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** All Councillors were present.
3. **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF ANY INTEREST:** Councillor Waite and Councillor Trimingham declared an interest as Chair and Treasurer of the Fishlake Monday Club. Cllr Waite and Cllr Trimingham declared an interest in the planning application to be submitted in connection with the container sited on the landing section in the village of the River Don.
4. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE FOLLOWING MEETING:** It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021 be accepted as a true record.
5. **TO CONSIDER ACCOUNTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS:** The Clerk presented details of the receipts and payments account of the Council for the period to 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021. There were no further receipts into the Parish account since last month with total payments listed below to be approved for the month of £643.52. The total net surplus of receipts over payments for the period to date is £28,864.80 and the balance remaining in the current and deposit account with the bank after effecting the payments listed below will be £152,995.74.

Date Received	Details	Amount
09/03/2021	Zoom subscription	143.88
09/03/2021	J R Hunter Clerk salary Jan & Feb 2021	399.84
09/03/2021	HMRC – PAYE Clerk salary	99.80

It was resolved to approve the payments.

**6. TO CONSIDER ALL ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE:**

- 6.1. An email from a resident of the village thanking the Parish Council for the provision of information concerning the proceedings and affairs of the Council in the past year. The resident requested details of the minutes and other communications between members of the Community Flood Action Group.

Signed ..... Chair, 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021

**Action:** Clerk reply to resident advising that the Parish Council has no connection with the Community Flood Action Group nor access to any information concerning its decisions; any request for information should therefore be addressed directly to the members of the Flood Action Group.

6.2. An email from a resident of the village requesting a copy of the minutes of the February 2021 Parish Council meeting.

**Action:** Clerk to forward a copy of the approved minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

6.3. An email from an anonymous individual requesting copies of the minutes and agenda of Fishlake Parish Council from Nov 2019 TO Feb 2021. In addition, the same individual requested information concerning correspondence by email or otherwise in respect of the Community Flood Action Group and the management of the funds.

**Action:** Clerk to forward copies of the agendas and minutes of the Parish Council and advise that the Parish Council has no connection with the Community Flood Action Group to whom any requests for information should be separately and directly addressed.

6.4. A SMS message requesting the names of all members of the Community Flood Action Group.

**Action:** Clerk to respond to text message advising that the Parish Council have no connection with the Community Flood Action Group and therefore any request for information should be addressed directly to members of the group.

6.5. An email from an insurance broker concerning renewal of the insurance cover for the Fishlake Monday Club at a premium of £246.00. Councillors acknowledged that the activities of the Fishlake Monday Club cover voluntary work undertaken by members of the community on behalf of the Parish. The volunteers include all the Flood Wardens who carry out maintenance and monitoring work on land the majority of which is owned by the Parish.

It was resolved that the Parish Council cover the payment of the insurance renewal on behalf of the Fishlake Monday Club for the sum of £246.00. Cllr Trimmingham and Cllr Waite as interested parties abstained carried by majority of the remaining councillors.

## 7. TO CONSIDER ALL PLANNING MATTERS:

7.1. 21/00313/FUL from Tagg, 4 Hay Green, Sour Lane, Fishlake, erection of single storey rear extension following demolition of existing single storey extension. Noted with no comments.

7.2. 21/00475/FUL from F Goldthorpe, Fosterhouse Farm, Pinfold Lane, Fishlake, erection of two storey side extension. Noted with no comments.

7.3. A retrospective planning application had been tentatively submitted by the Flood Wardens through the auspices of the Fishlake Monday Club for the container stationed on the landing site by Doncaster River. The planning officer has recommended that the application be formally submitted by the Parish Council and thereby reduce the application fee. Councillors discussed the legitimacy of such application and concluded that given the container is sited on land owned by the Parish it was appropriate that the planning application be registered under the name of Parish Council.

Resolved that a retrospective planning application in the name of Fishlake Parish Council be submitted covering the container. Cllr Trimingham and Cllr Waite as Flood Wardens as interested parties abstained carried by majority of the remaining councillors.

8. **TO CONSIDER HIGHWAYS MATTERS:** The Clerk reported on his enquiries made with Doncaster Highways concerning status of planned maintenance and repair of the many 'potholes' within Fishlake. The department has declined to accept requests for information. Any approaches are required to be made via an online portal through which specific and precise problems concerning road conditions are to be reported.

The meeting referred to undertakings given by the Chief Executive of the Doncaster Metropolitan Council (DBMC) D Alan and the Major R Jones as part of the Flood Recovery response that the consequent damage to the roads within and around the village would be fully addressed. An element of the funds from Central Government allocated to Fishlake was to cover such repair work to make good the extensive damage caused by the flood water.

**Action:** Clerk to write to the appropriate operational officer D Swaine who covers the issue of Highway Maintenance referring to these undertakings, seeking clarification and urgent action in the management of the road maintenance and repair.

Clerk to confirm and log the state of potholes on Sour Land, Dirty Lane, Millfield at the junction of Eastfield to Westfield and the start of Pinfold Lane at the junction of Church Lane, and Mainstreet.

Clerk to log request for bollard on the grass verge near the entrance to Stoney Lane Farm at the junction of Dirty Lane and Trundell Lane.

9. **TO CONSIDER IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMMES:** The Clerk advised the meeting that in pursuit of enquiries into the provision of CCTV security cameras he had been placed in contract with Coleen Anderson an officer from the DBMC Community Safety Team. In addition, a further contact has been established with the PCC for Doncaster and has been referred to Sgt Miles from the

Doncaster East Police Team. Cllr Trimingham recommended that the Council seek to establish a clear line of communication channel with Inspector Carr.

The Council discussed the magnitude of the financial reserves and the need to evaluate alternative improvement projects in addition to the provision of a network of CCTV cameras. It was concluded that a significant issue emerging out of previous community engagement forums was the level of criminal activity in the village. It was critical that information from CCTV cameras should be directly accessible by the Parish Council rather than through DMBC or the PCC. Any delay in the interrogation of CCTV footage following criminal events inhibits subsequent investigations, arrest and prosecution of the perpetrators.

The possibility of the Parish Council taking over ownership and control of the existing CCTV cameras in the village should be investigated in addition to the acquisition of further cameras.

**Action:** Clerk to follow up the connections established and progress the investigation into the provision of CCTV cameras in the village.

10. **TO CONSIDER FISHLAKE PLAYING FIELD MATTERS:** Cllr Trimingham reported on unauthorised action undertaken by members of the Playing Field Committee who following successful application for Grant aid had purchased 10 dwarf trees and planted them in the playing field. The field of play, and the facilities are not impinged upon nor is access for grass or hedge cutting. Cllr Trimingham therefore proposed that retrospective approval be granted for the tree planting at their present location. It was resolved that approval be granted and carried unanimously.

**Action:** Clerk to write on behalf of the Parish to the Vice Chair of the Committee thanking them for their efforts in securing funding and planting of the trees. At the same time respectfully pointing out the responsibility of the Parish Council in the management of the playing field, including health and safety, access, and maintenance of the grounds. In that capacity the Parish Council must be consulted and approve all matters connected with any changes to the playing field and its facilities. To that end a defined procedure should be established to facilitate the process of request for change, for approval prior to action.

The Clerk advised that Burn Fencing had been approached and contact details of Cllr Waite provided to whom any queries or requests for inspection should be addressed.

11. **TO CONSIDER FLOOD PLAN / PREVENTION:** Cllr Trimingham referred to his comprehensive email sent to the Environmental Agency that in congratulating them on the work they have done so far, and the outline of their future plans raised a number of issues and outstanding concerns of the community. Questions that included whether there were any further sums remaining in the capital budget project for any major work in Fishlake, and could the telemetry located in the Ings be installed on a permanent basis. In response to which email the EA suggested a site visit to discuss the issues raised in anticipation of a detailed written response to the Parish Council. It is worth noting that the Yorkshire Post continue their interest and support to the village. Ed Milliband MP was and is particularly keen to remain informed on progress and had meet

with members of the EA lending his support to the community. The local farming community are also lending their support to the campaign who are particularly frustrated by the classification of the land abutting the River Don as washlands rather than Ings.

Cllr Trimingham shared historic documentary evidence of work done within the River catchment during the late 1930's to early 1940's, during which time the profile of the river was appreciably widened resulting in an increase in the flow rates of the water from a peak of 5,000 cu ft per second to 12,000 cu ft per second. This provides tangible proof and support for the proposition presented by the Fishlake flood wardens and community group for the proactive widening of the water course to significantly mitigate flood risk. It is also worth noting that surveys of the earth bank demonstrate they are constituted of silt and soil rather than clay and as such have a 70/80 year span; a time span that has now elapsed.

**12. TO CONSIDER POLICE MATTERS / NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH:** Cllr

Trimingham advised that the new community police officer for the village was PC Chris Butler who will be supported by the PCSO Ben Wilson. Both are experienced officers who have worked previously in the community and will be an excellent and competent policing resource.

There has been little progress into the investigation of the break-in and theft of the EA security compound. Stolen items of equipment have been located nearby in Balby with as yet no arrests.

Criminal activity in the area has been limited with some reporting of Dog Theft and nuisance from Quad Bike riders.

It was noted that reporting of suspicious vehicle activity is being channelled through the Facebook community pages with encouragement for individuals to report such sightings directly to the police. Cllr Trimingham recommended that any suspicious activity should be reported to the police via the South Yorkshire Police website rather than by direct phone call to 101.

**13. TO CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:** as Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 7.00 pm on Zoom.