Acle Parish Council

Meeting Date: Monday, 26th April 2021  
Venue: Online Meeting  
at 7.45p.m. following the Annual Parish Meeting

Following the introduction of new legislation, (The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020), which took effect on 4th April 2020, this Parish Council meeting was a virtual meeting, held online. This legislation will remain in place until 7th May 2021.  
  
**PRESENT:**   
Chair: Angela Bishop  
Vice-Chair: Jamie Pizey  
Councillors: Sally Aldridge, Sarah Carter, Jackie Clover, Barry Coveley, Jayne Greenacre, Tony Hemmingway, Hannah Jackson, Wendy Kenny and Richard Powell

Also Parish Clerk, Pauline James.

There were six members of the public present.

No matters were raised by residents.

It was noted that Anna Holt had resigned shortly after the previous meeting. The casual vacancy had been advertised by Broadland District Council and no election had been requested.

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| 1 | | **APOLOGIES** None. | |
| 2 | | **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** Barry Coveley reminded the meeting that he is a trustee of Acle Recreation Centre.  Angela Bishop had an interest in a payment. | |
| 3 | | **MINUTES** The minutes of the meetings of 29th March 2021 were agreed to be correct, and will be signed by Angela Bishop, as Chair of the Parish Council, at a later date. | |
| 4 | | **CLERK’S REPORT** | |
|  | | The clerk had circulated a report to all the councillors in advance of the meeting and posted a public version on the website. The contents of the report were noted. | |
| 4.1 | | **Acle Foodbank:** Sally Aldridge had sent a questionnaire to each of the families currently being supported, to find out their future needs and to ensure that they also have the contact details at BDC and NCC for longer-term help.  Collection of food at the Methodist Church will cease at the end of April as the foodbank had sufficient funds to purchase the supplies needed. | |
| 4.2 | | **Shop Acle and Market Stalls:** Angela Bishop had persuaded Broadland District Council to fund the purchase of six market stalls, as was promised last Summer. This was welcomed. | |
| 4.3 | | **Flooding:**  Nothing further to report. Clarion have not yet arranged a meeting of the interested parties. Angela had written to request an update and had sent a copy of the correspondence to the MP. | |
| 4.4 | | **Dr Bike Day:** The last one was fully booked. It was agreed that Angela could book further sessions for the village. | |
| 4.5 | | **Parking Restrictions:**  Unfortunately this had been delayed until Norfolk County Council could take the scheme to Committee for approval. | |
| 4.6 | | **Land for Cemetery:** The clerk spoke to Nicholas Crane who was very apologetic but said he had been too busy to contact his solicitor. He assured the clerk that he was still happy to sell the land to the Parish Council for a new cemetery. | |
| 4.7 | | **Acle Beeline**: Richard Powell gave a report: he has met with the grasscutting contractor to discuss areas to be left uncut. The working party will meet bi-monthly. | |
| 4.8 | | **Trees:** BDC confirmed that replacement trees will be planted along the Horners Boundary. The tree surgeon had sought advice from BDC and was told, twice, that there was no Tree Preservation Order on the trees. | |
| 4.9 | | Hertfordshire County Council went to court to challenge the decision that **virtual meetings** will be unlawful after 6th May, with the ruling expected shortly. | |
| 5 | | **PLANNING** | |
| 5.1.1 | | **Land off Norwich Road –** details of conditions re landscaping and boundary treatments (20210518). There were no comments on the plans. | |
| 6 | | **FINANCE** The finance report had been circulated to all councillors in advance of the meeting, and posted on the website: |
|  | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Receipts:** |  | £ | | 44 The Street | Rent for one month | 600.00 | | 42 The Street | Rent | 497.50 | | Chocolate Box | Rent for one month | 650.00 | | Various | Funerals and memorials | 145.00 | | Various | Donations for foodbank | 255.00 | | Community Lottery | For foodbank | 69.50 | | Clarion | Donation for Men’s Shed | 1,000.00 | | Upton PC | Share of costs | 62.00 | | Gilts | Interest | 23.30 | | HMRC | Refund of VAT | 7,282.68 | | NCC | Grant for VAS | 3,500.00 | | Various | Contribution towards fire safety training | 40.00 | | **Payments made:** |  |  | | Caroline Crane | Foodbank purchases | 45.47 | | Pauline James | Reimbursement insurance | 204.72 | | Rialtas | VAT accountancy support | 70.80 | | BDC | Monthly rates for Barclays | 1,002.00 | | BDC | Monthly rates for offices at Choc Box | 290.40 | | Drainage Board | Rates | 47.49 | | SWALEC DD | Electricity for streetlights | 631.82 | | **Online payments:** |  |  | | Employment costs: |  | 4,839.73 | | T T Jones | Lighting repairs, new column and lanterns | 5,361.52 | | Sharp | Copying | 23.39 | | Seckers | Repair to heater in Fletcher Room | 322.80 | | Garden Guardian | Grasscutting | 1,565.86 | | Com’y Action | Subs | 20.00 | | Nfk ALC | Subs | 485.93 | | Flameskill | Fire Risk Assessments | 595.08 | | Caroline Crane | Foodbank purchases | 34.24 | | BDC | Rates at Barclays | 998.00 | | BDC | Rates at offices at Chocolate Box | 292.00 | | Wilkersons | Various consumables | 20.07 | | Upton Village Hall | Room hire | 12.00 | | Tudor Printing | Newsletter | 490.00 | | Broadland DC | Annual Premises Licence | 70.00 | | Angela Bishop | Expenses | 93.02 | | **Balance c/f 26.04.21** |  | 175,150.60 | | **Balances in Savings:** |  |  | | Government Stocks | Gilts | 133,246.00 | | BDC | Parish investment scheme (Int £498.50) | 251,002.65 | | Cambridge B/Soc | Instant access, int £128.64 | 91,636.36 | | Lloyds Bank | 32-day notice, int £2.69 | 102,218.25 | | Nationwide B/Soc | 45-day saver | 91,219.69 | | Total monies |  | 844,473.55 | | Loan | Acle Recreation Centre | 13,125.00 | |  |  | 857,598.55 | |
|  | | Outstanding commitments: Parking amendments and purchase of land for cemetery .  Wendy Kenny had checked the March online payments and payments made between meetings to the bank statements.  Invoices for the proposed April online payments had been shared with the councillors in advance of the meeting. The payments were approved. | |
| 7 | **RECREATION CENTRE** Nick Methold had resigned as a Trustee. There were vacancies for two parish council-appointed trustees.  Denis Goodley, Jackie Clover and Tony Hemmingway had expressed an interest but Tony withdrew his application at the meeting. Denis Goodley and Jackie Clover were appointed as Trustees.  Barry Brooks gave a report: the Recreation Centre is being used as a Polling Centre for 6th May.  There has been some vandalism at the Centre. | | |
| 8 | **SOCIAL CLUB** The Social Club has applied toBDC for a 75% grant for re-opening, to spend on ten new picnic benches. They have applied to the Parish Council for the 25% balance, being £290. It was agreed to give this grant of £290. | | |
| 9 | **CHOCOLATE BOX BUILDING** Jamie Pizey, Barry Coveley and the clerk attended fire safety training, along with the tenant, one member of her staff and some people from local village halls. It was a very useful session. The clerk emailed tenant to ask her to confirm that she has in turn trained all her staff, since they are left in sole charge of her shop at times. | | |
| 10 | **FORMER BARCLAYS BUILDING** The latest draft Planning Application was received and reviewed. The clerk was asked to send it on to the Pre-School to ensure that they agree with the plans.  Barry Coveley kindly showed members of the Pre-school staff around the Barclays building on 15th April. They then had a committee meeting and sent the clerk their comments and questions. The clerk replied to those points and sent these comments to the architect and the project manager, together with some small corrections/questions for the Planning Statement and the Plans.  It was agreed that the Planning Application should now be submitted to BDC.  Two people have expressed an interest in the retail units. | | |
| 11 | **HIGHWAYS** | | |
| 11.1 | **Hanging baskets:** Jackie Clover and Wendy Kenny offered to plant up the baskets. The clerk will arrange for some young people to do the watering. It was agreed to investigate whether an outside tap could be fitted at the Barclays Building to facilitate the filling of the bowser. Tony agreed to check over the bowser to ensure it is ready for use. | | |
| 11.2 | **Litter picking A-frame:** This will be back on location on the Green shortly. It is possible to buy a bracket for £60 which includes a sanitiser bottle. It was agreed that the nearby sanitiser station would be acceptable instead. | | |
| 11.3 | Jamie Pizey presented a report showing vehicle speeds captured by the **Vehicle Activated Sign** (VAS) in South Walsham Road. Over 3 weeks:  Total vehicles counted: 38,432  Average speed (85th percentile): 32.2mph  Top speed: 21 vehicles in 45-50mph range across the period  Vehicles travelling at >30mph: 8,990 (more than 23%)  Noticeable increase in vehicles w/c 12th April (school return and non essential businesses re-open).  Residents on the approach to Moulton St Mary, on Reedham Road, have asked for the VAS to be located there as there was an accident recently. | | |
| 12 | **CO-OPTION OF A NEW COUNCILLOR** David Stephenson was co-opted on to the Council. | | |
| 13 | **ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA – Tuesday,** 4th April 2021, at 7.00pm   * Election of Chair and Vice-Chair * Confirmation of committees * Review of registers of interest * The return to face-to-face meetings * Any update on Barclays and Chocolate Box * Payment of 30 hours to clerk instead of TOIL * Signage to reduce speeding * Acle Borderland Trust – meeting and approval of accounts | | |

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 20.56 pm.

Signed:………………………………. Dated:……………………………………  
 Chair