

COOKLEY & WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

An Annual Meeting of the Parish Council was held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, May 19th 2020 at 7pm.

Minutes:

Present:

Cllr. Z. Mair (Chairman); Cllr. L. Andrews (from 7-20pm); Cllr. R. Chase (left 9-08pm); Cllr. J. Lewis (left 9-08pm); Cllr. C. Leggett; Cllr. C. Northover (left 9-08pm); (arrived 9-31pm); Cllr. M. Porter and Cllr. J. Winter:

Also Present:

Paul Widdowson (Clerk) and one parishioner (until 7-20pm):

1) To elect a Chair for 2020 – 2021 and receive the Chair’s Declaration of Acceptance of Office:

Cllr. Z. Mair was elected unopposed.

Proposer: Cllr. C. Northover: Second: Cllr. C. Leggett:

2) To elect a Vice-Chair for 2020 - 2021:

Cllr. C. Leggett was elected unopposed.

Proposer: Cllr. R. Chase: Second: Cllr. C. Northover:

3) To appoint a Responsible Finance and Proper Officer for 2020 - 2021:

The Clerk, Paul Widdowson, was appointed the Responsible Finance and Proper Officer for 2020 - 2021:

Proposer: Cllr. Z. Mair: Second: Cllr. C. Leggett:

4) Apologies:

Cllr. D. Cask and Cllr. D. Whitwood had their apologies for absence accepted.

5) To receive Declarations of Interest and confirm all Members have reviewed their Declaration of Interest Forms: Councillors to declare any Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests. Members may subsequently declare an interest at any point in the meeting:

The Clerk asked that all councillors reviewed their Declaration of Interest Forms.

Cllr. Z. Mair and Cllr. M. Porter both declared a personal interest in CEA and Cookpole.

6) Requests for dispensations:

There were no requests for dispensation.

11) Adoption of Code of Conduct:

The Clerk said that the Code of Conduct was unchanged. The Council agreed to adopt the Code of Conduct for 2020-2021.

Proposer: Cllr. R. Chase: Second: Cllr. C. Leggett:

12) To receive a report from the County and District Councillor:

This Item was taken after Item 7.

13) Public Session: Members of the public have fifteen minutes to ask questions on topics on the agenda.

There were no members of the public at this point of the meeting.

14) To confirm the Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, May 4th 2020:

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on May 4th 2020 were agreed.

Proposer: Cllr. Z. Mair: Second: Cllr. J. Winter:

15) War Memorial and the Village Green:

Cllr. Z. Mair reported that the work was now completed and all councillors agreed that it looked very nice. It was suggested that a seat, some plants and trees could further enhance the Village Green. County and District Cllr. S. Burroughes offered to help fund the seat.

Cllr. Z. Mair said that Cllr. C. Leggett had been watering the trees and Cllr. R. Chase thanked Cllr. Z. Mair for removing the sculptures that had been on the Village Green. Cllr. M. Porter said that he would ask a parishioner to prune his garden's trees that overhang the Village Green.

16) Highways and Speeding:

Cllr. Z. Mair thanked Cllr. C. Northover for taking down the Sign Indicator Device (SID) over the period of the current pandemic.

Councillors discussed the bus in the back garden by the road in Cookley Road and it was agreed for Cllr. Z. Mair to contact the owner of the bus as regards its future.

17) River Blyth Sign:

There was no progress to report.

18) New Cookley Sign:

Cllr. R. Chase said that he was progressing the matter of refurbishment and had a company in mind to complete the overhaul.

19) Monitor – Update by the Clerk.

The Clerk reported that the monitor had still not been delivered to the Pavilion and currently the Parish Council were to start paying for the monitor from June 15th 2020 but the Clerk said that this could change.

The above report and Year End Accounts were accepted.

Proposer: Cllr. J. Winter:

Seconder: Cllr. Z. Mair:

e) **To agree to a 'Limited Assurance Review' or to complete a 'Certificate of Exemption':**

It was agreed to complete a 'Certificate of Exemption' Form.

Proposer: Cllr. M. Porter:

Seconder: Cllr. J. Winter

There was a vote of thanks to the Clerk for all his hard work in completing the accounts for the audit.

28) To receive reports on the:

Footpaths:

Cllr. M. Porter said that he signposted the public footpaths on his land to help walkers and had contacted Suffolk Highways to get the official signs put up.

Trees:

There was no report.

Cemetery:

There was no report.

CEA & Allotments

There was no report.

External Meetings & Training:

There was no report.

It was agreed for Cllr. L. Andrews to attend a 'New Councillors' Course at Suffolk Association of Local Councils.

29) To receive agenda items for the Parish Council Meeting to be held on June 16th 2020:

It was agreed to transfer all the deferred items to the planning meeting in early June.

The Meeting ended at 9-34pm