

Minutes of a Meeting of Aldercar and Langley Mill Parish Council

Held at 6.30 pm

On 24 September 2020 by Zoom Remote Meetings

PRESENT

Councillors J Attwood, S Brown, M Fowkes (Chairman), S Fowler, E Hamilton, J Karpasea-Jones, D Lacey and S Oakes.

ALSO PRESENT

Mr A Sharpe (Clerk/RFO) and Miss J Mellor (Assistant to the Clerk).

47/20 **Apologies for absence**

RESOLVED that apologies for absence be noted and approved from Councillors S Bower, M Brown and R Fernandez.

48/20 **Declaration of Members Interests**

None but it was noted that Councillors J Attwood, S Brown and D Lacey had been previously granted dispensations in relation to their interests in Langley Mill United Cricket Club.

49/20 **Public Speaking**

None.

50/20 **Dispensations**

As recorded in minute no. 48/20 (above) - None but it was noted that Councillors J Attwood, S Brown and D Lacey had been previously granted dispensations in relation to their interests in Langley Mill United Cricket Club.

51/20 **Minutes**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 27 July 2020 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman in due course.

52/20 **To determine which items, if any, of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded**

RESOLVED that no items be considered with the press and public excluded.

53/20 **Chairman's Announcements**

Council received a report from the Chairman including matters relating to a local shop.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

54/20 **Parish Council – Items for Decision/Action/Update**

(a) **Office matters and future action plan**

Council received the following report on matters relating to the office and future services (including additional litter picking & bins, community skips and other service additions).

Covid-19 has changed the whole economy of the UK and affected every organisation in some way. As far as the Parish Council is concerned it has stopped or delayed many of our services and although staff have managed to keep some services open there is no doubt that service provision has suffered greatly.

However it also gives a great opportunity for the Parish Council to review the services provided and possibly expand and improve services for the benefit of the Community post pandemic.

Suggested actions for recovery

The following actions have been taken to limit the threat and damage caused by the pandemic –

- (a) Staff have been provided with IT facilities to be able to deliver services from a home working environment. The Office is currently closed.
- (b) Allotments have remained open.
- (c) Summer Planters are still being delivered.
- (d) Bin emptying is still happening via the Environmental Support worker.
- (e) No dog bags are routinely being supplied.
- (f) No bus trips are arranged.
- (g) Christmas Lights are arranged.
- (h) Support to Food bank (£150 per month).

As we are still unclear as to when social distancing rules will be further relaxed or a treatment or vaccine will be available it is unlikely that the Clerk would be recommending reopening the office to the public during 2020. Indeed most major indoor events/meetings were being cancelled up and down the country into 2021.

Therefore it was the Clerks opinion that having now gone six months without an office the Parish Council should consider not renewing the lease on the office (which expires on 31 December 2020) and look at other ways of providing services.

In common with most Parish Councils of our size Staff should deliver the services from home rather than from a permanent office.

The Council should look at alternative venues for holding meetings and if we look to our partners to use a small office for storage the Clerk could in the future provide public contact perhaps once a week or by appointment.

At present there was an offer from the Cricket Club to use the Pavilion to meet residents by appointment at a cost of £150 per month. The Clerk had explored this option, visited the club and believe that the accommodation on offer is acceptable.

Council were recommended to undertake these changes on a twelve month trial which would then allow the Council to further consider its previous ambitions to purchase an office and next year consider the purchase of 8 new litter bins, employ a further Litter Picker post in 2021 (6 Hours a week - Perhaps renaming such posts as Parish Wardens) and introduce monthly community skips.

Financial Implications

Not renewing office lease - Saves £8400 per annum
New Costs of accommodation - £1800 per annum
Additional Litter Picking post costs £3500 per annum
New bins - £2000
Community Skip monthly - £2000 per annum
Total additional spend - £800 per annum

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that –

- (1) That the lease on the office at Cromford House be not renewed at the end of December and the Office close.
- (2) Staff continue to work from home.
- (3) That an agreement be reached to provide storage, possible meeting facilities and office space at Langley Mill United Cricket Club from 1 January 2021.
- (4) That in order to publicise these arrangements the next Parish Magazine be scheduled for 1 December 2020.
- (5) Other matters be considered at an appropriate time.

(b) **Allotment matters**

Council received a report on the security at sites and recommendations relating to the future allotment rules.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the fence at Minkley Drive be replaced as a one off gesture.
- (2) That a meeting be arranged with allotment tenants to discuss future arrangements in the new-year.

(c) **Events**

Council received a report on the organisation of events and other matters in relation to the current health emergency including arrangements for Christmas lights and Remembrance Day.

RESOLVED that the report be noted and it be agreed to spend £450 on lamppost poppies.

(d) **Government White Paper on devolution.**

To receive a further report in due course.

(e) **National pay award.**

Noted and approved.

(f) **External Audit**

Deferred – Report not yet received.

55/20 **Finance**

Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED that the following accounts for payment be approved.

Cheque	Payee/Description	Nett	VAT	Gross
UT BACS Ref 23232739	Birch = August Website	30.00	0.00	30.00
UT BACS Ref 840998089	Tudor – Pottery Lane	255.00	0.00	255.00
UT BACS	Tudor – Asda Island	60.00	0.00	60.00

Ref 593789744				
UT BACS Ref 496200717	Zoom Conferencing	11.99	2.40	14.39
UT BACS Ref 187294431	Zedal	25.20	5.04	30.24
UT BACS Ref 77120101	Zedal	284.19	56.84	341.03
UT BACS Ref 89889723	Shelter Maintenance	76.80	15.36	92.16
UT BACS Ref 913946783	Shelter Maintenance	38.70	7.74	46.44
UT BACS Ref 176318051	Birch – Website June	30.00	0.00	30.00
UT BACS Ref 65529519	ASL	16.11	3.22	19.33
UT BACS Ref 127901497	Mill Community – Food Bank	150.00	0.00	150.00
UT BACS Ref 978791564	Alarm for Env Support Worker	99.99	0.00	99.99
UT BACS Ref 631970942	HMRC	131.42	0.00	131.42
UT BACS Ref 90803050	Homeworking allowance	78.00	0.00	78.00
UT BACS Ref 14340153	Viking	94.81	6.54	104.25
UT BACS Ref 599731365	Birch Website Sept	30.00	0.00	30.00
UT BACS Ref 9486278	Tudor - Godkin	524.49	0.00	524.49
UT BACS And Cheque 300315	Part Salaries/Cheque	609.11	0.00	609.11
UT BACS Ref 343744006	ASL	16.64	3.33	19.97
UT BACS Ref 135202241	Foodbank	150.00	0.00	150.00
UT BACS	Viking	27.82	0.00	27.82

Ref 361188486				
UT BACS Ref 465668590	HMRC	140.14	0.00	140.14
UT BACS And Cheque 300316	Part Salaries/Cheque	796.44	0.00	796.44
UT BACS Ref 927947510	Asgard – Car Park works	75.00	0.00	75.00
UT Bacs	ASL Photocopier	16.64	3.33	19.97
Ut Bacs	Zoom Conferencing	11.99	2.40	14.39

In addition monthly DD to D and D Transport, BT and salaries.

56/20 **Planning and Licensing**

App ref	Date valid	Address and proposal
<u>AVA-2020-0863</u>	18-Sep-2020	Petrol Filling Station Asda Station Road Langley Mill Petrol forecourt canopy livery rebranding.
<u>AVA-2020-0861</u>	17-Sep-2020	Railway Tavern Car Wash 188 Station Road Langley Mill Permanent change of use of land.
<u>AVA-2020-0781</u>	20-Aug-2020	Park Farm Aldercar Lane Langley Mill Re-submission of AVA/2019/0800.

RESOLVED that no comments or objections be submitted.

57/20 **Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on 22 October 2020.