



## **DES福德 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at Desford Library**

### **MINUTES**

**Present** – Cllr C Crane (Chair), Cllrs P Crane, Eldridge, Priestnall, Oakes, Norton, Wakefield, and Cunnington.

**Also present:** Cllr Peter Bedford (LCC), Cllr Joyce Crooks and Cllr Robin Webber-Jones (HBBC), Martin Broomhead (Clerk), Eithne Allen (Projects and Grants Officer) and Julie Frost (Administrative Assistant) and one member of the public

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs, Lockley, Peel and Rood

**2. Declarations of Interest**

None

**3. Casual Vacancy**

The Clerk reported that nobody had come forward to date.

**4. To receive and confirm as accurate the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021.**

These were received and accepted as accurate. The Chair signed the minutes as a true record.

**5. County and Borough Councillors Reports**

Borough Councillor Peter Bedford gave a verbal update on works he has been involved with – the key points are summarised below:

- Although budget has been balanced for this year there will be some challenging savings to be made going forward.
- A consultation took place with City Council who are looking to introduce a parking levy of £500 per year per parking space charge. This will be in the form of a levy on business. There are some concerns that the levy imposed on Leicester could result in increased parking in surrounding county suburbs.
- An officer from Leicestershire Highways will be visiting the Owl Homes site to assess Councils concerns
- A discussion took place regarding excessive HGV traffic through Botcheston following the road closure at Kirby Muxloe. There are many signs far and wide of the village stating no HGVs but with no explanation of alternative routes.

Borough Councillors Joyce Crooks and Robin Webber Jones presented a report that was circulated to Council earlier. Main points are

- HBBC have been awarded 5 grants to plant Tiny Forests
- Copies of guidance on organising local street parties to celebrate Queens Platinum Jubilee will be sent to Parish Council.

## **6. Parishioners Participation**

A resident at the end of Kirkby Road raised her concerns regarding parking at the top of Kirkby Road, particularly during the time when football matches are played, and school drop off/pick up and suggested an extension to the car park. She also had concerns regarding Parkstone Road / Kirkby Road being icy and dangerous now. A request for a salt bin there was made. Council advised there is a salt bin at the bottom corner of Willow Street and that there are restrictions in place that hinder the possibility of further bins. Council agreed to investigate further but, in the interim, will ask the school to provide further parking and for further reminders to be made relating to parking. Council to write to football club and look at the possibility of signage that states that the road requires access at all times.

## **7. Update and recommendations from Working Groups:**

### **a) DiB WG – 11 January 2022**

Council noted and accepted the notes of this meeting.

### **b) Procurement WG (see Resources note below)**

### **c) Procedures WG – No meeting held**

### **d) Allotments WG – No meeting held**

### **e) Cemetery WG – not met but Sellars have returned to continue the headstone safety inspections.**

### **f) Scarecrow WG – see DiB WG**

### **g) Heritage WG – 17 January 2022**

Council noted and accepted the minutes of the above meeting.

## **8. To receive and consider the recommendations of the Resources Committee meeting held on 12 January 2022, including consideration of the Councils Accounts, the payment of invoices, other financial proposals and quotes for work.**

### **a) To receive bank statements and approve reconciliations for December 2021.**

Council noted this item and approved the reconciliations for December 2021.

### **b) To receive and approve the Cashbook statement up to the end of November 2021 and recommend payment of invoices.**

Council noted the cashbook statement up to the end of December 2021 and approved the payment of invoices, as set out overleaf:



**c) Parish Council Income and Expenditure up to the end of December 2021**

Council noted the Income and Expenditure statement.

**d) Feedback from Procurement WG – 5 January 2022**

Council approved the following quote:

- From R Childs in the sum of £650 for soakaway at the pump accepted
- Quotes are required for building improvements to Botcheston Village Hall and the library/Clerk's office

**9. To consider the draft budget for 2022/23 as recommended by the Resources Committee**  
Council considered the draft budget for 2022/23 and with minor amendments approved the budget.

**10. To consider the recommendation to the Resources Committee that the Parish Council element of the Council Tax should increase by 1% for 2022/23**  
Council considered and approved this increase to the precept.

**11. To receive the recommendation of the Planning Committee held on 10 January 2022 plus an update on any applications received since that meeting**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 10 January 2022 were received and accepted by Council. There was an update on the following application:

**Ref:** 21/01377/FUL Greyhound Inn, Main Street, Botcheston Kirby Grange Residential Home, Spinney Drive, Botcheston

**Details:** Demolition of outbuilding, external staircase and single storey rear projection to public house. Erection of two storey rear extension, conversion of part of public house with guest accommodation on the first floor. Erection of two residential dwellings with associated access points to west of public house

A public meeting took place to consider this application. The Applicants, Councillors and Botcheston residents met to discuss the application and it was proposed that there should no objection to the applications subject to:

- An undertaking should be made by the applicant to make their best endeavours to ensure the viability of the pub for a period to 3 to 5 years. This could be by way of a S106 agreement.
- That all opportunities for sustainable improvements on the site should be made.
- That the impact of the development on neighbouring properties should be minimised.

In addition, residents would like every endeavour to be made to keep pub open while works are going on.

**12. Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange**

Planning will need to investigate this as there are many documents. Comments to be made by 9<sup>th</sup> March.

**13. To revisit the issue of parking at Kirkby Road Recreation Ground**

See item 6.

- 14. To consider the Annual Playground Inspection report**  
Clerk advised that the report had not identified any medium or high-risk issues. There are some low risk items that can be dealt with by our handyman.
- 15. To consider the proposal to extend the Clerk's Office in the Library**  
Cllr Norton advised that plans need drawing up to extend the Clerk's office. Cllr Crane has met some contractors regarding the provision of a disabled toilet in the library and they have agreed to look at the Clerk's office options. Approval given to pursue some designs
- 16. To consider a proposed change of name for the Strict Baptist Graveyard**  
A request had been made to rename the graveyard the Peace Garden and to remove the bench. Council disagreed with this request and agreed to keep the original name.
- 17. To consider a request to install a memorial bench at Botcheston Recreation Ground**  
Endorsement given to allow the bench to be placed in Botcheston Recreation Ground.
- 18. Clerks Report**  
HBBC have not approved the location of the friendly bench in Holmfield Road. This will be taken back to Procurement WG to review locations.  
Clerk reminded Council that next meeting will be held at Botcheston Village Hall.
- 19. Information from Councillors (not for debate or decision)**  
None.
- 20. To agree to enter a confidential session of the meeting to discuss a sensitive land/boundary issue**  
Council agreed to enter into a confidential session.
- 21. To consider a proposed solution to the boundary issue between property in Grace Road and the open space area at Forest Rise**  
A discussion took place regarding an area of disputed land and agreed to the proposal set out in the Clerk's draft letter.

The meeting closed at 9.02pm

Chairman .....

Date .....