



DES福德 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 20th January 2021 via video conferencing (Zoom)

MINUTES

Present – Cllr C Crane (Chair), Cllrs P Crane, Eldridge, Lockley, Norton, Oakes, Priestnall, Rood, Cunnington, Peel, McMillan and Wakefield.

Also present – Cllr Bedford (LCC), Cllr Joyce Crooks (HBBC), Cllr Sheppard Bools (HBBC), Martin Broomhead (Clerk), Eithne Allen (Admin) and one member of the public.

1. Apologies

Apologies were also received from Cllr Webber Jones (HBBC)

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. To receive and confirm as accurate the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th December 2020

These were received and accepted as accurate. On behalf of the Chair, the Clerk signed the minutes.

4. County and Borough Councillor reports.

County Councillor Bedford updated Council as follows:

- LCC launched the community pubs scheme for Covid in December and a grant in the sum of £1,000 has already been awarded to the Bluebell pub in Desford. The Greyhound pub in Botcheston and the Lancaster Arms are being also being considered for awards.
- LCC are working through budget setting at present. There is a meeting with the Scrutiny committee on Monday 25th of January. Councillors are invited put forward any budget considerations they would like raising.
- Cllr P Crane reports that the Griffen application is being held up by LCC Highways and requested Cllr Bedford's support in understanding what is causing this.

A written Borough Council Report had been sent by Cllr Webber Jones and this had been circulated to Parish Councillors. The key points are summarised below:

- **Medium Term Financial Settlement:** Diligent work is being undertaken to ensure accurate budgeting. The current administration is working hard to ensure that the manifesto commitments will be enacted in a timely way.
- **Planning:** The Poundstretcher Appeal took place on the 5th of January remotely. It spanned two days and involved a site visit. There was detailed discussion and questioning, along with broad cross-party collaboration against the Poundstretcher proposals. We are awaiting the outcome.
- **Licensing Policy:** The report on the Rural Strategy in consultation with Parish Councils has been agreed by the Borough Council.

- UK Shop Local: The Borough Council have launched local business directories to help people source food, drink, and other services online, while supporting ventures who are adapting to new ways of running their businesses.
- Electric Vehicle Charging Points: The Borough Council will be installing 12 new electric vehicle charging points in two Hinckley town centre carparks - Lower Bond Street and Castle Street.

5. Parishioners Participation.

One parishioner attended and enquired about the Peckleton Lane planning application comprising the addition of an extra 4 houses to a previously granted application. Cllr Sheppard-Bools confirmed a decision has been deferred, due to concerns around over-development and the aesthetic of the site.

6. Desford in Bloom and the Scarecrow Group

Cllr Norton discussed his report and recommendations following meetings with representatives from each group. There are strong feelings on both sides with the Scarecrow group very keen to separate from the main DiB Working Group and Desford Parish Council and set up independently. Initial recommendations have been rejected by the Scarecrow group. Cllr Norton will put forward an alternative proposal next month for Council's consideration.

7. Updates and recommendations from Working Groups:

a) DiB WG – Meeting to be held later in January

b) Procurement WG

No meeting held in January, however a written update had been circulated illustrating progress against the Council's list of schemes.

c) Procedures WG

Updated Terms of Reference for the following Committees and Working Groups were circulated and approved by Council:

- Staffing and Councillor Professional Development Working Group
- Procurement Working Group
- Procedures Working Group
- Desford Support Working Group
- Neighbourhood Plan Working Group
- Cemetery Working Group
- Allotments Working Group
- Resources Committee
- Planning and Built Environment Committee

d) Desford Support Group –During the current lockdown the Desford Support Group continues to operate but report that there has been no increase in support requests.

e) Allotments WG – 5th of January

The notes of the meeting on the 5th of January were noted by Council. DAGA indicated that they may re-join the allotments working group, this was welcomed by Council. The Easy Access plot quotes are still being sought. The waiting list for allotments has gone up to eight.

f) Cemeteries WG

No meeting held in January.

8. To receive and consider the recommendations of the Resources Committee held on the 13th of January 2021

a) Bank statements and reconciliations for December 2020.

Council noted the bank statements and reconciliations for December 2020.

b) The Cashbook statement up to the end of December 2020 and the payment of invoices

Council noted the cashbook statement up to the end of December 2020 and approved the payment of invoices, as set out below:

Desford Parish Council - 13 January 2021		Cashbook		
Accounts and Invoices for Recommendation to Council				
Opening Balances December 2020	Reserve Account ... 253			£250,832.02
	Current Account ... 087			£30,402.70
	Debit Card Account ... 515			£428.27
	Spare Account ... 072			£0.51
	Petty Cash			£17.23
			TOTAL DPC =	£281,680.73
	Desford in Bloom ... 064			£21,728.21
			TOTAL =	£303,408.94
Income & Expenditure in December				
Transactions in Current Account ..087 in December				
Payment in the form of 1 Direct Debits (refer to bank statement)				Budget Line
NEST Pension Payments Covering November 2020			-£49.07	9
Payments in the form of 12 BACS Payments (refer to Bank Statement)			-£123.54	31
New Direct Debit to EE - Kirkby Road CCTV SIM & Data Fees			-£15,739.96	
COVID-19 Community Grants x6			-£35.01	9
Allotment Rent			-£7,774.48	44
Allotment deposit Returned M.Wilson, Plot Vacated			£455.00	56
Cemetery Income			-£50.00	56
Transfer to Debit Card a/c ...515			£1,580.00	57
			-£1,000.00	
			Total =	-£22,737.06
Transactions of ..515 (Debit Card Account) December	Transaction exc vat	VAT	Transaction total	
Zoom Monthly Subscription	-£11.99	-£2.40	-£14.39	4
GoCardless - Health & Safety Advice Service Monthly DD	-£8.33	-£1.66	-£9.99	35
EE - Initial Payment for Kirkby Road CCTV SIM Card	-£50.00	£0.00	-£50.00	9
Furnitubes - 2x Cast Iron Bins	-£700.00	-£140.00	-£840.00	20
Viking - Printer Cartridges	-£86.38	-£17.28	-£103.66	3
Just Giving -Plaque at National Miners Museum	-£500.00	£0.00	-£500.00	44
Tfr from Current a/c ...087	£1,000.00	£0.00	£1,000.00	
Tfr from DiB a/c ...064 (Lawn mower refund - see Sept 20)	£559.98	£0.00	£559.98	DiB
	Total	£203.28	-£161.34	£41.94
Transactions for Reserve Account ..253 December				
Interest Received			£6.32	55
	Account Balance =		£250,838.34	
Transactions DiB Account ...064 December				
Tfr to Debit Card Account ...515 re Lawn Mower			-£559.98	
	Account Balance =		£21,168.23	
Council Funds at 31st December 2020	Reserve Account ... 253			£250,838.34
	Current Account ... 087			£7,665.64
	Debit Card Account ... 515			£470.21
	Spare Account ...072			£0.51
	Petty Cash			£17.23
			TOTAL DPC=	£258,991.93
	Desford in Bloom ... 064			£21,168.23
			TOTAL =	£280,160.16
Payments for approval for January				
Direct Debits that will be paid from account ..087 in January 2021				
NEST Pensions (Employer and Employee contributions) December			£175.29	31
BT			£48.24	9
EE - Kirkby Road CCTV SIM & Data Fees			£35.01	9
Zoom	-£11.99	-£2.40	£14.39	4
GoCardless Monthly Health & Safety Advice	-£8.32	-£1.66	£9.98	35
DPC Accounts Payable (from Account ..087)	Invoice exc vat	VAT	Invoice total	Budget Line
Staff Salaries - December 2020	£2,090.52	£0.00	£2,090.52	28
Payment to HMRC for Tax and NI relating to December salaries	£769.70	£0.00	£769.70	29
R&CA Advisory (Book-keeper) December 2020 Invoice 20040	£48.75	£0.00	£48.75	33
Premium Roofing - Repairs to Cemetery Building	£1,250.00	£250.00	£1,500.00	13
HBBC - Trade Waste Bins in cemetery	£384.80	£0.00	£384.80	20
Arboreco Inv 4850 works to Trees at St Martins Church	£100.00	£20.00	£120.00	16
Arboreco Inv 4851 works to Trees at Pickard Recreation Ground	£650.00	£130.00	£780.00	16
TP Jones & Co Inv TPJ/P814 Payroll Preparation	£49.50	£9.90	£59.40	34
Symbiosis Inv 6113 - Tree Inspections	£1,845.00	£369.00	£2,214.00	16
G&G Signs Inv 115039, 9x Road Name Signs	£842.80	£168.56	£1,011.36	47
CFS Computers Inv 04772, CCTV System	£2,800.00	£0.00	£2,800.00	47
M&BG Inv 72857 Grounds Maintenance Contract	£2,009.67	£401.93	£2,411.60	11
EoN Inv 102428 Street Light Maintenance	£70.01	£14.00	£84.01	23
Bearwood Services (Handyman)	£200.00	£0.00	£200.00	32
ES solutions (large noticeboard - outside Co-op)	£2,138.68	£427.74	£2,566.42	47
Eon Electricity	£97.19	£4.86	£102.05	21
Hindley and Bosworth general litter bins	£386.10	£77.22	£463.32	20
ESPO printer paper	£38.50	£7.70	£46.20	8
Lanes Group (Drainage investigation at pump site)	£400.00	£80.00	£480.00	24
M&BG Inv 73145 - Repairs to playground equipment	£6,616.53	£1,323.30	£7,939.83	24
Totals	£22,787.75	£3,284.22	£26,071.97	

c) The Parish Council Income & Expenditure up to the end of December 2020

Council received and noted the Parish Council Income & Expenditure up to the end of December 2020.

d) Quotes

Council agreed to support PCIF bids for two projects: the Strict Baptist Graveyard Ramp and the Easy Access plot at the allotments. Quotes are to be formalised before the end of January to meet the mid-February deadline for submission of PCIF bids. Council agreed for the Clerk to submit the bids ahead of the deadline once quotes have been received.

e) Covid Grants

No new applications have been received in the last month. The Clerk has reinvigorated interest by updating the Website and social media to draw parishioner's attention to the continuing availability of funds, should businesses or organisations meet the eligibility criteria.

f) Proposals for the Budget for 2021/22 and Precept

That Council confirms its budget for the 2021/22 financial year showing estimated payments of £139,800, estimated income of £138,244 and a £1,556 contribution from reserves. This will result in a net cost to Desford Parish Council of £139,800 and that a precept be made on Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council in the sum of £132,974 equating to approximately £80.41 Band D and a 0% increase for the financial year 2021/22. To be paid in two equal instalments of £66,487 by 30th April 2021 and £66,487 by 30th September 2021.

g) Appointment of Planning Advocate

This was discussed under Agenda item 9.

h) Appointment of Internal Auditor for the accounts for 2020/21

The Council agreed to the reappointment of Richard Willcocks as Internal Auditor.

i) Dog-waste bins

Council agreed to the purchase of a larger dog waste bin (£199.00 excl VAT) to be sited opposite Ashfields Farm on "Back Lane" close to the Kirkby Road recreation ground. It was also agreed that the redundant bin from this location be re-sited at the junction of Markfield Lane and Botcheston road at the base of the public footpath that runs up towards Ratby, in Botcheston.

9. Planning and Neighbourhood Plan

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 4th of January 21 were received and accepted by Council, including the Committee's response on planning applications, as set out below: (Planning applications 16th December 2020 – 20th January 2021)

- Ref:** 20/01327/HOU Park House Farm, Leicester Lane, Desford
Details: Two storey rear extension
Decision: no objections
- Ref:** 20/01312/FUL Land east of Lindridge Lane, Desford
Details: Change of use of agricultural land to equestrian including menage and outbuilding and the erection of a single dwelling
Decision: Object on grounds of dangerous access close to a bend with no speed restrictions ie.60mph. If permission is granted, it should be specified that the log cabin remains tied to the equestrian business
- Ref:** 20/01352/P3CQ Hill Farm, Markfield Lane, Botcheston

Details: Prior approval for change of use of an agricultural building to a dwelling (C3) and associated building operations

Decision: Objection. The Planning committee did not object, however Council felt that an objection was warranted due to over-development and concerns about vehicular access.

4. **Ref:** 21/00002/TPO Desford Hall, Leicester Lane, Desford

Details: Crown lifting to x6 oak trees, crown lifting to x2 maple trees, removal of x2 cherry trees, removal of x1 silver birch tree, removal of x2 cypress trees, shaping of x4 willow trees, shaping of x1 cherry tree, works to lime trees

Decision: no objections

5. **Ref:** 20/03090/TPO 6 Manor Gardens, Desford

Details: Works to two sycamore trees

Decision: no objections

6. **Ref:** 20/01380/TCA 25 Church Lane, Desford

Details: Reduce height of T1 lime to approx. same level as remaining lime tree, remove T2 lime, T3 cherry, T4 sycamore and T5 cotoneaster to ground level and reduce G2 yew to approx. 1.8 metres

Decision: no objections

7. **Ref:** 20/01379/TCA 5 Manor Road, Desford

Details: Fell Norway spruce and crown reduction to sycamore

Decision: No objections

Withdrawals:

Ref: 20/01074/TPO 6 Manor Gardens

Details: Works to two sycamore trees

Appeals:

Ref: 20/00762/HOU APP/K2420/D/20/3261668 1 Salisbury Close, Desford

Details: Two storey side extension

Appointment of Planning Advocate: Following discussion, Council agreed to appoint Miss Buckley-Thompson to represent the Council in the upcoming appeal about HBBC's refusal of a residential development at the western end of Kirkby Road in Desford.

10. Speed Limit on Lindridge Lane

Council discussed their aspiration to try to reduce the speed limit on Lindridge Lane. Councillors have received complaints from parishioners on this route. Cllr Bedford will raise this issue with LCC. Council would like to extend the 30mph to the Parish boundary and then the rest of the Lane to the Merry Lees junction reduce to 40mph.

11. Installation of Bollards at Kirkby Road/St Martins Drive

Residents have opposed the installation of "pencil style" bollards. Council agreed to install standard Heritage style bollards instead.

12. Climate Emergency Conference – Feedback

Cllr P Crane had circulated comments on the above topic following attendance at the County Council run Climate Emergency Conference in December. She reports that the overarching message is that small changes and considerations when making changes to parish buildings etc all help support this cause.

13. Offer of assistance and suggestion of projects for all Desford Residents.

Council discussed this offer, however felt that much of this offer is available via schools and as it was a commercial venture, they declined to pursue it any further.

14. Clerks Report

There was no clerks report.

15. Information Exchange

The following points were raised:

- A Councillor was concerned that an operator of a drone (which was overhead while walking near Shericles Farm) wasn't visible. The Chair agreed to discuss the legalities of drone operation with PC Cross during his next liaison meeting.
- A Councillor reported some upkeep issues at Pickards park as follows:
 - Weed growth on the soft surface in the toddler play area.
 - A loose post beside the gate needs attention.

The meeting closed at 21:04pm

Chairman

Date