Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th January 2021 via Video Conferencing

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All were welcomed to the January meeting of the Parish Council which was being held via Video Conferencing due to the Covid-19 restrictions.	
The meeting had been advertised on the village website, noticeboard and on social media, and District Councillor Mary Green, County Councillor Marianne Overton joined the meeting.	
Those in attendance observed a minute's silence to remember Councillor John Clarke who passed away on 10 th January 2021. John was a valued member of the Council and his enthusiasm and expertise in delivering a number of projects brought so many benefits to the village and he would be sorely missed.	
REPORT FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS The District Council had been sending regular electronic newsletters updating parishes on all matters.	
Cllr. Mary Green reported that the NKDC Cycling Strategy consultation would close at the end of January, there was an increase in thefts in the local villages including thefts from garden sheds/outbuildings and also heating oil.	
Cllr. Marianne Overton reported on LCC information relating to Covid19 and business grants, the increased funding received for mental health services and an update regarding long term highways issues for which she had a meeting arranged with Richard Fenwick.	
There were no other questions.	
THE COUNCIL THEN MOVED INTO FORMAL SESSION	
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13th January 2021

Minute	13 January 2021	Action
130/38/21	PRESENT AT THE MEETING	
130,30,21	Cllrs. J. Hutchinson (Chairman), R. Garlant, A. Sceeny, F. Jacques, E. Surphlis,	
	D. Cook, District Cllr. M. Green, County Cllr M. Overton and the Clerk.	
131/38/21	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
, ,	There were no apologies.	
132/38/21	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCALISM ACT	
, ,	2011 AND OUTLINED IN THE COUNCILS CODE OF CONDUCT	
	Cllr. Cook declared an interest at item 11 Allotment matters and item 15.	
	Church Clock, Cllr. Hutchinson declared an interest at item 9 Pond and	
	Surrounding Area and item 11 Allotment matters, Cllr Jacques declared an	
	interest at item 9 Pond and Surrounding Area, 11 Allotment matters and 14	
	Wildlife Conservation and Cllr. Sceeny declared an interest at item 8 Village	
	Hall and item 11 Allotment matters.	
133/38/21	TO APPROVE THE NOTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING	
	The minutes of the last Parish Council meeting on 9 th December 2020 were	
	proposed by Cllr. Surphlis seconded by Cllr. Jacques, and agreed by the	
	members to be a true record.	
134/38/21	MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION	
	There were no items to be discussed in closed session.	
135/38/21	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES	
	There were no matters arising.	
136/38/21	COVID-19 UPDATE	
	At the time of the meeting, a full lockdown was in place. Further decisions	
127/20/21	would be made as Government guidelines were updated.	
137/38/21	BUDGET/PRECEPT 2021-22	
	The Parish Council discussed the budget proposals for the 2021-22 precept	
	considering recent correspondence from NKDC.	
	i) Income - The income budgets were reviewed, and it was	
	unanimously agreed to increase the village hall hire rates from April 2021. The allotment fees were due to remain unchanged at £28 (full	
	plot) and £15 (half plot) from April 1st 2021 (a year's notice had to	
	be given) and it was unanimously agreed to increase the rate to £30	
	(full plot) and £16 (half plot) from April 2022. This was proposed by	
	Cllr Surphlis, seconded by Cllr. Garlant and approved by the	
	members.	
	ii) Expenditure – The expenditure budgets were reviewed, particularly	
	the costs relating to the Village Hall following its full year in	
	operation.	
	iii) Precept - Following a discussion regarding the options presented on	
	the precept documentation circulated prior to the meeting, it was	
	proposed by Cllr. Garlant, seconded by Cllr. Surphlis and agreed by	
	the Council to set the Precept at £11,590 for 2021-22 which an	
	increase of £500 on the previous year. Due to the reduction in the	
	tax base, this would represent a 5.55% increase (£2.74) on the	
	Council Tax for a Band D property.	

9th December 2020

Minute		Action
138/39/21	VILLAGE HALL MATTERS	
130/37/21	1. Lottery Funding	
	i) Funding – further information was awaited from Evolution Design	
	regarding the alternative heating options available and the outdoor	
	store proposal. A padlock was required for the new metal side gate. The	
	purchase of a hedge cutter/strimmer would be reviewed to update	
	costs and the low level fencing the rear garden area. The clerk was in	
	the process of claiming funding from the National Lottery for recent	
	purchases.	
	2. Any Other Village Hall Matters	
	i) Opening/closure of the hall – the Council agreed that the hall would	
	remain closed based on current government guidelines. The cleaner	
	had returned to providing the weekly maintenance checks in	
	accordance with insurance requirements.	
	ii) Monitoring of electricity usage – the Council had received the analysis	
	from Brook & Mayo following the week of monitoring the electricity usage. The outside lights and sign had been switched off as the hall was	
	closed. The electricity would continue to be closely monitored.	
139/39/21	POND AND SURROUNDING AREA IN SANDS LANE	
103/03/21	Cllr. Jacques reported on the repairs to the picnic table were nearing	
	completion.	
140/39/21	PLAYING FIELD	
	i) Cllr. Cook had carried out weekly checks of the playing field and	
	the warranty work on the zip wire and tower were completed by	
	Sovereign on 18 th December. The metal repairs to the swings	
	would be checked to see if the work had been completed.	
	ii) Grass cutting – the clerk would ask the grass cutting contractor	
	to strim around the wooden zip wire support poles so not to cause damage which might lead to rotting.	
141/39/21	ALLOTMENT MATTERS	
111/37/21	There were no matters to report.	
142/39/21	HIGHWAYS AND FOOTWAYS	
' '	i) Wheatley Lane – there had still been no further progress by LCC	
	Highways regarding the gateway barrier which was blocking public	
	access despite information that formal action was being taken.	
	ii) Brigg Lane – Cllr. Hutchinson had reported the white safety barrier	
445 (55 (5)	which crosses the watercourse to LCC.	
143/39/21	GRASS CUTTING & MOLE WORK	
144/20/21	The clerk would contact the mole contractor to attend the Sands area. WILDLIFE CONSERVATION	
144/39/21	i) Cllr. Jacques reported that the volunteers had completed a number of	
	tasks including clearing the deadwood, cutting back overgrown	
	brambles and paths had been cleared. There was little work to do	
	before March and meetings had ceased due to the lockdown.	
	ii) 10 bird boxes had been placed at the Sands and surrounding areas	
	which would be monitored, and some planting had been completed	
	iii)Hi-Viz tabards were still to be purchased.	
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13th January 2021

Minute	15 January 2021		Action		
145/40/21	CHURCH CLOCK MAINTENANCE				
113/10/21	The Council had been advised that the Church clock had stopped.				
	Unfortunately, the Council resolved that it was unable to support any				
	maintenance for the clock at this particular time.				
146/40/21	WEBSITE				
	ecember 2019 and				
	the new site was live. LCC had provided a list of maint				
	be completed in order to meet accessibility requireme				
	new pages in order to accommodate our requirements.				
147/40/21					
	Cllr. Sceeny had circulated information relating to the				
	the members approved for submission on behalf of th	e Council. The clerk			
11//10/21	would complete the survey.				
146/40/21	PLANNING				
	20/1661/HOUS – 8 Bells Court, Carlton le Moorland. E	_			
	storey rear extension and porch. The Council had no o	comments to make			
147/40/21	regarding this application. CORRESPONDENCE				
147/40/21	i) Sands Conservation – Cllr Jacques would liaise v	vith Mr Woodman			
	(Hill Holt Wood) regarding the work to be unde				
	recommended by the Lincs Wildlife Trust report.				
	ii) Request to metal detect playing field – the Coun				
	could not be permitted, and the clerk would res				
	iii) Village Hall – residents were concerned regardir				
	hall to hirers however the lockdown followed so				
	would thank the residents for their message.				
	iv) Census – taking place on 21st March 2021 and the Council was being asked to assist with the publicity on its website and noticeboards.				
148/40/21	FINANCE				
	1. Review of Clerks Hours				
	It was resolved by all members to confirm the cle	erks hours (24 hours			
	per month) on a permanent basis.				
	2. <u>Finance Report and Bank Reconciliation December 2020</u>				
	The Income and Expenditure Accounts had bee				
	Finance report summary presented was accepte				
	The balances on the accounts at 1st January 202	'1 were as follows:			
	Treasurer's Account	£891.74			
	Village Hall Account	£2,596.97			
	Savings Account	£21,737.80			
	Defibrillator Fund	£1,572.61			
	Village Hall Development Fund - YPT	£795.01			
	Village Hall Development Fund - Fundraising	£16,604.66			
	Lottery Account – Village Hall Development	£598.21			
	YPT – Grant for Film Events	975.00			
	TOTAL	£45,772.00	1		

13th January 2021

Minute			Action		
148/41/21	<u>FINANCE</u>				
	3. <u>Payment of Accounts (continued)</u> Under item 6.10 of the Financial Regulations, it was agreed that internet banking would be used for the payment of accounts. The				
	following accounts were noted for approval at the mee Clerk's Admin Expenses – December 2020	£10.00			
	C.B. Grounds Maintenance – December 2020 M Harwood – Litter picking – December 2020	£103.44 £30.00			
	Clerk's Salary – December 2020	£288.00			
	Sue North – Maintenance & clean V. Hall - December Plusnet Broadband	£60.00 £34.20			
	Octopus Energy – December 2020	£348.30			
	Wave – Water Village Hall	£23.00			
	The Finance statements and payments were proposed be seconded by Cllr. Sceeny and agreed by all the Council.	y Cllr. Garlan	ıt,		
149/41/21	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	hla a a a			
	i) An item would be placed in the Witham Staple to thank to organised and participated in the Advent Window Trail in				
150/41/21	DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING				
	The next Parish Council meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 10 th				
	February 2021 at 7.30pm. The meeting closed at 9.30pm.				