**Backford Parish Council**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**28th July 2020 at 19.45hrs**

**Village Hall**

**Part 1**

**Apologies for Absence**

Mark Littler

**In Attendance**

Chairman Mike Cheers – MC

Councillor Ade Deary – AD

Councillor Anita Dodd – ADO

Councillor Andrew Harkness – AH

Councillor Clive Morgan – CM

Councillor David Ruscoe – (by phone)

City Councillor Simon Eardley – SE

Parish Clerk Debbie Jones – DJ

**Declarations of Interest**

Nil

**Open Forum**

Nil Attendee

**Part 2**

**29/20 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Previous Parish Clerk Issues

**30/20 Planning**

* **Applications awaiting approval**

**Garden Office Blencoe Close**

Whilst concern and discussion was had relating to the size of this building and setting a precedent, the group felt that there was no objection to be raised.

**Kinnington Way Single Storey Rear Extension to include Conversion of Garage**

The group discussed the fact that the application is for Great Sutton Parish although it came through as a Backford Parish on the website for CWAC.

**DJ to contact CWAC**

**Installation of an Instrument Room – Backford North Petroleum Storage Depot**

Discussions about whether this property is in the Backford Parish and if so, there is not felt to be any material objections.

The group discussed the borders of the Parish to establish if it fits into the boundary. AD highlighted that this will improve overfill protection for local residents. DR asked how far up the canal dose the boundary go – MC suggested it was to the end of Mat’s field. SE explained that this does not fall within the Backford Parish area but was going to check again with CWAC.

**Action SE**

**30/20 Reports by Representatives**

To receive reports from the following representatives:

MC reported on Village Hall progress and AH reported that Tenders all back of which there are six, two of which are inside the budget envelope and two are just over and two are higher still.

Cash sum analysis – being scrutinised at the moment. Still a lot to do but looking positive.

PWLB – AH explained that further information was now with the government minister for the three parish councils and original loan application expires tomorrow. An extension request has been made. Questions asked were much the same as the original application. AH reports still going ahead and the funding needs to be available then the lottery will be able to release their element of funding. AH received a reply back today from AD and we need to explain the unforeseen expenditure RJ has sent a reply back question back from Nathalia Pulis if the parish council was to default on the loan. No income stream other than the precept. AH to contact Richard Jones Chairman of Lea by Backford for a reply to this question. AD suggested that it is fact that a Parish Council cannot be disbanded whilst it is in debt.

Councillors are content with the progress so far. AD asked for clarification on the changes broadly the same but 3 metres shorter.

AD and ADO asked if there could be a site drawing which showing current status notice board and for the website.

* Backford Charities

No feedback as yet

* Local Issues

ADO asked SE if there had been any response re the bridleways and SE reported that the project has gone to a contractor and SE will continue to press this issue.

Still waiting for a response this week, Chris Matheson happy to support the project.

**31/20 Finance**

* Bank Balance – prior to cheques this evening includes reserve just over £5000.
* Payment for staff - £348.25
* £1.15 for AGAR postage
* John Edwards - £180

DR proposed that it would be an asset to Parish Council to consider at this time owning its own computer and Apple ID. DJ suggested that if this was not to be considered appropriate at this time then for the Parish Council to consider having its own external hard drive. DR maintained that for data security reasons it is essential that the council followed data protection rules

**DJ to get a costing for computer for the Parish Council and a backup hard drive.**

**32/20 Correspondence**

**Nil of note**

**33/20 Updates by Clerk**

* CHALC Newsletter
* Police Report – none received – new link person is Hannah Forrest
* Highways Issues – MC reported that on the A41 reservation and kerbs are nearly 2 ft high in weeds down the gulley side. Glenn Obrien was called in to do it as there was a 6 month wait.

**SE noted and will report to CWAC**

* MC reported that Rake lane is going to be re surfaced this year from Medcote and Collinge farm. AD requested that the white lines should be re painted. Gordon Lane farm and pump farm groove in the road about 12 inches. It is expected that there will be lane closure notice for 3 months on Rake Lane for National grid drainage.

The diversion for this is going to be a real problem however it is being advertised locally.

* Website re fresh – soon to be completed. DJ undertaking final checks prior to migration to 1.com along with Mollington and Lea by Backford Parish councils for economies of scale. Each to retain their current domain names and councillors were asked if they would like their photographs on the website – no in the main was the request.
* Noticeboard - DJ reported on some issues with build quality which have been reported to the supplier and awaiting their repair.

 **34/20 Matters Arising**

BT phone box – DR highlighted possibility of a Defib as Capenhurst Parish Council have done. SE explained that we need formally to agree that this would be adopted. AD explained that the phone box has not been used however there may be persons in the village that do not have a landline. DR felt that if it is not being used then it is superfluous to requirements. ADO asked if it was not used as a phone box – could it have an emergency dial up for emergency only. AH explained not for reasons of complex nature. It is deemed that the grids are safe enough now.

DJ to put something in the noticeboard and on the website and notices in the phone box asking residents for ideas.

Illumination comes from the mains and would have to be paid for. Facebook entry deferring the decision until a plan is available to done.

**Agreed to request comment from local residents about what the phone box be used for Action All.**

AH highlighted Broadband and asked is the Parish Council supportive of fibre to the community as all should be publicity encouraging local residents to take it up. BARN is now up and running in Puddington and Capenhurst.

**AH proposed and Ade Deary seconded motion carried.**

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**Tuesday 8th September 2020**

**19.45hrs**