Backford Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting

on Tuesday 9th March 2021 - 19.45hrs

Meeting ID: 928 421 7843

Passcode: 459747

Part 1

In Attendance

Cllr. Mark Littler

Cllr. Mike Cheers (Chairman)

Cllr. Andrew Harkness

Cllr. Clive Morgan

Cllr. Dave Ruscoe

Borough Cllr. Simon Eardley

Cllr. Anita Dodd

Cllr. Ade Deary

Debbie Jones Parish Clerk

Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence.

Declarations of Interest

The Village Hall was declared an interest to the group by AH and MC being Trustees

Open Forum

* B4RN

AH explained that the progress report had been received by all Councillors, 189 vouchers applied for so far and proposal to fit the cabinet in the hospice car park. Way leaves agreements are still on going. The Gigabit voucher scheme is ending at the end of March but there is a replacement. Information to continue being added to community websites and noticeboard. In addition to being a standing item on the agenda. MH had sent questions to AH as it appears that another firm Gigalock seem to be generating interst whilst B4RN seems to be getting caught up with way leaves. Also it was felt that there was almost too much information which community might find difficult to understand. Mollington have decent speeds and do not realise they could get better. Needs more of a hard sell approach.

CM - signed up for gigabit vouchers and some residents have dongles from Gigalock and feel they don’t need B4RN as their speeds have improved. It was agreed that the longer it takes to sign people up the less chance we have of getting to the goal of 368. Prices are coming down as well. AH feels it is frustrating. Need another 40 which will mean the ducting will go in. CM explained the COVID has made it more difficult.

Part 2

01/21 Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on Tuesday 12th January 2021

Minutes agreed as a true record with the typo on the Backford Charity. AH proposed and CM seconded.

02/21 Village Hall Update

* Public Works Loan

The public works loan board funds have been deposited into the bank. Need to write to Chris Jones as there is no detail about Backford Parish Council contributions made with regards to the FCC contribution.

FCC contribution £3581.04 grant sponsored by FCC

£218.96 village hall

£14850 loan

Backford Parish Council to log a letter of concern re this and the loan board and the £600 for the maintenance grant. Grants over the last 2 years. AD to check before this goes.

Action DJ

Build Progress

AH reported that slab is in and the metal framework of the building is up. Cladding issue resolved. Regular weekly update with the contractors. MPH very impressive and DJ wanted to thank them from Brookside perspective.

03/21 Planning

* [Demolition of sun room, erection of single and two storey side extension and single storey rear extension.](https://pa.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=QNNU9XTEMVT00&activeTab=summary)  1 The Nook Backford Chester Cheshire CH2 4BQ  Ref. No: 21/00407/FUL | Received: Thu 28 Jan 2021 | Status: Awaiting decision

No objections from neighbors – AH commented it is on a single track road and needs to provide a traffic management plan to make sure the contractors do not block off the road way. Anita Dodd commented about previous extensions DJ and SE to ask for CWAC comments on this. All agreed this would not be necessary. Parking as well.

The owner of the house has stated that he would not be able to stay in the property with the size of his family.

The house looks more into the hospice and one house but not in the other houses close by. AH felt that there should not be a limit on the size in comparison to the original.

All in agreement.

[Conversion of ground floor garage & first floor workshop into habitable space](https://pa.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=QJQU72TEKHU00&activeTab=summary)  Woodstock Little Rake Lane Chorlton by Backford Chester Cheshire CH2 4DH  Ref. No: 20/04266/FUL | Received: Fri 13 Nov 2020 | Status: Awaiting decision Planning applications

AH explained this was the original stable from Chorlton Hall – original garage was sold and the back of the courtyard back of garage and the room above sold to the same purchaser. It is now all part of the same house. Not on view to anyone. Not affecting anyone. All agreed that this can go through.

04/21 Reports by Representatives

To receive reports from the following representatives:

* Backford Charities - ML to be the representative
* War Memorial Trust - Councillor Mark Littler

MC has been contacted by John Hess MC to report back

* Rural Sounding Board -

Christine jones contacted AH re the Five Villages web site and wondered if this was adding value to the community and if so it needs to be funded. The village hall and parish council websites are all now new and it could be linked to all of the websites.

QR codes will not work if the website is not maintained. ML felt that the website is a new modern way for people to access information – historical information and map / walking paths are good sources of information on the website. It comes up on the first page of the google search.

All agreed to invite Christine to come to the next meeting. If the website needs to be supported it should be suggest share this between all three.

Action DJ to write to invite Christine Jones to next meeting

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05/21 Finance

Payments and Receipts: To note/approve the payment of salaries/wages and expenses and invoices for goods received and services rendered and to note any receipts. A schedule will be presented at the meeting.

* Bank Balance - £3477 to end of December with a reserve of £1512
* Projects - village planters with funds left over and chairman’s discretionary fund
* Mr Malthouse still repaying funds of £28 per month
* Payments for staff DJ £196.00 ( 2 lots of training undertaken on election and audit) £37.50 in total
* Book of condolence 1/3rd share of two books between Mollington, Lea and Backford Parish Councils = £19.96
* Ink cartridges £30.50
* Precept £3827 to go into account in April

Fast approaching the dates for closing of accounts

Mike Purcell to be asked by AD about the external verification of the accounts prior to it going to PKF Littlejohn.

Action AD

Action Dave Ruscoe to send DJ an external hard drive information.

ADeary is establishing Internet banking – CM to scan his information and AH has already done his. MC and AD signatures are already on the records.

AH explained that a card machine is used for the Lloyds on for the Village Hall.

06/21 Future Projects

Need to get planter quote validated and talk about this in May Section 51 cost for highway AD to deal with. Remaining paperwork still lost from Alex Malthouse.

07/21 Police Report

Wendy Leason PC gave a verbal report and the written reports are now with DJ. Only one incident which was a gentleman who was reported with ……………………

08/21 Highways update

MC reported that on Rake Lane – drains never been dealt with by CWAC. Chorlton Lane is in bad state of cleaning as no sweeping has been done over the winter. Grid near the bottom – gulley sucker sent but did not make any difference.

Action SE

AH - lake at the side of his house and went half way up the neighbour’s house leaking onto Chorlton Lane and the grid along the road was taking all of the water and is not blocked up.

Litter picking – residents are going round picking littler and a concern was raised about who would be liable if there was an accident – an couple had been seen picking litter on the A41. CM doing Rake Lane.

SE stated that there are thousands of miles of lanes and there is only so much the council can do. SE is picking litter. Council does not have resource. CM asked about the 3 weekly litter collection will make things worse. All should complete the questionnaire on the new waste management proposals.

Action All

DR suggested some form of punishment/deterrent could be used. Cameras are used elsewhere – signs are up already. AH sign outside his house about cameras and surveillance.

AH – council forum about bin. Fly tipping is not in the same budget therefore no incentive for one department to help out another department.

Action DJ to get bags MH and CM.

SE happy to help with kit payments. Orange bibs pickers and hoops.

Action DJ to do a proposal for Simon.

SE speed survey and litter picker for next year.

MC council are going to do all their own mowing this year ? how will they cope and justify cost for hiring of mower’s? A41 grass should not be higher than 2 inches. SE suggested all that could be done is to raise complaints.

AH - Site meeting at the fisheries - still has not happened despite SE chasing this weekly which SE felt was disappointing.

DR asked SE about the new dropped kerb on Whitby Road and what was the outcome, it has been logged with the enforcement team – do we know if it is being used as an access. ADeary stated that the issue is with the gates and structures that have been put up – on going. Lots of trees have been lost. Changed the configuration of the gate to ? share the access at the end of the bridle path.

SE in extensive correspondence on condition of bridleways pub farm route and also Whitby lane all correspondence re boggy conditions and is all being looked at.

ADeary - Pump Farm suffered badly with the flooding. Bridle path itself still flowing water even today. Gulley needs sorted and is known to the council and is being dealt with.

Gordon Lane reduction of speed limits. Parish Council needs to take a view on this. MC agrees that it should be 30mph not 40mph gulley water still an issue as well. ML agrees. Drivers should drive to the speed of the road. Illuminated signs cost about £4000 SE can contribute. Assessment could be done at the appropriate time.

Enforcement funded by monies from CWAC so no parish council contribution required. AD and AD reporting how unsafe it is on the roads for young children.

Assessment does not warrant 30mph

SE to raise this.

09/21 Any Other Business

Action DJ Letter re school parking should go to all of the school area houses.

DJ to put a letter through all doors – if non-compliance then enforcement will be done.

Request from Mr Walton - trees are not being maintained in the same way coming down church lane into Gordon lane.

**Action DJ to do a letter to Jones Homes.**

SE red phone box – painting work and restoration – no time line but in due course.

Letter for Mr fireworks. – can someone remind me what this was please

Linda Bailey – PCSO new to the team.

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**Tuesday 11th May 2021at 7.45hrs**