Pool-in-Wharfedale Parish Council

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| **Minutes of the meeting of Pool-in-Wharfedale Parish Council held via Zoom.us for the purpose of transacting business during the Coronavirus outbreak on Monday 13th July 2020 commencing at 7.30pm** | |
| **Present** | Councillor Lee in the Chair. |
|  | Councillors Barlow, Cooke, Davey, Mifsud, Rowling, Parker and Wheeler. Also, in attendance the Clerk John Ryan, Ward Councillors Barry and Caroline Anderson. |
| 2020/681 | **CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**  The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and stated the need to hold the meeting via Zoom to transact certain important business. The Chairman also asked all present to hold a minute’s silence for Mr Gerrard Francis, an Alderman of the City of Leeds and former Mayor of Otley. |
| 2020/682 | **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**  No members of the public were present. |
| 2020/683 | **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**  Apologies for absence were received from Ward Councillor Billy Flynn. |
| 2020/684 | **DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS.**  No declarations were received. |
| 2020/685 | **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**  The minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 9th March 2020 were approved subject to a small amendment to minute 2020/675, this was moved by Councillor Parker and seconded by Councillor Cooke.  **RESOLVED**  That the Council accepts the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th March 2020 as a true record. |
| 2020/686 | **REPORTS FROM MEMBERS**  Councillors Parker and Barlow reported on the recent occupation of RGMC land by travellers and the work required following their visit to prevent people trespassing on the fields in future. All seven entrances to the area have now been secured some temporarily whilst further security research is carried out.  The RGMC has invested heavily in making the grounds secure yet maintaining public access with costs so far reaching approximately £3600.00. This has included the supply of large boulders and a new gate. Members of RGMC have so far managed to secure funding from Ward Councillor Barry Anderson but still have a deficit in meeting overall costs. The Parish Council have been asked to consider providing some funding as some of the entrances also lead to parish owned land.  After some discussion it was proposed by Councillor Cooke and seconded by Councillor Wheeler that the Parish Council contribute £1,000 towards the cost of the security measures.  Councillor Mifsud thanked Councillors Parker and Barlow for their efforts in dealing with the travellers on site and for their hard work in finding solutions to the access problems, this motion was supported by all Councillors present.  **RESOLVED**  That the Parish Council contribute to the financial cost of the new security measures with a grant of £1,000.  Councillor Davey reported on the use of the parish playgrounds following a Government announcement that they should open again following lockdown on the 4th July 2020. To date many parish and larger councils, including Leeds Council and Pool Parish Council have still to open the facilities as they consider how Government guidelines can be met. The clerk reported that many of the guidelines could not be met by the parish council because it simply does not have the resources or staffing required.  A notice has been prepared, which follows similar notices being prepared by other parishes, which explains how the playgrounds will operate at parish level. It was agreed that the notice be circulated to all councillors and following comments received a decision will be taken on how and when the playgrounds will open.  Councillor Rowling reported on the recent meeting to discuss traffic issues in the village and asked that councillors note the record of the meeting provided by Ward Councillor Barry Anderson. Councillor Anderson reported on meetings with residents. More speed indicator signs are being considered for the village informing drivers that the Police will carry out checks. Police have already undertaken a number of visits but so far, no tickets have been issued. Currently there are no plans to introduce a 20mile an hour limit in the village and whilst new technology will allow for a pelican crossing at the Post Office no funds are available.  Whilst new signs have been located displaying entry to Upper Old Pool Bank these may yet be changed as some residents have objected to the wording.  Several parishes are to send a delegation to address Leeds City Council on the prohibition of Heavy Good Vehicles using the Pool to Wetherby route through the village. Councillor Rowling will attend on behalf of the parish.  Councillor Rowling also reported on damage to the roof of the White Hart Public House and how she used the village Facebook Page to alert people to the danger, through the page people managed to contact the Deputy Manager of the Pub who then arranged for the remedial work to be undertaken. It was a quick response and demonstrated the usefulness of Facebook to contact people in the village.  Further, she asked council to note that the Taylor Wimpey appeal response by Leeds Council had been circulated. Pool Village Memorial Hall has now met Covid compliance and is in a position to take bookings again when Government Regulations allow. Equally Old Pool Bank Village Hall is in the same position and both will allow for Parish Meetings in the future subject to distancing conditions.  The Neighbourhood Planning Group met just before lockdown to discuss the final draft of the Plan, no further meetings have taken place.  Councillor Rowing updated the out of date planning consultation form used by councillors to contact residents and will circulate a copy for members to print off.  Councillors Cooke and Lee reported a visit to the woods at Cabin Road following a resident complaint. Treeworld were contacted to carry out urgent work as the tree was in a dangerous condition.  Councillor Lee reported that a recent article in the Daily Telegraph commented on the excellent work carried out by Gary and Paula McNeil at the local Post Office in supporting residents in the village who are self-isolating. Councillors agreed that the work they have done warranted such a glowing accolade. |
| 2020/687 | **INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT AND ANNUAL RETURN TO EXTERNAL AUDITOR**  The External Auditor has issued the Annual Return to be completed and returned to the Auditor by the 31st August 2020. The clerk circulated the Annual Governance Statement and asked councillors to consider the nine statements outlined in Section1. Councillors agreed that all the conditions have been met by the council and that the Governance Statement be approved. This was moved by Councillor Parker and seconded by Councillor Barlow.  Once Section 1 had been agreed the Clerk outlined the Financial accounting figures and  statements in Section 2 of the Annual Return. Councillors agreed the figures, approval was moved by Councillor Davey and seconded by Councillor Parker.  **RESOLVED**  That the Accounting Statements in Section 1 and Section 2 which form part of the Annual Return be approved. The Statements be signed by the Chairman and the clerk and be dated and referenced. Council was also asked to note that any interested person, which includes but is not limited to local electors, can inspect the council’s Annual Return (unaudited) and the council’s accounting records for the financial year ending 31st March 2020.. A notice of the dates and a copy of the Annual Return (unaudited) will be published on the council website. |
| 2020/688 | **CLERK’S REPORT**  The clerk’s report which listed financial transactions during the months of May and June was noted. The report was moved by Councillor Davey and seconded by Councillor Cooke. The monthly finance report was also noted. |
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|  | The meeting closed at 8.40pm SIGNED BY |
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