Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 30th September 2020

Councillors Present: Robert Dixon, Jacqui Colbourne, Jenny Innes (Chair) and Angela McNally

Also Present: 4 Members of the public and Sue Cook (Clerk)

20/092 Apologies had been received from Cllr Neale and accepted

20/093 Cllr Colbourne Declared an interest in all things planning within Sudborough.

20/094 A member of the Public highlighted to the meeting concerns that they have with the noise from the motor-cross track along the Grafton Road in Brigstock; it is believed that the owners are applying to extend the number of days that the track is being used. It was suggested that any concerns are highlighted to East Northamptonshire Council (ENC) Environmental Health, the Clerk confirming that she has not received any notification from ENC of a planning application or changes to their licence.

20/095 Policies
The revised Data Map and new Media Policy were approved however the draft Publication Scheme had some information missing and will therefore be amended and re-presented for approval at the next meeting. The Fixed Asset Register has items missing this will also be amended and re-presented for approval at the next meeting.

20/096 Cllr Colbourne proposed that the Minutes of the meetings held on 22nd July and 12th August be accepted as a true record, Cllr McNally seconded the proposal, with everyone approving them as a true record and will be signed electronically.

20/097 Matters arising
a) Pathfinder II project Cllr Dixon informed the meeting that nothing has happened over the past couple of months; Jo Maddams who was running the project at NCC is currently working on COVID-19 projects and the person who has taken over from her is not yet fully up to speed. With winter approaching, Matthew Hunt (Sudborough’s Coordinator) is pressing for the long-delayed flood survey to be carried out.

b) Asset of the Community – Vane Arms Cllr Dixon reported that the Steering Group members visited the site on August 11th along with a builder and a prospective tenant and again on September 22nd with a second prospective tenant, who is fairly interested. The builder has yet to come back with a ballpark figure for the cost of the work that will needed to be carried out. The thatch is in fairly good condition but will require some patching, and, apart from a query over the state of the roof timbers, the building is thought to be structurally sound. It has transpired that although the asking price is still £395,000, VAT will have to be paid as well and at that price, bearing in mind the amount that will have to be spent on the property, the Steering Group are not in a position to put any kind of proposition to the community. There has been no serious interest from anyone else. Cllr Colbourne stated that there is still a demand within the village for the pub to re-open.

c) Cowthick Plantation – Cllr Colbourne informed the meeting that ENC have written to the Secretary of State for Housing strongly suggesting that the application is called in, stressing concerns about the amount of additional traffic that will be using the A6116 if the development goes ahead. Cllr Colbourne said the ENC’s letter is on its website and she agreed to forward a link to the councillors and also to put the link on the Sudborough Village so that all the residents are aware of the letter.

d) The over grown footpaths have been cleared by Highways.

e) Rights of Way Officer IAs Cllr Colbourne has had no response from ENC, it was
agreed that the Clerk should write to NCC asking how the Parish Council can appoint a new Officer.

f) **The Bollards on the village green** – Cllr McNally informed the meeting that the proposed new bollards would have to be concreted in and as such it would be more work than Mr McNally is prepared to undertake. As the village green area is thought to be part of the highway, it was agreed that the Clerk agreed should contact NCC Highways for guidance on the way forward.

g) **Land Owned by the Trustees of Mrs Giffin** – Cllr Innes informed the meeting that she has been informed that the Trustees would like to wait until the Spring of 2021 and the new Unitary Council is in place before making any decision.

h) Cllr Colbourne proposed that the **Website Upgrade** should be carried out at a cost of £360, this was seconded by Cllr McNally, with everyone in agreement. There also needs to be an **Accessibility Statement** put on the website; the Clerk agreed to source one.

i) The **Councillors details** are now displayed on the Noticeboard

20/098 Harpers Brook/Flood Working Group: Cllr Innes agreed to forward the link to the interactive map. She also agreed to make the Working Group aware of the community’s concerns about the impact of the Cowthick Plantation development should it go ahead. No further meetings have been arranged.

20/099 **Refurbishment of telephone box**: - Cllr Innes reported that she has seen someone sanding down the old paintwork and hopefully the undercoat will be applied tomorrow weather permitting.

20/100 **Correspondence** – The following items of correspondence had been circulated to the Councillors prior to this meeting with no further action required:

   a) Unitary Council Blueprint documents
   b) Joint Action Group Notices
   c) Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils (NCALC) Updates
   d) Invitation to NCALC’s AGM
   e) NCALC’s Training Newsletter
   f) Revision to Number 8 Bus Service
   g) Invitation to join Local Government Reorganisation Meeting of Town and Parish Councillors and Clerks on 14th September; both the Clerk and Cllr Dixon attended, and both found it very informative. Another meeting is being arranged for early in the New Year. 14th
   h) COVID-19 Survey
   i) ENC Bulletins, including on how to report fly-tipping
   j) Slipton Lane closure for Anglian Water to carry out works.

20/101 **Planning Matters**:

   a) It was agreed to object to Corby Borough Council application ref 20/00260/DPA erection of a self-storage building (Class B8) 4,466 sqm GIA) with independent Office use (Class B1) of 200sqm within the self-storage unit, 9 Units in flexible use Class B1(b, c), B2 and/or B8 uses with ancillary Trade/retail Counter amounting to 879 sqm GIA, Class A1/A3/A5 Coffee Drive Thru (168sqm) with new access, associated car parking and landscaping. | Fircroft Nurseries Stamford Road Stanion. The Clerk was asked to submit a letter of objection tomorrow, the grounds of objection being that the development site is on land that has been designated as open countryside and that the development would generate additional traffic along the A6116.

**Outstanding Planning Applications**

   a) Sycamore (T1) canopy reduction at 31 Main Street –
   b) T1 Sorbus, T2 Willow tree works at The Roundhouse – Approved
20/102 Finance

a. Cllr McNally proposed that the nationally negotiated 2.75% salary increase for the Clerk, backdated to 1st April 2020, be accepted; this was seconded by Cllr Dixon and approved by everyone.

b. The Bank Statement. The Clerk reported that the current bank balance shows a credit of £14581.76, this includes the £7000 ring fenced for the purpose of acquiring land for recreational purposes but does not include the second half of the precept. The Clerk confirmed that she has received the payment advice from ENC for this.

c. The following payments were approved in line with relevant legislation.

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20/103 The following items raised from the previous meeting not dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda.

Cllr Innes informed the meeting that she is retiring as a Village Hall Trustee; it was approved that Cllr Colbourne should take over from her as the Parish Councils representative.

20/104 Future Agenda Items

a) To consider the budget for 2021/22, the Clerk to provide the balance sheet before the next meeting.

b) To consider the Parish Council’s response to the consultation on the Government’s White Paper ‘Planning for the Future’; this may require a separate meeting. Deadline for responding is Thursday 29th October.

c) To consider changing bank, moving from Barclays to Unity (online).

20/105 Date of the next Full Parish Council Meeting: Wednesday 25th November 2020

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Confirmed that the minutes are a true and accurate record

Chairman

Dated