

Walkeringham Parish Council
Clerk to the Council: Mrs A Hayward
Lindale Villa, Gringley Rd, Walkeringham DN10 4HT
Tel: 01427 891118, angela.hayward@walkeringham.info

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16 December 2020. Held remotely due to COVID-19 restrictions

Present: Councillors Howard (Chair), Hooton, Heath, Roberts, Spencer, Dilly, Bowes, Oxley, A Hayward (Clerk), Cty Cllr. Taylor and Dist. Cllr. Sanger

Members of Public: 0

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Chairman's Remarks

Cllr. Howard welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the guest speaker.

**Guest Speaker: Callum Jones, Broadband Engagement Officer, Better Broadband Team, NCC
Topic: Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme & NCC Investment Support Scheme**

Presentation summarised as follows:

At the moment around 98% of the County has superfast broadband but there are still around 8,500 rural homes that do not. NCC is keen to remedy this. In view of this NCC has announced a £750,000 investment to support a Government scheme. Currently there is a national scheme, called the Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme (GBVS), provided by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport central government department. In summary, this scheme is in place to assist with the funding to provide gigabit capable broadband services to residents and small/medium sized businesses (SMEs). As part of this scheme vouchers are available worth £1500 per home and £3500 per business. (these vouchers are made available to the service provider, not the individual residents/businesses). In addition to the above, Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) is providing a separate investment as part of their Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire programme.

As part of this scheme NCC are providing the same monetary amounts as above so bringing the totals to £3000 and £7000 respectively. The voucher amounts are one-off payments made to the selected service provider to help them fund the installation of the new infrastructure needed to provide the new service.

The service provider must be registered on the scheme and whilst there are many smaller companies providing this service the recommendation from NCC is that we Openreach is used as part of their Community Fibre Partnership. The rationale for this is that they are already working with them in other parts of the county and also importantly using Openreach will not tie/limit subscribers to a specific broadband provider for their service

NCC is looking to organisations such as Parish Councils to raise awareness of the scheme. The scheme is due to run until 31st March 2021 or until the funding becomes funding allocated. The Parish Council can co-ordinate this by advertising through social media channels etc and encourage people to register their interest in the first instance.

A brief question and answer session took place. The Chairman thanked Callum Jones for his time. Item to be discussed further in the main meeting but initial thoughts were that it would be worth taking this forward if we could. Cllr. Heath would speak to Callum Jones the next day about possible next steps.

Public Session: No discussion

The main PC meeting commenced at 7.30pm. Cllrs. Oxley, Dilly, Sanger and Taylor joined the meeting at this stage.

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Apologies for absence

Cllr. Sowter (personal reasons)
Cllr. Vardy (work commitments)

Resolved: All apologies accepted

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Cllr. Capp was absent

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To receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011, and to consider any applications for dispensations in relation to disclosable pecuniary interest

Cllr. Bowes – any discussion regarding donations to Walkeringham Primary School (non-pecuniary interest)

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District and County Councillors' Reports

District Councillor

District Cllr. Sanger gave the following report:

COVID-19 – BDC has spend a lot of money in relation to the pandemic of which only 75% was covered by the additional Government funding. BDC staff had been thanked for their excellent work during this difficult time.

BDC has appointed an Armed Forces Champion. At the Cabinet meeting, rhe Armed Forces Champion provided information on his role to which he was appointed in August 2019. Since then, he has assisted in the launch of a support booklet for former armed forces personnel; visited veterans clubs; opened discussions with the NHS and health centres regarding mental health and other issues. Many armed forces personnel are referred through to him as a first point of contact not only from Bassetlaw but from elsewhere. Mental health problems are the main issue, alongside homelessness and financial worries. He commended the Bassetlaw Covenant Team for their support in providing assistance.

Council house rent was to be increased slightly.

County Councillor

The follow report was forwarded by Cllr. Taylor:

COVID-19 – All the support groups are still in place. The vaccination programme will be led by Nottingham Hospital's CCGs. **It is important to get the message out not to call the hospitals,** they will get in touch with individuals. First groups to receive the vaccinations will include those over 80, care home workers and the extremely clinically vulnerable.

There is to be a waste management review. The long-term agreement with Veolia is not ideal and the hope is the Veolia will demonstrate some flexibility. Targets to be imposed to improve recycling, promote re-use and reduce landfill.

Nottingham University and Viaem have commenced a new project looking a renewable energy storage. They are looking to set up an innovative battery storage facility at the Bilsthorpe Depot with a view to charging its own fleet of vehicles in the future

Flooding Issues: A new member of staff has been recruited and assigned to Walkeringham. Cllr Taylor suggested another visit to introduce Scott Stone. He will be tasked with carrying out the culvert survey work and arranging the Flood Warden training. To be discussed further at the next meeting.

Cllr. Howard asked about the planned mass testing in Nottinghamshire. Cllr. Taylor agreed to look into it.

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Approval & Signing of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2020 were discussed, proposed, seconded, voted and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

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Reports for information only

Community Hub

Cllr. Dilly reported that the footfall continues to pick up. They are currently looking after 7 extremely vulnerable people/households. There is now a bric-a-brac stall at the village hall.

NEBF Report

Cllr. Roberts reported as follows:

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Detailed draft minutes put together by BDC had been circulated prior to the meeting. In addition:

Census Sunday March 21st 2021. Hoping for 75% completion online. Tell us that it will be data secure for 100 years.

New draft plan. Change in the plan after January Consultation 720 comments. More building concentration around Worksop Retford & Harworth and new Garden village around Clumber area A1/A57. CIL will still exist. This new plan would mean that Walkeringham's housing requirement would be 24. Misterton would be 190. West Stockwith zero. Over the period. If the community thought there was a justified need for more housing, they would consider it. Interestingly BDC said that Local Plan (which is out of date) worked on the basis of, "if a builder could show that someone would buy the house then they had a good chance of getting it passed" they are trying to keep things moving to change that. Consultation until 20th January 2021.

Flooding scrutiny review Stephen Brown did say he was having difficulty co-ordinating the different agencies, EA, NCC, IDB's. Particularly the Environment Agency. Did say BDC has no requirement to supply sand bags. Ian Davies is currently working part time on a consultancy basis at BDC.

Covid-19 Big message of vaccination is wait to be contacted, do not try to contact the NHS.

Doncaster Robin Hood Airport The airport has not suffered quite as much as others around the country. Been shifting PPE, flights in from Kenya with beans and Virgin Atlantic using it as a plane park. WIZZ air is registering part of its business in the UK. They have big plans, but a railway link has been put on the back burner. Apparently, it comes under the auspices of Sheffield Development Council and the money tends to congregate around Sheffield and Rotherham.

Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported as follows:

Grit bins

The Parish Council requested an additional bin on the corner of North Moor Road and High Street and a replacement for Moorland Walk. The Highways Team responded as follows:

Thank you for your email. We plan to send the seasonal team out to place the Blue Grit Bin on North Moor Road/ High Street. Once they have done that, we will send them to Moorland Walk to inspect the grit bin and check the condition of this. If it does seem like it needs to be replaced, they will plan to do that.

CIL Monies: The agreement between BDC and the Parish Council has now been signed and the remittance will be processed shortly.

Nature Reserve

The following update has been received from the Notts Wildlife team

The volunteers made a start today on clearing back the vegetation and opening things up to make it less secluded. We have unearthed quite a bit of fly-tipping. I wondered if the parish council would be able to request the council to come and collect it? It will help speed things up and help reduce some of the rubbish handlings for us. I'm aiming for us to visit again to continuing the clearance and then I can book the contractor early in the new year.

The BDC Cleansing Team have been asked to help out if they can with fly tipping.

High Street Pavement: No news as to whether or not it will be included in the next round of NCC capital works.

Street Naming – Land Off Station Road

The new proposed street names have been confirmed as:

St Marys Close
Trent Grove
Beck Drive

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Relocation of red telephone box

Cllr Oxley had contacted BT to seek clarification as to whether or not it had been disconnected. There may be a charge for disconnection. Also, there will be a licence fee payable to the local authority before work is carried out. We will need to provide a plan and various other information before licence issued.

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Matters for Consideration

1. Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme

Resolved: to go ahead and register our interest in the scheme. Cllr. Heath to lead on this. Cllr. Heath to consult with Callum Jones and report back with further details.

2. Community Garden

a. To review the funding already in place/secured and summarise what has been agreed so far in terms of use of reserves and spending cap.

A detailed analysis had been circulated prior to the meeting, summarised below:
Secured funding: £10,000 Lottery Grant, £6,062 CIL and £450 miscellaneous grants.
Estimates Spend: £1,500 design and legal fees, Phase 1 £18,160.
Agreed Spending Cap: £25,000
Contingency/Phase 2: £5K (including planting up, no specific contingency identified at this stage)

Cllr. Howard reaffirmed that spending would not go above the £25K cap without further discussion and another vote.

b. To review the published financial statements of Acer

Details circulated prior to the meeting and a summary given by the Clerk. Whilst it was appreciated that any project of this nature was not without risk, the balance sheet and historic data suggested the company had a reasonably strong balance sheet and had been trading for many years. They also had good trading relations with various other local authorities and there was no evidence to suggest otherwise.

c. To review the quote, terms and conditions of Acer's revised contract and vote on whether or not to approve it as it stands.

Resolved: to accept quote and terms and conditions including payment of deposit. Clerk to progress

d. To nominate a Councillor to take the lead in identify possible sponsorship – Cllrs. Dilly and Bowes to pursue.

e. To nominate a Councillor to take the lead in identify other grant funding opportunities – not discussed

f. Community Engagement

A brief history of communication engagement undertaken to date was given. The idea initially came about as a result of various Neighbourhood Planning public consultation events when residents were asked what amenities they would like to see in the parish. The community garden was one of the projects to be taken forward in the plan and features in the final version. As the idea became more established and funding secured from the lottery fund, articles were placed in various local publications including the Retford Times and other Gainsborough papers. Residents in the vicinity of the site were individually consulted and their opinions sought. Conversations also took place with the school and the nursing home. Action: An update is to be put on the Parish Council website and will feature in the next PC newsletter. Cllr. Hooton to draft.

Cllr. Taylor interjected at this point to reassure members that the Parish Council had acted quite properly in what it had done so far. Members are voted in to act as representatives not delegates for the parish.

g. Outstanding questions/queries

No further issues/questions raised.

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3. To consider any feedback/comments re. BDC Draft Plan

No comments made.

4. Consultation re. bus stop clearway and post of Mill Baulk Road and High Street

Resolved: to fully support. Clerk to make Viaem aware of possible clash with the community garden works.

5. Creation of Walkeringham Parish Council Facebook (FB) Page

There was some discussion as to whether or not a Parish Council FB Page was needed. Other local Parish Councils had their own FB page and appeared to work well. Some members felt that it would help get information out to the public in a quick and timely fashion. Others felt that providing links to the website on the two existing Walkeringham village FB pages would be enough and another FB page may create a duplication of work.

Resolved: to give it a go and create a dedicated Parish Council FB Page. Cllr. Bowes to set up and manage.

Cllr. Dilly commented that some residents had asked about the Walkeringham newsletter as they had not seen one for some time. It was agreed to put an appeal out for new distributors and aim to publish the next newsletter after January.

6. Village gateway sign design

A design had been drawn up and submitted to the Parish Council. The consensus was, that whilst it was a good piece of art, it was probably a little too 'busy' for a gateway sign so would require some redesign so it lends itself to be a piece of graphic. Cllr. Hooton knew of someone in the village who might be able to turn this into graphic and would investigate further.

7. Installation of bench on the Trent bank

Action: Clerk to contact the EA to establish if permission is required to install a bench. Again, there was some debate as to whether or not a replacement bench should be installed.

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Faults and Repairs

The following comments and reports were made:

There had been a few complaints (mainly via Facebook) in relation to the mud on the road created by the building work on Station Road. Also there had been some vehicle obstruction issues near to the entrance to the site. The site was experiencing some issues with water retention in the field.

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Cemetery Matters

Income received (November): £700.00

Clerk advised that the Cemetery budget for 2021/22 will be reviewed and agreed at the January 2021 meeting.

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Financial Matters

Financial Report as at 16 December 2020:

Income for the financial year to date: £29,932
 Expenditure for the financial year to date: £23,811

Balance £46,003

The following payments were proposed, seconded, voted and agreed.

Cheque	Amount	Payee	Matter
2047-49	638.54	Staff	Sals/Exps
2050	284.40	HMRC	PAYE
2051	114.00	RCAN	Annual Membership Fee
2052	300.00	Friends of Walkeringham School	Re-issue of donation cheque

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Planning matters

New Planning Applications

Vary Condition 2 of P.A. 17/01090/FUL to Vary Site Layout and Change of House and Garage Types to Plots A, B and C

Land North of Meadow View Birdcroft Lane Walkeringham South Yorkshire

Ref. No: 20/01536/VOC

Resolved: No objection, no Comment

Planning Decisions

Erect Temporary Wooden Stable Block on Skids (Resubmission of P.A. 20/00597/FUL)

The Stables Beckingham Road Walkeringham Doncaster South Yorkshire DN10 4HZ

Ref. No: 20/01215/FUL

Decision: GRANT

Appeal Decisions

Appeal Ref: 3255028 – The Moorhouse Farm, High Street, Walkeringham

Decision: Appeal Dismissed

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Correspondence (not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda)

None

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Councillors' reports and items for inclusion on the next agenda

Agenda Items: Budget setting and new Parish Council website and Facebook Page

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To confirm date of next meeting

The date of next Parish Council meeting was agreed and confirmed as Wednesday 20 January 2021 at 7.30pm. Meetings will be conducted virtually for the foreseeable future. Cllr. Heath to look into alternative options to Webex as some members were experiencing problems with connectivity.

Meeting closed 9.26pm

Signed

Date