

Ufton Parish Council

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting held on Tuesday 7th July 2020

Meeting commenced 20:03 hrs via Zoom

- 1. Record of Members Present**
Cllrs Crowther, Tayler, Leeman, Cllr Mrs Kemp, County Cllr Stevens and Mrs J Chapman (Clerk)
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
Cllr Byrne
Cllr Baldwin
District Cllr Adam
- 3. Acceptance of Apologies**
All apologies accepted
- 4. Declaration of Interest**
Councillors are reminded that they **MUST** act solely in the public interests and should never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person to act or gain financial or other material benefits for yourself, your family, a friend or close associate.
- 5. Dispensations - None declared**
- 6. Open Forum – (15minutes)**
There were no public present.

CC / SDC Representatives Reports

County Cllr Stevens

WCC offices have been shut since lockdown and all staff are working at home. Officers telephones have been transferred to their homes, all meetings are being carried out virtually and it is likely it will stay this way for some time to come.

COVID19 Warwickshire is following the national trend in the reduction in cases. There are spikes in Nuneaton and Bedworth and Coventry is under observation. Stratford District cases were high but now reduced. There is no shortage of PPE in Warwickshire. Testing continues to be easier to get and Coventry Warwickshire and Solihull have been selected as Beacon Authorities for test and trace rollout once details are finalised. Assistance to those who are isolated is well under control and staff who were assigned to these centres are returning to their normal duties. Well done all the parishes who set up help lines and still help the vulnerable. The army assistance has been invaluable in this respect especially planning and distribution. The one-off cost to the County Council after government grants is in the region of £28 million, which can be met from reserves.

The Way ahead - The county council have set up 4 Covid recovery groups to establish what the "new normal" will look like as the council resumes its role in the community. These groups will report to the Cabinet in September.

HS2 - During the lock down period HS2 sub contractors and archaeologists have been working to meet their perceived dates. The first train is still scheduled for 2030 but The Prime Minister would like it sooner. There are protests and traffic disruption along the line as HS2 and their contractors push their interpretation of the hybrid Bill to its limits. Locally there is the preparation for the tunnel Boring machine (TBM) and the massive upheaval as the utility supplies are installed. The route the TBM will take is still under discussion. The TBM has been ordered from a German company and will be delivered in large pieces possible before the end of the year. Other preparations include major works in and around Wormleighton and Ladbroke as plant depots etc are established and the bed for the track is prepared. Planning and communication continue to be HS2's Achilles heel disrupted by staff reorganisations. Regular liaison meetings will continue including those with the MP and Southam Town council's Forum for all local parishes.

Highways - There have been an enormous number of road closures, traffic lights and diversions and despite diversion signage drivers find their own rat runs. There have been emergency repairs (potholes and bad verges), a disrupted resurfacing programme, Severn Trent emergency repairs and some forestry work. During lock down there has been more speeding, the police handled over 3000 fines in June. 10 out of the 12 parishes in Feldon have asked for speed restrictions/measures and the requests are prioritised by the reduced staff and limited budget.

Permanent signs entail a costly legal process and extensive consultation. During the lockdown there have been less accidents. Schemes along the Fosse are still being progressed and there is a call for cycle ways where Sustrans are taking the lead

Community Grants - will again be available, the rules are the same but payment unlikely before Christmas. The highway grant scheme has been modified and will not be available until next year's budget schemes are completed.

7. Minutes of Last Parish Council

7.1 The minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 10th March 2020 were agreed as being a true and complete record.

The minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on Saturday 21st March 2020 were agreed as a true and complete record.

8. Matters Arising

8.1 HS2 – there was no further information to discuss.

8.2 Parish Boundary – Cllr Crowther is still awaiting a reply from Jeremy Wright MP. Keep on Agenda.

8.3 Highway Issues – none.

8.4 Cart Pond – Cllr Tayler advised the meeting the Parish Councils application to Sever Trent's Grant Fund was not successful. However, Murphy's currently working on the HS2 project have offered to dig out the pond, set aside the plants and take away the rubbish and silt. Cllr Tayler has asked the pond company if they are still willing to undertake the work and to provide a revised quote. It may be possible for the Parish Council to apply to WCC for a Community Grant, also Cemex and HS2 offer grants.

Cllr Crowther, as Chairman of the meeting thanked all Councillors and the Clerk for all assistance they have offered and are offering due to COVID19.

9. Planning

9.1 The following planning application has been received.

Planning Ref	Address	Proposed Work	Ufton PC response
20/01212/FUL	College End, Ufton Fields, Ufton, CV33 9PH	Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of a new dormer bungalow.	Supported

9.2 No planning decisions have been received during the period 10.03.2020 – 30.06.2020.

9.3 Other planning information - None

10. Finance

10.1 Monthly Budget Report

For the period 01.04.2019 – 31.03.2020 was considered and agreed.

For the period 01.04.2020 – 30.06.2020 was considered and agreed, there has not been any expenditure due to the lack of meetings since COVID19 lockdown.

10.2 To authorise the following payments:

Name	£
Clerks Salary – April 2020, May 2020, June 2020	567.51
Mrs J Chapman reimbursement for Ufton News Printing for April, May, June and July 2020 (4 lots @ £33.60 = £134.40) Plus COVID19 Leaflet printing 125 sheets £10.00	144.40
Mrs J Chapman reimbursement of Zoom costs £14.39 per month split between 3 Parish Councils	4.80
EON Electricity for the period 01.10.2019 – 31.12.2019 £178.31 plus 01.01.2020 – 31.03.2020 £203.27	381.58
EON Street Lighting Maintenance 01.01.2020 – 31.03.2020	23.29
WALC Membership Renewal 2020 – 2021	123.00

It was proposed by Cllr Leeman, seconded by Cllr Mrs Kemp and **RESOLVED** the payments be made.

- 10.3 **Income received**
Precept £4,485 - noted
- 10.4 **Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/2020 Part 2 – Certificate of exemption authorisation.**
- It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Kemp, seconded by Cllr Tayler and **RESOLVED** the Certificate of Exemption be authorised by the Chairman of the meeting, Cllr Crowther and Responsible Financial Officer, Mrs J Chapman
- 10.5 **Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/2020 Part 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2019/20209**
- It was proposed by Cllr Tayler, seconded by Cllr Mrs Kemp and **RESOLVED** to approve the Annual Governance Statement 2019/20
- 10.6 **Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/2020 Part 2 – Accounting Statements 2019/2020**
- It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Kemp, seconded by Cllr Tayler and **RESOLVED** to approve the Accounting Statements 2019/20
11. **Residents query relating to the payment of £1200 grant to the Ufton Parochial Church Council towards the cost of grass cutting**
The Councillors discussed this matter. The payment of £1200 was paid for 2019 – 2020 and cannot be revoked. The Cllrs intend to maintain the current arrangements and will invite residents of the Parish to attend the next Precept meeting in January 2021 for them to put forward their rationale for the grant not to be paid.
12. **Marking the death of a senior national figure**
- It was proposed by Cllr Tayler, seconded by Cllr Leeman and **RESOLVED** Ufton Parish Council do not wish to adopt a protocol for Marking the death of a senior national figure.
13. **Dog Fouling**
Deferred to the next meeting.
14. **Timing of minutes**
Cllr Crowther reminded everyone present of the agreed timings for minutes and Agendas: -
"Draft Minutes are to be circulated by the following `Friday but one' (i.e. within 10 days of the Parish Council Meeting). Response and any amendments from Councillors to be returned to the Clerk by the following Wednesday (i.e. within 5 days). This will ensure the final Draft can be placed on the Village noticeboard a minimum of one week before the next Parish Council Meeting.

The Agenda for the next Parish Council Meeting will be made available one week beforehand too so that Councillors have an ample opportunity to pass comment before it is placed on the Village noticeboard."
15. **Frequency of meetings**
Deferred to the next meeting
16. **Dates for next meetings to be agreed.**
This will remain as at present, the first Tuesday of the month, except for the meeting due to be held on 6th April 2021, this will be held on Tuesday 13th April 2021
17. **Items for next meeting**
Dog Fouling, Communication and a motion from Cllr Baldwin regarding parishioners' rights not to remain anonymous.
18. **Date of Next Meeting** Tuesday 1st September 2020

Meeting closed 21:25 hrs

Signed

Date

DRAFT