

## **Lea-by-Backford Parish Council**

### **Minutes of Meeting Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019 Venue Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.**

#### **Part 1**

#### **Apologies for Absence**

Rob Griffiths

#### **Declarations of Interest**

**None**

#### **Open Forum**

Members of the public are invited to raise issues not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda. The maximum time allowed is 30 minutes, subject to the Chairman's discretion.

#### **Police Report**

PCSO Wendy Leason has reported there is no crime for the month of October 2019. Visa and amazon scams are prevalent. Also, TV licencing scam has been a problem. Advised to put the phone down if any calls come to the house. A number of the councillors highlighted that they had had similar calls.

RL highlighted a recent fraud relating to invoices – a letter arrived to inform of account changes with headed note paper looked authentic for BACS payments. A further letter the following week arrived from the company. Might have caused a severe issue. FJ also discussed fraud issues he knew of.

DJ highlighted the speeding issues on station road. WL will report this to traffic and will report back.

SP has an issue with drones flying over her garden. WL took note of this. The drone is now in the possession of SP. WL advised that this could be misconstrued as theft.

#### **Chris Jones**

BARN - Chris gave an update on progress. Still looking for more expressions of interest. Way leaves are still being sought. Investors need to start investing and the interest rate is currently at 5% from day 1. Projects are mainly in North Lancashire, Westmorland, Cheshire Lincolnshire and North Yorkshire. SP requested that the map be adjusted to not show her land i.e. driveway.

FJ asked for Virgin to be contacted to discuss previous plans.

## **Part 2**

### **In Attendance**

Wendy leason  
Richard Jones  
Susan Pownall  
John Littler  
Robin Leigh

A brief discussion ensued relating to issues highlighted re BARN etc. RL discussed the issues with regards to the new build and traffic lights along the A5117. FJ reported that consultation with highways is not needed as long as a sign is put up 1 week before. The group discussed options being considered.

RJ explained that he would not sign the way leave application.

### **37/19 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

**All agreed as a true record.**

### **38/19 Village Hall**

RJ explained a meeting held 3 weeks ago attended by RL also, and were informed that the shortfall is around 46K. The project team has trimmed back the plans. A further survey has been done. RL also reports a problem with water which meant that the retaining walls need to go a lot further down. There are currently no footings and the flood plane is a potential pitfall. Reduction in some of the solid walls is required and gutters looked at. Altered regulations with sewage and a buffer absorber is also required. RJ also highlighted a previous commitment to residents that should the village hall not be re built then any funds raised by the precept would need to be returned to local residents.

JL asked why the QS has suddenly asked about these issues. 155K extra has been agreed by the national lottery. The project team suggested they are now within touching distance.

There is a request that Parish councils if they have any surplus should consider whether they could contribute any more funds.

RL explained that the Parish Council has yet to sign off against the loan and we can't commit until the village hall is to be built. If no security by the end of the march deadline then they lose 155K.

SP is concerned that this would need to be knocked down and then there would be no village hall at all.

Parish Councils would become more accountable in the future.

The feeling at the meeting was that the other PC's would be going back to their parish meetings for agreement on how to proceed.

**Parish Councillors carried a motion to say that no more money would be available in this financial year.**

### **39/19 Planning**

Nil new of note.

DJ reported that the planning portal is now working for access and e mail notifications for the Parish clerk.

### **40/19 Website Update**

All going Ok and is up to date

### **41/19 Reports by Representatives**

To receive reports from the following representatives:

- Village Hall - Councillor Robin Leigh  
Previously discussed.
- Backford Charities - Councillor Rob Griffiths  
Nil to report
  
- War Memorial Trust - Councillor Sue Pownall rang Carl Stagg that the two grants were given out (2K). SP would have liked a contribution to other ideas.
  
- Rural Sounding Board - Councillor Robin Leigh  
RL reported a difficulty with the post offices, Barclays Bank pulling out of providing money services to the Post Office. There is now an outcry in some rural areas with regards to accessing cash in some areas. Barclays now back tracked and this is guaranteed for the next 3 years. Broadband rural services network. There is an alternative to getting good broadband relating to postcodes and there is information on the website. Mobile EE is bringing out a service into rural areas can get 35 megabits per second for £35.

Still ongoing incidents with children throwing stones on the shell road at cars. It is a big problem and some cars are having bricks thrown at them.

### **42/19 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

8821K with cheques to be paid for the staff

- Interpretive panel

RJ explained that Mr Hess had been concerned about the title of the Board. Townships was a difficult title for local language and understanding. The panel has now been ordered with title to reflect agreements.

- Remembrance contribution

Wreath cost £17.50 and a donation was included.

- Payments for staff

#### **43/19 Correspondence**

Nil of note

#### **44/19 Updates by Clerk**

- CHALC Newsletter
- Christmas invite by DJ

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 6.30pm

#### **45/19 Matters Arising**

- End of year report – DJ to commence writing
- Precept consideration for 2020/2021
- SP asked if there would be agreement for the village green to be tidied up. All agreed that SP should access a quote for said works.

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**  
**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.30p.m**