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COLD ASHBY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes
Wednesday 8th January 2020

Minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 8th January at 7.30 p.m.
at Cold Ashby Sports Pavilion, Stanford Road

Minutes

Present: Councillors Bailey (chairman), Harpham, Peel, Williams, Williams. The clerk.

Interests: none

1. **Apologies:** none received.
2. **Minutes:** minutes of the meeting of the Council on the 4th December 2019 were approved.
3. **Matters arising:** none
4. **Open forum:** to receive and discuss matters raised by members of the public present at the meeting. DS raised the issue of the foul drain (sewer) which became blocked on December 24 and was investigated and unblocked. There are concerns that a future occurrence could cause major issues. It was agreed the clerk should raise the matter and seek assurances from the relevant authorities
5. **Accounts:** the balance reported at the December meeting was **£26,110.46** (£19,838.33 current and £6,272.13 investment). The clerk explained that a mistake in accounting for PAYE had made this £71.60 understated and this had been corrected in the January accounts. Payments were approved. The balance reported was £19,256.70 current and £6272.13 investment. The total of £25,528.834 included the drawdown of the NCF windfarm bid.
6. **Traffic management: VAS replacement:** Councillors Richard Williams and Alan Peel have proposed the following resolution, which was accepted.

Following an investigation into cost and the identification of a suitable VAS model the Council should seek to fund its purchase in the 2020-21 financial year through a mixture of grants, special project funding, co-operative schemes with the police commissioner's office and Community Infrastructure Levy awards, subject to council agreement on the chosen model and a final resolution in June or July following the views of the annual assembly in May.

The following actions would now be taken: 1) The camera company would be asked to provide more details of cameras and their suitability for the council's

purpose, including a check that the camera is the correct type, and 2) further conversations with the Police Commissioner's office to ascertain what resources, financial and material might be available from that source.

7. **Budget and Precept for 2020-21:** members approved a budget based on the figures agreed in December and revised as in the annex and a corresponding precept requirement based on the calculation allowing £10,000 in reserves. The following resolution was **approved** and completed the 2020-21 budget process:

The Council instructs the chairman and clerk to sign and submit a precept requisition form for a precept of £10,000 in 2020-21 financial year in line with budget revisions in annex 2.

8. **Schedule of Council meetings March 2020 - April 2021:** a calendar of proposed meeting dates from March 2020-March 2021 was considered at the meeting. Members adopted a schedule based on 11 meetings (excluding June 2020, when no meeting will be held) on the first Wednesday of the month at 7.30. Meetings from April to September inclusive will be held in the Sports Pavilion. October to March meetings will be held in the Village Hall. The annual village assembly, **to be held in the Sports Pavilion**, will take place on Wednesday 20th May

9. **To receive any verbal reports from councillors representing the council on other bodies.** – minor updates received on village hall and Capfa matters.

10. **Post:** the following items were discussed:

- Grass mowing scheme renewal – it was agreed to continue the current arrangement with NCC. The likelihood of a new contract for the mowing of the grass in the village was discussed and it was agreed by resolution that: **In awarding the grass-cutting contract the following issues could override the need to put the matter out to tender: an ability to offer the contract to a Cold Ashby contractor; proven track-record of satisfactory past work; value-for-money. If the clerk and chairman are able to assure themselves that these criteria had been met, the council authorises them to award the work for the 2020-2021 season, subject to the usual safeguards on insurance and working practices.**
- Comments on dog bin re-siting – resident's email. The email was considered and the clerk was asked to respond to the resident concerned. The council did not see the need to reconsider its December decision on the siting of the waste bin, but noted the comments on litter and will organise two litter picks per year, instead of just one.
- A planning notice had been distributed to councillors but not included on the agenda. It concerned the erection of signs at the proposed truck stop at junction 1 of the A14. The clerk was asked to respond by raising the issue of further light pollution and pointing out that its earlier concerns had not been dealt with to the council's satisfaction.

Meeting concluded at 9 p.m.

Graham Jones 9 January 2020