

KNEBWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 January 2022 at 8.00 p.m. at Knebworth Village Hall

Present: Councillors Roger Willcocks (Chairman), Rosemary Conybeare, Charlotte Cosson, Jeremy Godfrey, Jenny Harrison, Steve Hemingway, and Paul Ward

In attendance: the Clerk and one member of the public

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Charter, Farr, Nash and Stringer.

2. Public Participation

None

3. Declarations of Interest

None

4. Minutes

Proposed by Mr Godfrey, seconded by Mrs Cosson and

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 8 December 2021 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5. To Note the Minutes of Committee Meetings

The Council noted the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 8 December 2021.

6. Matters Arising

6.1 RCCG Car Park

There being no further information this was left in abeyance.

6.2 Footpath – Park Lane to Deanscroft

The Council is waiting to hear from the solicitor and agreed that it could not accept the TP1 in its current format.

6.3 Knebworth Neighbourhood Plan

The examiner has started work on the review of the Neighbourhood Plan and has issued a letter of clarification. The planning consultant has drafted a response.

6.4 Grant Awarding Policy

Proposed by Mrs Cosson, seconded by Mrs Harrison and

Resolved: to adopt the grant awarding policy subject to minor amendments.

6.5 To consider request for support to plant a tree on Stockens Green

The Council supports the application for tree planning on Stockens Green but requires Knebworth Tenants to complete a grant application form, which will be considered at the next meeting.

The Clerk is to write to CC Thake to request the replacement of two lost oak trees in Stockens Green.

7. CCTV

Mr Jobling provided information on the benefits and cost of installing CCTV in the recreation grounds and the government is awarding grants to install CCTV in parks

Proposed by Mrs Cosson seconded by Mr Jobling and

Resolved: to set aside £13,000 in the 2022/23 budget for recreation grounds equipment.

Mr Jobling is to investigate funding from the safer street campaign.

8. Allotments

Proposed by Mr Godfrey, seconded by Mrs Conybeare and

Resolved: to make enquiries regarding the acquisition of a piece of land adjacent to the allotments.

9. War Memorial

The condition of the war memorial was discussed at the Remembrance Service and an ex serviceman is prepared to undertake some fund raising to help restore the memorial in its one hundredth year.

The memorial is a listed building and any work would require planning approval. The Council agreed to obtain a report on its condition.

CC Thake has agreed to fund the repainting of the posts and chain.

10. Clerk's Report

10.1 A web development agency responsible for the NHDC website would like to offer its services to Parish and Town Councils.

10.2 NHDC is setting up a lottery to raise additional funds for community groups, which goes live on 18 January.

10.3 A resident has asked the Council to set up a Local Pantry which would help those on low income.

10.4 Someone has been practising golf in the Recreation Grounds, with some balls being directed at the pavilion.

10.5 The Parish Council elections are to be held on 5 May. Nomination papers have to be submitted between 29 March and 5 April.

11. Finance

11.1 To review and approve management accounts to 31 December 2021

Proposed by Mrs Cosson, seconded by Mr Ward and

Resolved: to approve the management accounts to 31 December 2021.

11.2 To Approve Accounts Paid from 1 December to 31 December 2021

Proposed by Mrs Harrison, seconded by Mes Conybeare and

Resolved: to approve the accounts paid from 1 December to 31 December 2021.

11.3 Bank Reconciliation

Proposed by Mr Ward, seconded by Mrs Conybeare and

Resolved: to approve the bank reconciliation to 31 December 2021.

12. Budget 2022/23

Proposed by Mr Farr, seconded by Mr Hemingway and

Resolved: to set the precept for 2022/23 at £167,770 including the CTRS grant

13. Exclusion of Public and Press

Proposed by Mrs Cosson, seconded by Mr Ward and

Resolved: that under Section 100A (2) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting in view of the nature of the business being transacted.

14. Station Pub

The audit report on the pub had been circulated.

Condensation is causing some problems with the panelling. Dehumidifiers would help the problem in the short term. The Council agreed that it would not consider secondary glazing but will obtain quotes for replacement windows.

15. Exclusion of Public and Press

Proposed by Mrs Conybeare, seconded by Mr Hemingway and

Resolved: that members of the Public and Press be allowed to return to the meeting all confidential business having been transacted.

16. Any Other Business

16.1 Mr Jobling asked if the groundsman could removed the carrier bag stuck in the tree.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

Chairman _____

Date _____

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