

**STOKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF ONLINE MEETING
HELD 18th FEBRUARY 2021**

PRESENT:**COUNCILLORS:****P. SPENCE (Chairman)****MRS P. DOUST****J. ANSELL****MISS G. ADDISON****D. COLLIVER****MISS. L. MOONEY****C. ROGERS****A. GOODMAN****T. LYNN****R. PAIN****L. COWLEY****J. BRAZIL (District and County Councillor)****APOLOGIES:****A. GHADIALI**

The Chairman advised that Graham Webber had resigned as he did not feel suited to being a councillor.

Also in attendance:**Clerk – Mrs G. Claydon****1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors were invited to declare any disclosable interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they had in any items to be considered at this meeting. They were also reminded to consider whether in the light of recent activities any items within their Register of Interests should be updated. It was advised that any unforeseen request for a Dispensation would be considered by the Clerk at this point only if there was no way a councillor would have been aware of such before the meeting. Cllr Ansell declared an interest in 0286/21/ARC.

2. MINUTES

The:

- (a) Minutes of full council meeting held 21st January 2021 were agreed ready for signature by the Chairman.
- (b) No delegated Planning responses made during February 2021.

3. OPEN FORUM

Cllr Goodman asked to speak as a member of public during open forum. He advised that his son wished to apply for a caravan site on their land in the field which his parents' bungalow was sited within at Mattiscombe Cross. With the recent profusion of vans using car parks and other areas he wanted to seek opinions before going ahead as he did not want to go against parish council wishes. The intention was for a 10-15 pitch providing two toilets along with a septic tank for emptying waste from motorhome/caravans. The Chairman agreed this was the correct way to air such proposal. It was felt that having somewhere designated for people to be directed to rather than them parking up and affecting nearby residents adversely was preferable. There was an increased need with everyone holidaying in England and the field suggested did not impose on the surroundings and supported the proposal as there was a definite shortage of properly licensed camp sites. It was noted that anyone could use their field for a certain amount of days in the year and sadly some people would just park up as they did not like formal sites but parish council could try. It was requested that in consideration of this proposal the road down through Widewell should not be used due to the narrowness and state of the road. As a pre application discussion this approach was welcomed.

DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Brazil arrived later in the meeting due to attending the Budget and gave his report then.

The new District recycling scheme was commencing this coming Monday but would be rolled out area by area so Stokenham would not be affected for some time. It was good that this was at last synchronising what could be collected from properties so everyone was the same which was good. This would now cover glass and more kinds of plastic along with batteries at the kerbside and therefore recycling should be better. Cllr Rogers advised that the new route teams were still not picking his recycling bags for paper and plastic up so should he put them in the grey bin. On a recycling week one team emptied the brown bin but no bags were taken. Cllr Spence noted he had the telephone number of Conrad at FCC and he was the one to talk to. If collections were continuing to be missed Cllr Brazil should be notified so he could build a picture of where the problem was. The Chairman enquired if a concession had been included for capacity issues such as collecting lots of fizzy drinks containers which could fill two recycling bags and would this be too much for the new box. What would happen to excess? Cllr Brazil advised that the difference would be that they would be collecting recycling every week now so that should cover the concern. The indication that the new recycling regime will commence in an area was for the containers to be arrive.

It was noted that the path from Stokeley farm shop to the ley was rough at the moment. When the trees were taken down due to Ash die back quite an amount of brash was left on the path. A lot had gone with the rain but it was not a particularly good clean up job. Cllr Miss Mooney said she would mention this to Lee Dennison at the Field Centre.

South Hams District but was up by £5 and Devon County had increase 2% for the core budget with additional for adult social care. It was noted that at Dunstone planning enforcement was needed as the area was getting worse. Cllr Brazil had taken a photograph of the caravan from Huckham so he had sent this picture to District and said they must enforce. Cllr Mrs Doust stated that if this was allowed to continue and it went through others would do the same. The Chairman noted he had seen a lot of preparation around the parish for caravans to go in and Dist Cllr Brazil noted that the usage of field for 28 days had been extended to 56 days for this summer. So everyone needed to keep an eye on issues for what was there before and after. On the concern that people would use the system Cllr Brazil advised that a formal letter from enforcement scuppered the chance of obtaining a Certificate of Lawfulness later.

Cllr Brazil noted that the Chairman had written requesting answers to points with regard to Beesands and he had responded but was not able to cover all points as he was not aware of the answers. Going forward he would be happy to arrange a meeting with Laura Wotton, the Chairman and other regarding Beesands. It was noted that Joe Johnston had phoned as he had noted a discussion on the Public Realm at Beesands was raised but had not seen the Minutes (these were to be approved). He requested that all agendas and minutes be uploaded onto the website soonest.

Cllr Brazil thanked Landmark who had given their time free due to the impending inclement weather to move boulders that had slipped back into position along the line at Torcross.

4. PLANNING & PLANNING MATTERS

The applications below were considered at this meeting and the following observations submitted to District:

- 0283/21/VAR Variation of condition 2 (drawings) of planning consent 3908/19/FUL Trenear, Kellaton – Response 11th March – No comment.

Cllr Ansell did not take part in the discussion on the following application.

- 0286/21/ARC Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 7 and 8 for planning application 2542/20/FUL Greenhay, Beeson. Response 25th March – Objection Parish council’s response to the original application ref. 2542/20/FUL raised concerns about the potential for losing the special character of this valley at night and it was stated that "...light overspill from the south-facing windows in the proposed new dwelling could, unless carefully controlled, introduce light into a previously dark valley, further degrading our precious dark skies." Also added was "... that only low-level external lighting be permitted in this light-sensitive area. Glazing on the east and west elevations should be restricted to protect the neighbouring properties from light intrusion and overlooking."

It appeared concerns raised with regard to that application were founded. Parish councillors who have lived in the parish for many years, and those new to it, understood the huge importance of the dark night environment of the South Hams to the local fauna and flora. In particular this actual location within the AONB, Dark Skies Policies and the importance of ensuring that it was not undermined by illumination from new development.

Planning application 0286/21/ARC, for approval of details reserved by conditions, sought to install lighting that would wholly undermine this important environment to the detriment of not only the neighbours but also the abundant wildlife of this rural valley.

With 53 external luminaires proposed in total including six non-dimmable 4000k bright white 4000 lumen floodlights with 110 degree wide arc beam angles. The floodlights alone would be able to illuminate the entire top half of this sensitive site to a similar level required for playing sports. This was completely unacceptable in an urban area let alone in this special rural setting.

Solar powered lights (9 in number) utilised renewable resources for energy which was commendable but then illuminated for twelve hours in a dark environment together with importing them from America was less so.

Combined up and down lighters (13 in number) unnecessarily shone upwards as well as downwards causing issues for flying insects, birds and mammals. There appeared to be no time control or movement detection/automatic cut off for these luminaires which would mean a much longer than necessary illumination period when climate change measures favour darkness.

Parish Council had (conservatively) shown on a marked up drawing (emailed to the District Councillor) how the light distribution might look should it be implemented in accordance with this application. It was suggested that it would have been preferable for the applicant to have submitted the luminaire data sheets rather than price lists to explain these proposals.

This valley was “pitch dark” at night thus the smallest illumination was quite sufficient to see the way on a cloudless night and the moon could illuminate remarkably well on several nights in its cycle. One motion controlled brick luminaire at the gate, four (total) wayfinding lights set in the paving on the drive/forecourt, one floodlight directed downwards (max 20W) by the garage, three wayfinding washers on the steps, and one to each side of the house on the low walls, one downlight only in the porch and none elsewhere was the recommendation. All luminaires should be set on PIR movement detection and auto cut off after 5 minutes.

In the response to 2542/20/FUL parish council also stated "If the planning authority wished to approve this application then parish council requested that the "slate effect" tiles be amended to slate....." and they were pleased to see such additional information now on the District Council website. SSQ slate was good quality slate albeit quarried in Argentina which sadly meant it came with many transport miles attached to it. It was suggested that locally sourced slate would be preferable and assist South Hams in pursuing their Climate Emergency targets including the aspirations of DEV32. The type of slate was not indicated (there were two un-captioned photographs of a slate which could be any of the three in the SSQ brochure) but parish council would suggest Gruesa first or Montana second for this site, only if a locally sourced slate was not required by the local authority.

The description of the slate on the application form as "Size 500mm wide and between 375mm and 250mm high to accommodate roof profile. Colour Medium Grey" was puzzling as parish council would expect the slate to be used in a portrait format rather than a landscape one. It was therefore questioned whether it was the intention to slate the roof in a non-traditional manner? Rainfall in this area could be prodigious and a traditionally laid roof with 500mm being the height of the slate and 375mm and 250mm being the width was suggested would be prudent and more in keeping.

Cllr Rogers arrived at the meeting.

APPLICATION FOR WORK TO TREES IN A CONSERVATION AREA

- 0153/21/TCA T1: Eucalyptus - Fell due to rot at base of trunk and close proximity to neighbouring garden Trenewall, Chillington – Response 25th February. No comment.
- 0290/21/TCA T1: Unknown Deciduous Tree - Remove, tree is dead and likely to fall Lee Cottage, Stokenham – Response 4th March - No comment.

PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman advised that at the Tradesmans Arms, Stokenham there was a fine example of a Monterey Pine which was prominent in the landscape being visible from around the whole village. Having been advised that the publican wished to fell this tree and being asked to give his opinion at Tree Warden he was concerned enough that he applied for a Tree Preservation Order. However the tree sat within a Conservation Area and therefore had some degree of protection. Since then in the storm of Tuesday about four north facing branches were ripped off by an easterly gale blowing through the passage and the owner had applied to cut off the damaged limbs and clean the tree up. He was advised he could only make it safe and now had time to apply for further repair works which was awaited.

There had been a spate in other areas around the parish of people using lockdown, and perhaps due to people not being around looking, to deal with long standing problems that they had towards what they believed were troublesome trees. Tree Wardens in their group had advised that if anyone felt there was a particular tree that was an asset to the community and deserved protection then the Tree Officer would be agreeable to considering Tree Preservation Orders. This would give significant protection for trees.

Cllr Miss Mooney questioned whether being in an AONB gave protection but unfortunately no. A tree in a Conservation Area had the same protection as for a TPO. Currently the Conservation Areas only covered the old village of Stokenham and along the main road through Chillington.

Cllr Rogers asked about the leylandii outside Stokenham Parish Hall. This was a utility tree so rarely received protection but maybe they might be significant enough to come within it. Cllr Miss Addison agreed that views on leylandii were subjective but due to other uses it might be

monitored as being good for other reasons. It was more a separation fencing but there was not much wildlife benefit.

An email was sent to District Planning on 26th January requesting clarification on the points discussed at the January meeting regarding usage of holiday chalets at Cotmore. It was chased two weeks later and followed up this day. The response had been an apology on the delay in dealing with these points and assurance that it would be addressed by the next parish council meeting.

5. CHILLINGTON PLAYING FIELD

Morti Sport and Play had completed the drainage works and installation of the slide. They had also laid the wet pour for the slide and repaired around the swing both of which were under separate quotations.

A protocol with regard to usage of the car park and surrounding open space in the light of legal advice regarding covenants on the issue of commercial use was tabled but DEFERRED for decision to the following meeting.

Cllr Pain enquired whether there was a requirement for users to maintain their own insurance for an event. Cllr Mrs Doust suggested that no one should be allowed to utilise the car park for a business on a night when the hall was already in use.

6. PARISH PROJECTS

The Chairman explained a protocol for councillors to be able work up projects to bring forward together with costings and bring them back to council for consideration.

He explained that there should be a tiered system of approvals based on size or ambition of each proposed project.

- Up to £500 could be approved by a simple majority decision by council.
- £501 - £1000 would need 70% of councillors to approve
- And anything costing more would require unanimous support.

There were overall spending limits and no single project would be more than £10,000 or if it did exceed this it would require matched funding so would no longer be solely a town council project. Any total council outspend for such projects per year would be no more than 30% of the precept or 15% of reserves.

This was AGREED but it was suggested there should be a provision which would not limit somebody bringing forward a project if they had a viable proposition that cost £30,000. The basic framework principle was spot on and there should be no cap if a project could be undertaken. This framework could only be tested when it had ideas against it. Seed money was incredibly powerful to take projects forward.

It was noted that projects must be prepared as there was nothing worse than when matched funding became available no plan was in place, it needed an idea with a budget.

After lockdown there would be calls for extra facilities for children for outdoor activities, general open sports and recreation and there would be money to draw down. The South Hams Community Forum was launching a new funding in Spring for new environmental projects with projects being hosted on a website to get supporters.

Parish councillors were invited to outline projects they wished to take forward and these were listed below:

- Cllr Mrs Doust noted that an Orchard Link cycles path connecting from each orchard by improving footpaths along the route, as had been done at Aller Lane and received phenomenal feedback. Also with regard to Orchard Link tying all this work in and having on parish council website a map indicating the route rather than signs. Cllr Goodman noted that there were paths from the church to Riddleford, or across by Widdicombe House and around that could be used to link to Beeson orchard.
- Cllr Rogers agreed it would be good to compliment Aller Lane with further path refurbishment. There was a lot of money at Devon County and two lanes Cllr Miss Addison had raised, Cherrytree Lane and Frittiscombe Lane had been considered. Paul McFadden had been reluctant on the Frittiscombe Lane so this request could be looked at again. Cherrytree Lane at Beeson Pool to Huccombe was perfectly navigable as a footpath and bridleway and parish council could approach the landowners. Cllr Mrs Doust was asked to prepare a specification of paths to make up such a route. The Clerk was asked to write to Paul McFadden.
- Cllr Miss Mooney had spoken to villagers who wished for a bus stop/shelter. Cllr Ghadiali she believed already had verbal agreement from the Field Centre for its siting. However it was noted that the Field Centre had requested a bus shelter in keeping with the one at Slapton so this would be a high price. Cllr Miss Mooney felt there could be matched funding from the Slapton Line Partnership to create a destination tag. Another suggestion she received was with regard to generating power from the outlet at Torcross with a hydro turbine in the tunnel – a bit of blue sky thinking. Maybe there could be climate funding available with energy being sent back to the grid to bring money for the flood problems. The permissive footpath had received a pounding and was smelly due to flooding along with divots and could do with a revamp, although this cost would be down to ongoing parish council maintenance for this path. A repair/share shed for the parish perhaps site at the farm shop/Brooking units with a team of volunteers hosting. This project was more logistics than funding as tools could be donated. The Chairman agreed it should be worked up in order for it to be considered.
- Cllr Cowley noted a survey could be carried out of the condition of all footpaths in the parish and whilst parish council could not propose to do them all they would have a central location for information. Then any changes or problems listed over the next three or four months could be looked at for remedial works on these. If such works were too much they could be brought forward as a specific project. The Chairman asked Cllr Miss Addison, as she walked a lot around the parish, to keep a record of the condition of footpaths.
- Cllr Miss Addison noted the previous mention of a need for allotments. It was advised that there was a wish but no land or known landowners willing to assist. Cllr Rogers raised the field with a pond the other side of Fairfield Estate and felt this was the best piece of land for allotments. It would be investigated whether this could be leased, rented or the owner would sell a portion to ascertain what could be done. Cllr Goodman advised that a potential way to open discussion could be to offer any increase in value should planning ever be obtained with a share of such uplift going back to the original owner. It was felt that the whole field would be too large an area.
- Cllr Spence noted the recent offer from Orchard Link for members to have their apple trees DNA fingerprinted to identify type. There were approximately 20 trees in the orchard in Chillington and at £27 per tree it would be costly but the Woodland Trust had indicated they would contribute half so he would looking for £200 matched funding.
- Cllr Rogers noted that memorial benches were often installed but then then rotted and became untidy. These often had nice brass plaques and people would come along and ask

what was going to be done about maintenance. The suggestion was that if someone came on holiday and wanted to put a plaque on a bench in the parish could well made Chestnut benches be obtained and maintained going forward by people contributing to place a brass plaque on a bench. One such place could be the observation point at Torcross.

7. GRANTS

The following applications were considered and AGREED as stated:

- (a) a request from Stokenham Church to assist with the annual £3628 maintenance for upkeep of Stokenham cemetery – AGREED £1000.

Cllr Brazil arrived at the meeting.

- (b) an approach by Kingsbridge Gymnastic to financially support the refitting of their newly located gymnasium – AGREED £250.

8. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS AND CLERK

- Cllr Cowley –Noted scaffolding around the old house at Hannafords. The Chairman advised that the clearance works had been reported to enforcement and the view was that there was nothing planning wise that could be enforced. It was suggested that the police could be called for contravention of the Wildlife Act. The first planning application submitted for this land involved the preparation of a Wildlife Survey which showed there were greater and lesser horseshoe bats in the building. This site provided flight line habitats for the bats all around the area with the report stating they should be taken care of by retaining the scrubland or making alternative arrangements. These had been completely razed. There were reptiles and slow worms identified and a mitigation strategy needed to be in place for such habitat during warm months but these would have been wrecked by the digger. Scaffolding would disturb bat roosts so probably there was a case for Wildlife Protection. The Chairman had been advised by planning enforcement to call 101 and report this activity and all agreed he should do so. Cllr Miss Mooney noted she had also received this information. Dist Cllr Brazil was asked for a view and he had never experienced such a case before. The Chairman would make a report as parish council as this would add more weight. Cllr Mrs Doust noted the police statement made this day regarding Covid calls but acknowledging they were still carrying on with all other police duties. The Chairman advised he would call the police the following day on behalf of Parish Council but feared that all the damage had been done. It seemed there were rarely prosecutions on this sort of matter but parish would see. There was a full sixty page wildlife survey previously submitted which mentioned reptiles, bats, and other wildlife but all would have been destroyed and parish council needed to make a point now.
- Cllr Mrs Doust – Noted that the Torcross shop Appeal was lost on a technicality but they could reapply for the stores. The point was not responding to an offer made locally in a timely manner. She thanked Cllr Rogers and Richard Carter for their County Council works to Aller Lane. She had previously sent Pat Whymer and Cllr Brazil queries on different decisions reached on nearby planning applications and had been pleased with the detailed response that explained all differences. One point mentioned was that if anyone found a planning application was linked to a village or settlement not expected or felt to be incorrect they could contact planning to state it was the wrong area as District acknowledged they did not have the same local knowledge.
- Cllr Miss Mooney – Also noted the works to the Aller Lane footpath. She noted that the culvert at Torcross was blocked again and water was in the road. At a meeting of Slapton Line Partnership in January it was agreed to try to put together a group of potential contributions for a sinking fund to clear the culvert being South West Water, Devon County, South Hams and Parish Council and this was to be done by Alan Denbigh and Lee

Dennison. There had also been a meeting a week ago to talk specifically about the sewage works. On the clearing of the outlet the doors were preliminary engineering to test the design and be replaced with better bigger and better hinges in due course. The Chairman believed they would succeed with a sinking fund for the culvert going forward and the culvert was to be cleared the following day. Bill Ireland had done a long range weather forecast so the area should not overtop before Friday. The meeting on the sewage issue was good with younger South West Water representatives' not so au fait with the situation. The Chairman and Bill met an employee who released a lot of information advising them the system was underperforming and the representatives appeared to accept this. They discussed flow rates, pumping sewage back up and as soon as there was more water in the ground than it could bear then water outside overflowed pipes with resultant sewage. The river behind the cottages had burst its banks so it was this culvert which was broken and failed. Dist Cllr Brazil agreed and for the sewage issue all must await South West Water's report for more information. The diggers working the following day had been provided by Devon County.

Cllr Miss Mooney continued and noted the shingle along the promenade had in the past usually been cleared by residents but so many were now second homes and it was not cleared. People on holiday did not clear shingle! So her question was who should clear this and it was felt the owners of the cottages or their agents. She was advised that there used to be a water tap by Hannafords from the wells there and locals wondered if could that be re-tapped for people to have access to drinking water. Those with local knowledge on the council advised that people should be wary of whatever came out of the ground in that area. It may be listed as an old village tap but any well water would be massively contaminated by the ground water there and might even have been from the abattoir. It was probably also iron pipes and corroded.

- Cllr Pain – Attended the South Hams Community forum. They were looking at environmental habitat views, gardening better, peat free composting schemes and such eco projects. He asked if anyone knew what was happening around the parish. The Chairman asked him to look at these ideas and suggest something for this parish as he felt some could be private and others larger scale to bring ideas forward. There was a green homes grant but only 82 people had signed on so they had a lot of funding. Also they were to launch a crowd funding initiative for grants in the spring. Public engagement week was to be held with Carbon Savvy in North Devon for a life style health check like Co-operative cars to be rented on a daily basis and they were looking for new locations. The Chairman felt it might be a bit too early with Covid but car sharing was the way forward for Stokenham when anyone considered how often private cars were used.
- Cllr Miss Addison – The Chillington Community Association wished to host the apple day this year if possible. As this had been intended the previous year the press would be booked for the first Saturday in October. The Association were hoping in summer to be able to run a general coming together of the village centred on the hall to socialise and celebrate receiving injections and getting back to normal. It might not happen but if it did it would be a good village day, not stalls just some fun. On the footpath between the White House and Hafod the footpath fingerpost sign was knocked off but it was noted this was already in hand. On the roadside fencing where previously brambles were along the A379 in Stokenham just past the Church House Inn pub barbed wire was now adjacent to the roadside and not on the field side. There were other fences where barbed wire was on the path side not fielding side such as South West Coast path Torcross to Beesands and Hallsands. The Clerk had raised the highway issue but could not find anything in Devon County or South Hams policies to assist. Cllr Rogers said the footpath barbed wire should be taken up with National Trust as this was their land. At Quarry top where the coast kept

slipping there was quite a long section of barbed wire on the footpath side. Further checks would be made regarding barbed wire.

- Cllr Ansell – Noted the comment on the tap at Torcross and advised most villages had historically had an estate water system and this could be a left over from that. Definitely do not drink from it!
- Cllr Goodman – Noted a lot of signage had gone by the wayside and people came from Stokenham to Mattiscombe Cross then took the first left and ended up in Widewell. Cllr Brazil advised a list should be put together noting Durlstone Cross to Mattiscombe Cross and all these put to County.
- Cllr Rogers – Had already been assigned to install the signpost at Haford. With regard to the footpath raised by Cllr Miss Mooney he agreed this needed doing along with all the buddles and drains as it was getting worse. As this was the permissive path to Torcross parish council would look at these works.
- Cllr Colliver – On the Caen memorial the Mayor of Caen had taken interest in its restoration and they were prepared to contribute to fund when it was decided what was to be done. They had a large memorial garden in Caen with a grand version of the mosaic for the path. He asked if parish could move the memorial to another space and provide a bench to make more of it as Caen felt it was very low key. This memorial was for bonds of friendship. Cllr Miss Mooney noted an earlier quote was tidying up and additional sub-structure work but parish council decided it was expensive. All agreed that perhaps parish council needed to revisit this as a parish project. Cllr Miss Mooney had made contact with additional mosaic artists due to the concerns on cost previously.

Walking regularly between Stokenham and Chillington the footpath was awash with dog poo and somebody had sprayed orange paint on it all to highlight it. The Chairman noted that an increase in mess did occur periodically but why it had in lockdown who knew.

Dist Cllr Brazil gave his report detailed above at this point.

CLERK'S REPORT

- Regrettably the proposed flood alleviation works at the end of Coleridge Lane on the main A379 in Chillington were to be postponed until the Autumn of 2021. This was due to a delay in the completion of the agreed deed that allowed County to carry out the works on private land. A finalised deed was expected early in the year to commence works on the private land in time for the planned road closure. Not having received a signed agreement meant County was unable to secure a contractor to undertake the works as they could not provide them with a fixed date to access and carry out the works. County had no choice but to delay work so would not be closing the A379 in March 2021. The Flood Risk Management team considered these works highest priority and hoped they would receive the signed agreement and be able to reschedule.
- Devon Highways had sent an all-encompassing Temporary Traffic Order running from March through to October 2021 that they would give three days' notice before doing works at each site. The list covered a huge area but the only two areas named as Stokenham Parish were Sherford Cross to Coleridge Cross and Coleridge Cross to Deer Bridge Cross. This was for surface dressing and associated works.
- Advised that Shannon Witts South West Ambulance had requested funding for First Responder group. A reply was sent that the 'local' responder was supported and could apply to Start Circle of Friends for equipment or assistance. Start Circle of Friends already contributed to fuel provision for responders locally.
- Pat Hunter had advised she attended a Cyber Crime talk hosted by a Rotary Club and felt it had been informative and interesting for local residents. She had suggested the presenter,

who was from Devon and Cornwall Police, gave this presentation to include Parish Council so it was felt that an online Annual Parish meeting could include anyone locally who wanted join it. The presentation would be 45 minutes and then the Chairman's report plus County and District if Cllr Brazil wished. In order that as many councillors as possible were in attendance suggested dates or days in April were requested. Those present felt that Cyber Crime was a dry subject for a parish meeting and wished to consider Dark Skies, Light Pollution or perhaps other AONB matters.

- Residents had been advised through various social media that they should consider registering for a postal vote or for someone to vote for them by proxy in readiness for May elections. Polling stations would still be open and have the same safety measures as shops currently provide.
- The census letter would be going to each household on 22nd February. The letter would provide a password and explain how people could complete the questionnaire online, by phone or request a paper version. With the form needing to be completed by mid-March it was important that people realised that if they were unable to do so electronically they needed to make alternative arrangements swiftly.
- Online meetings had been held at the earlier time of 6.30p.m. as most people were in lockdown and at home. With the forthcoming announcement of emerging from lockdown and the change to clocks parish councillors were asked if they wished to return to 7.30p.m. or continue commencing at 6.30p.m. It was agreed to return 7.30p.m commencement.

9. FINANCE AND CHEQUES

Balances were provided as below;

Current £10418.05

Savings £99,194.51

Received – HMRC – VAT Reimbursement £5,796.55

Below transactions were approved

Payments:

HMRC February – Tax & NI £290.90

Wages and Cllrs Allowance February – £2006.10 (Includes rebate from 2020)

DCC February – Pension £370.35

Morti Sport & Play Ltd. – Final payment for drainage and slide installation £4054.32

Morti Sport & Play Ltd. – Heras fencing, turf cutter and slide wetpour £1192.73

Morti Sport & Play Ltd. – Repair around other play equipment wetpour £1591.20

Cheques: None

10. NEXT MEETING

The next parish council meeting would be held online on Thursday 18th March 2021, subject to isolation restrictions for Covid 19, unless a member of the public requested the opportunity to speak to a matter when an online meeting would be set up so that all parish councillors and public could attend.

Meeting finished: 21.17p.m.

Signed Chairman Dated: 18th March 2021.