

Bovingdon Parish Council

Meeting of the Outdoors Committee
held in The Memorial Hall, High Street, Bovingdon
on
28 September 2020 starting at 7.00 p.m.

Present:

Councillor Graham Barrett
Councillor Alison Gunn
Councillor Ben Richardson
Councillor Hugh Schneiders
Councillor Dave Stent (Chairman)
Councillor Julie Steer
Councillor Philip Walker
Councillor Adrian Watney
Councillor Pauline Wright

Also present:

Matt Felix, Site Coordinator - Northchurch, Sunnyside Rural Trust (SRT)
Mike Kember, Parish Clerk

Residents:

None

1.	Apologies for absence	
	There were apologies for absence received from Councillor Julia Marshall.	
2.	Declaration of Interests linked to any of the items	
	There were no Declarations of Interest.	
3.	Minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2020	
	It was agreed by those present at the meeting, that the minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2020 were a true representation of the meeting and were signed by Councillor Dave Stent.	
4.	Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2020– not on the agenda	
4.1	The former Bull Pub sign, Chipperfield Road	
	This has been acquired by the residents living in the converted Bull Pub and they have taken out a year's gold sponsorship for the Christmas Lights in exchange.	
4.2	Creation of additional off-street parking	
	Councillor Steer confirmed that this is on-going.	Councillor Steer
4.3	Parish Paths Partnership Scheme (P3) 2019 - funding	
	The Parish Clerk confirmed that the new finger signposts and resurfacing works have been completed. The P3 scheme closed in 2019 and in future when local councils identify improvements for access, funding may be available if the scheme fits the criteria for the Herts CC 'Active Travel' plan. The Parish Clerk was asked to circulate details of this.	Parish Clerk

4.4	Booklet of village footpaths	
	Councillor Steer reported that this is on hold due to COVID-19.	Councillors Julia Marshall, Julie Steer, Pauline Wright and Ben Richardso n
4.5	Millennium Sign, High Street	
	Councillor Stent is in contact with Marc Jarman to quote for refurbishing / repainting the sign.	Councillor Stent
4.6	Flooding in Green Lane	
	This matter had been raised at the Parish Council meeting held on 7 September 2020. The draft minute reads ' <i>Councillor Richard Roberts confirmed that the ditches are not the issue, it's the drains and undertook to look into the possibility of having a larger drain installed on Green Lane to take away the water. Councillor Schneiders has spoken to Loveday's who consider it is not their problem. Councillor Roberts offered to allocate some of the Highways Locality Budget to try and deal with this issue, but warned that this may mean that work allocated in other areas of Bovingdon may be affected if this happens. The Parish Council agreed they were happy for him to explore this option and report back. Councillor Roberts also agreed to send a list to Councillor Steer and the Parish Clerk of the works currently scheduled to be carried out in Bovingdon under the Highways Locality Budget in 2020.</i> '	
4.7	Public Access Defibrillators	
	A letter has been received from London Hearts Charity encouraging local councils to install additional public access defibrillators. Agreed to investigate the possibility of installing additional units at The Halfway House Pub and near to the market held on Bovingdon Airfield.	Parish Clerk
5.	Report from Sunnyside Rural Trust (SRT) on Village Warden contract	
	Matt Felix, Site Coordinator - Northchurch was welcomed to the meeting and gave a brief review of how work is being undertaken to comply with COVID-19 requirements. He commented on the increase in rubbish to be collected and in particular that coming from the market on Bovingdon Airfield since lockdown ended. The High Street has had an extra amount of time spent on it to clear weeds, etc. and the councillors thanked him for arranging this as it has made a noticeable difference.	
	Councillor Stent commented that the Parish Council had held a series of meetings with SRT through COVID-19 and that there is now a better understanding of the contract and the issues facing each party.	
	Specific items under consideration:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vehicle damage to grass verge on Bovingdon Green - SRT asked to provide a 'No parking' sign on the gate leading to the Green by the memorial plaque. 	Parish Clerk / Matt Felix

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Lime tree on Bovingdon Green – Matt agreed to tidy up the area beneath the tree. • New Flower Bed by side of Memorial Hall – work is continuing to improve this. • Grass cutting – SRT to carry out one more grass cut • Green Lane - Matt confirmed that he is organising a ‘Team Day’ to carry out a more in depth clean-up in Green Lane. • Lamp Columns in High Street - SRT working on a quote for repainting the lighting columns silver • Memorial Hall – Matt will arrange for the plants at the side of the Clubroom to be cut down and for the cordylines in the planters at the front of the building to be replaced as their spikes could be a danger to children. • Pond on Bovingdon Green – the two interpretation boards by the pond to be cleaned. 	
	Councillor Barrett reported that he has meet with Rob Cassidy from Dacorum BC to discuss replacing the posts around Bovingdon Green. Rob is currently off work, recovering from a knee operation and Councillor Barrett will raise this with Rob on his return.	Councillor Barrett
6.	2020-21 Budget – spend to 30 August 2020	
	The Responsible Financial Officer had produced details of spend to 30 August 2020, which were noted.	
7.	Challenges for Outdoors Committee	
	Councillor Stent presented his paper that had been previously circulated. It details the work to be undertaken in conjunction with the Parish Council by various agencies including Herts CC, Dacorum BC and Sunnyside Rural Trust. COVID-19 has had a major impact on delaying the progress of several key projects, which have already been in the planning for some time. For example, proposals to improve the parking area outside of the Co-op, rejuvenation and reconstruction of the pond on Bovingdon Green. For operational reasons, SRT have divided the parish into five zones, each with a Team Leader who reports to Matt. The possibility of a councillor taking responsibility for a zone is to be considered with SRT.	Councillor Stent
7.1	Project updates:	
	Pond on Bovingdon Green - After considering several options for the pond on Bovingdon Green, it was agreed to create one large pond, which is more in keeping with how it was at the turn of the twentieth century. The Parish Clerk was asked to obtain quotes from the two contractors who have expressed an interest in being involved in this renovation project.	Councillor Stent / Parish Clerk
7.2	Parking area outside of the Co-op - Councillor Stent reported that he had progressed with County Councillor Richard Roberts the and it had been confirmed that Andrew Freeman, Strategy & Project Management, Herts CC is working on the Feasibility Study for the project.	
8.	Health & Safety	
	Nothing to report.	
9.	Any other business	

9.1	Christmas arrangements	
	Agreed that due to the prevailing restrictions associated with COVID-19, there will be no official switch-on of the lights or street fayre. SRT will 'dress' the Christmas tree and provide safety barriers.	Matt Felix
9.2	Wildflower planting	
	Councillor Steer reported that a resident had contacted her with the idea of sowing wildflower seeds in the Chipperfield Road area beyond the Docks. The council appreciated the offer but just throwing seeds will not work. The top soil would have to be stripped off and the area would need proper management.	Councillor Steer
10.	Date of next meeting	
	To be arranged	All to note
	Meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.	

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