

Meeting of the Bovingdon Parish Council

Bovingdon Memorial Hall

6 January 2020 starting at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

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

Also present:

Dacorum Borough Councillor Stewart Riddick
Mike Kember, Parish Clerk
Dave Kirk, Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)

Representatives from the Village:

8 for presentation and three for remainder of meeting

	<p>Prior to the start of the meeting there was a presentation of a plaque to Margaret Horwood by the Chairman of the Parish Council to recognise her 45 years as a voluntary yoga teacher. Margaret was accompanied by her daughter Rebecca and granddaughter Lucy Dinn who were here on holiday from Australia</p>	
1.	<p>Apologies for Absence To receive any apologies for absence Apologies for absence were received from Kathy Banks.</p>	
2.	<p>Declaration of Interests linked to any of the Resolutions To receive any declarations of interest Councillor Steer declared an interest in Items 9 (d) and (f).</p>	
3. 3.1	<p>Public Question Time Bovingdon Market – traffic issues Gary Cullum thanked the Parish Council and Councillor Stewart Riddick for their help in getting the agencies together to put in place actions to resolve the traffic issues at Bovingdon Market and for the ensuring the gate onto Molyneaux Avenue was kept closed. Councillor Barrett also acknowledged the help that Gary had given.</p>	
4.	<p>Minutes – to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2019 Those Councillors present agreed that the minutes of the meeting of Bovingdon Parish Council held on 4 November 2019 were a true representation of the meeting and the minutes were signed by Councillor Barrett.</p>	
5. 5.1	<p>Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2019 Duckhall Farm</p>	

	<p>The Parish Clerk confirmed that this has been reported to the Planning Enforcement Team and a case number issued with an indicative date of 10 January for a reply.</p>	
5.2	<p>Highways update</p> <p>Agreed that Councillor Roberts will send the Parish Council a list of the proposed works for 2019 - 20 and 2020 -21.</p>	
5.3	<p>P3 Grant</p> <p>The Parish Clerk reported that the work is on-going.</p>	
6.	<p>Crime Report</p> <p>Apologies received from PC Karl Diggins and PCSO Bardhyl Agallili. The Parish Clerk circulated the Crime Figures to the end of December which were noted.</p>	
7.	<p>Neighbourhood Planning</p> <p>Councillor Marshall reported that arrangements for the facilitator to work with Dacorum BC is in hand. The next meeting of the Steering Group is to be held on 14 January.</p>	
8.	<p>To receive and adopt the following Committee reports:</p>	
8.1	<p>Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 14 October, 21 October, 4 November and 25 November 2019</p> <p>Resolved that the minutes of these meetings as circulated, be received and adopted.</p> <p>Agreed that in future, paper copies of Committee reports will not be circulated with the agenda, as they are emailed to the councillors with the agenda papers. Councillors will still be able to raise questions on them at the meeting.</p>	
9.	<p>Feedback from Chairman of Committees:</p>	
9.1	<p>Finance & General Purposes Committee</p> <p>The RFO presented the draft budgets for 2020 - 21.</p>	
9.1.1	<p>Resolutions to be considered from the Finance & General Purposes Committee:</p>	
(a)	<p>That the Council approves the draft budgets for the Parish for 2020/2021 as set out in the attached papers.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor Steer and seconded by Councillor Marshall and resolved that the Council approves the draft budgets for the Parish for 2020 / 21 as set out in the attached papers.</p>	
(b)	<p>That the Council approves the draft budgets for the Memorial Hall for 2020/2021 as set out in the attached papers.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor Steer and seconded by Councillor Gunn and resolved that the Council approves the draft budgets for the Memorial Hall for 2020 / 2021 as set out in the attached papers.</p>	
(c)	<p>That the Council approves the proposed precept for 2020/2021.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor Steer and seconded by Councillor Watney and resolved that the Council will increase the precept for 2020 / 2021 by 2.2%. The precept figure (net of Council Tax Support Grant and Resilience grant) is £63,071. Based on current information, the Parish Rate for a Band D property will rise from £29.13 to £29.77 per annum, an increase of 64p.</p>	
(d)	<p>That the Council approves the revised Hall rental Charges from 1 April 2020</p>	

	<p>It was proposed by Councillor Steer and seconded by Councillor Marshall and resolved that the Council approves the revised Hall rental charges.</p>	
(e)	<p>That the Council approves the revised Grant Policy</p> <p>Councillor Steer reported that this had been discussed at the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 18 December 2019. The main revisions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grants will only be paid on receipt of paid invoices; • 'Clubs and Organisations may only apply at intervals of two years since their last successful application. At the discretion of the Parish Council grants for Community events may be applied for yearly.' <p>It was proposed by Councillor Steer and seconded by Councillor Barrett and resolved that the Council approves the revised Grant Policy.</p>	
(f)	<p>That the Council approves a grant of £300 to Bovingdon Community Library</p> <p>Agreed to award a grant of £300 to Bovingdon Community Library for the purchase of storage cabinets.</p>	Parish Clerk
9.2	<p>Memorial Hall Management Committee</p> <p>Councillor Steer reported that the Committee had met on 27 November 2019 to discuss the draft budgets and the revised Hall rental charges for 2020 / 21. Redecoration of the foyer and toilets had taken place over the Christmas / New Year and further redecoration works to the dining room will take place at the end of February 2020.</p>	
9.3	<p>Outdoors Committee</p> <p>The Committee will be meeting on 27 January 2020. Prior to this there will be a meeting with the Sunnyside Rural Trust to monitor the contract for village warden services.</p> <p>Councillor Stent to follow-up with Councillor Richard Roberts and Andrew Freeman, Strategy & Project Management, Herts CC the agreed phased approach to carry out minor improvements to enhance the High Street.</p>	Councillor Stent
9.4	<p>Personnel Committee</p> <p>The Committee last met on 19 June 2018.</p>	
9.5	<p>Planning Committee</p> <p>The Committee has met three times since the last meeting of the Parish Council and considered 27 applications.</p>	
10.	<p>To discuss the commemoration of VE Day 75 over the weekend 8th – 10th May 2020</p> <p>The Parish Clerk referred to a communication received from the Pageantmaster VE Day 75 setting out the national plans to celebrate and commemorate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day over the weekend of 8 – 10 May 2020. Agreed to set up a Working Group comprising Councillors Gunn, Marshall and Wright to organise a themed tea party / tea dance in the Memorial Hall.</p> <p>Councillor Steer reported that in 2021 the Memorial Hall will be 100 years old as will the Bovingdon Players and also the Royal British Legion. Agreed that Councillor Steer will investigate with the Bovingdon Players how to celebrate the occasion.</p>	<p>Councillors Gunn, Marshall and Wright</p> <p>Councillor Steer</p>

11.	<p>Health & Safety There was nothing to report.</p>	
12.	<p>Bovingdon Parish 10k – 1 September 2019 Councillor Steer reported that the arrangements are in hand. Councillor Walker feedback that he had received some very positive comments from entrants that they liked the medals. It is proposed to have a different logo on the medals each year.</p>	
13.	<p>Christmas Street Fayre / Christmas lights switch-on – 1 December 2019 The switch-on of the lights had gone well.</p> <p>Councillors Gunn, Marshall and Wright to investigate the possibility of re-organising the management and structure of the Fayre. The Parish Clerk was asked to contact Community Action Dacorum for advice.</p>	
14.	<p>Feedback from Claire Norton, the Council's Representative on Bovingdon Primary Academy In the absence of Claire Norton there was no report.</p>	
15.	<p>Feedback from Kathy Banks, the Council's Representative on Friends of The Mount In the absence of Kathy Banks there was no report.</p>	
16.	<p>Feedback from Councillor Ben Richardson, the Council's Representative on Community Safety Councillor Richardson reported that DriveSafe will begin on 9 January 2020. The Police are purchasing a bespoke van with specialist equipment to be used initially by volunteers to help reinforce the message of the DriveSafe Campaign. It is proposed to have a six-month pilot scheme. Two volunteers are currently under-going training. If the pilot proves successful, then paid staff will use the van.</p> <p>The Police & Crime Commissioner is now responsible for the Fire & Rescue Service and is considering the use of Emergency Services volunteers, rather than Citizen's Patrols. There are currently three volunteers from the police and three from the Fire Service being vetted. Special work gear is being designed. The volunteers are undergoing training. Initially there will be a twelve-month pilot and this will probably be focussed on Bovingdon.</p>	
17.	<p>Feedback from Councillor Steer the Council's representatives on the Bovingdon Community Library Councillor Steer reported that some years ago the library staff sourced photographs of the village, which were held in the library. The then Chairman of the Parish Council had copies of the photographs made, which were given to the library and the originals stored in the Memorial Hall. Agreed that the originals will be returned to the library and the copies will be stored at the Memorial Hall subject to the agreement of the History Society.</p> <p>The Library are working on rebuilding the community section and have started with a photographic display. The next step is rebuilding their photo stock and using it to create regular displays. The library is meeting with the Herts Library service to find out what documents relating to Bovingdon they hold and whether the originals can be returned to the village or copies of them made.</p>	

18.	Any other urgent business There were no other items of urgent business.	
19.	Date of next meeting Monday 2 March 2020 at 7.30 p.m. in the Memorial Hall Meeting ended 8.45 p.m.	All to note