



## BOX PARISH COUNCIL

### **MINUTES OF THE REMOTE COUNCIL MEETING** **HELD BY ZOOM ON 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021**

**1. Present:** Councillors: S. Parker (Chairman); N. Botterill; R. Campbell; R. Case; J. Clifford  
J Cox; R. Davies; D. Evans; H. Parker; R. Smith; M. Tye; B. Walton;  
A. Woollard  
Unitary Councillors: B. Mathew

Mrs Carey (Clerk)

**2. Apologies:** Councillor S. Gould

**3. Absent:** Nil

**4. Public Question Time:** There were 2 members of the public present

Mr Chris Morris from Gigaclear attended and gave a short presentation on the proposals for the fibre optics at Middlehill, Ashley, Kingsdown, Washwell and Henley which would affect 427 properties. Blue View and Wadswick would be included in the proposed scheme for Lower Wraxall. There was no exact time scale for the work at the present time but this should start within the next 3-6 months. The map showed that some of the existing infrastructure would be used and the main box would be located in Ashley.

**5. Chairman's announcements and declarations of interest:** The Chairman reminded everyone that if a recording of the meeting was being made, permission must be obtained beforehand

**6. Minutes:** The Minutes of the remote Council Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021 were taken as a true record and will be signed at the next proper meeting.

**7. Matters Arising:**

- Cllr Davies reported on the recent CATG meeting and felt that some of the committee was not aware of the concerns regarding the B3109 with the drop off area/location of the pedestrian crossing.
- Cllr Davies stated that he felt that the Council needed to be more transparent on issues which required the Councillors to vote and he felt that the recent recommendation on the pollarding of the Hawthorn trees had not been clear enough as to what the intentions were and felt that the Council should have been clearly informed on this.

**8. Policy & Finance Committee:** The Minutes of the remote meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 were submitted and agreed.

**Appointment of Internal Auditor:** It was **resolved** unanimously that Mr Steve Farrow be appointed as the Internal Auditor.

**Sale of parcels of land in Quarry Woods:** it was **resolved** unanimously that the Parish Council support crown funding but there could not be any financial support from the Council. It was commented that it was good to see public enthusiasm for this.

**Use of football pitch:** It was **resolved** unanimously that the use of the football pitch be extended until the end of June

**Bowling Green analysis:** It was **resolved** unanimously that an analysis of the products used on the Bowling Green be carried out at a cost of £20

**Highways:** It was **resolved** unanimously that the Parish Council contributes 25% of the cost of the works to the proposed scheme for Leafy Lane including dropped crossing points, improved signage etc.

Cllr Davies remarked that he was upset about the comments that had been put on social media following a decision taken by the Council at the last Full Council meeting. He had found the comments offensive and felt that the social media site should be monitored more carefully. Cllrs Woollard and Clifford were also upset about this.

The Chairman reminded councilors that they must be careful how they respond to any social media posts as their comments could be misinterpreted.

**9. Cemetery Management Committee:** The Minutes of the remote meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 were submitted and agreed.

**Boundary wall:** It was **resolved** unanimously that the quotation for repointing the wall in the sum of £340 from Marcus Mitchell be accepted.

**Clearing of flower beds:** Cllr Botterill reported that the clearing of the flower beds had not been carried out to a satisfactory standard. He had met with the contractors and they will be coming back to do the remedial work. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

**10. Planning & Conservation Committee:** The Minutes of the remote meetings held on 25<sup>th</sup> February and 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 were submitted and agreed.

**Blind House:** it was reported that the Blind House needs to dry out before the new toilet seat and bed slats can be put in

**Bus shelters:** These will be repainted shortly

**11. Personnel Committee:** The Minutes of the remote meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March were submitted and agreed.

**Replacement brush cutter:** it was **resolved** unanimously that a new Stihl brush cutter be purchased at a cost of £430.20

Cllr Case reported that she is meeting regularly with the grounds staff.

**12. Box Hill & Rudloe Open Spaces Committee:** The Minutes of the remote meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> March were submitted and agreed.

**13. Urgent Correspondence:**

- a. **Reopening of tennis courts; football pitch and bowling green:** It was agreed that these could be reopened for use from 29<sup>th</sup> March in accordance with the Government guidelines
- b. **Signs for the By Brook:** Request asking permission for signs to be put near the stile by the footpath at Real World stating "Please keep to the footpath". The wording for the signs was approved.
- c. **Use of Recreation Ground for Easter Egg hunt:** Application for use of the Recreation Ground for an Easter Egg hunt from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> April was agreed.
- d. **Use of Council forecourt:** Letter from the Gardening Club requesting the use of the Parish Council forecourt for a plant sale on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May. Permission was given.
- e. **Kingfisher Trail:** Letters received regarding the sponsorship of a 3ft Kingfisher in the village at a cost of £200 for two weeks. The Parish Council agreed to this subject to a suitable location being found for this.

#### **14. Items for discussion:**

- a. **Update on Parish Council Elections;** The Parish Council gave an update and reminded Councillors that nomination papers have to be delivered to Wiltshire Council by 4pm on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April.  
Posters and flyers had been circulated and put on the website.  
It was asked if husband and wife can both stand for election. It was replied that this is legal if they both qualify but was not considered to be best practice.
- b. **Annual Parish meetings:** It was agreed that one meeting should be held in Box and another at Rudloe. It was agreed to discuss this further with the new Council in May.

#### **15. Additional Accounts for payment:** The following additional accounts were submitted and agreed

<u>BACS</u>			
J.H. Jones & Sons	-	Marker posts for Green burials	312.00
Consortium	-	Toilet rolls, handtowels, bleach	120.06
Westcare Supply Zone	-	printer cartridges	166.80
D. Clifford	-	removal of sheds on Common	350.00
Travis Perkins	-	Hire of pump	119.45
Dawson Steeplejacks	-	Testing Chapel Lightning conductor	48.00
Greenwood Direct Ltd	-	Printer ink for Election posters	46.93
John Miller	-	Service to strimmer	173.68
T.F. Slade	-	Updating Book of Remembrance	88.00
<u>Direct debits</u>			
Fuel Card Services	-	Petrol	30.19
Fuel Card Services	-	Petrol	59.15
<u>Debit card</u>			
Wybone	-	Litter bins	134.38
VP Recycled Plastic	-	Picnic table	438.00

#### **16. Statement of Balances:**

<u>Lloyds</u>	
Current Account	10818.44
High Interest account	<u>4285.59</u>
	£ 15104.03
Less payments to go out	<u>1834.92</u>
Working balance	£ <b>13272.21</b>

Held on deposit in Lloyds	£ <u>37500.00</u>
<b>Balance in Lloyds</b>	£ <b><u>50772.21</u></b>

Held in <b>BIBS</b>	£ <b>81666.53</b>
Held in <b>Nationwide</b>	£ <b><u>41237.15</u></b>
	<b><u>122903.68</u></b>

#### **17. Chairman's Diary, Representatives' reports and report from County Councillor**

Cllr Davies reported that he had sat in on a meeting re Quarry Woods sale

Cllr Mathew reported that he had asked for Transport & Air Quality monitoring on the A365 – this had been passed to the Transport Planning Team  
He reported that the work on the A4 by Budgens was to repair a gas leak

Resurfacing of Church Lane; He reported that the Parish Council need to formalize the No Parking Zone first. There would need to be a consultation with residents as to whether this should be formalized. - Discuss at Policy & Finance

Flood Wardens: He will take up the issue of training and buying the hydrosnake. He confirmed that the flood wardens need to be more proactive in clearing the drains.

Hermitage Wall; Wiltshire council had looked at the wall and will check if there is any movement

**18. Items of Report and Future Agenda Items**

- a. SID – It was reported that more brackets are needed for the further locations of the SID
- b. Volunteers to monitor and pick up dog mess on Recreation Ground – to be discussed at the Playing Fields Management Committee
- c. Parking at Chapel Plaister – this will be discussed further at Policy & Finance
- d. Cllr Evans reported that she would not be standing for re-election due to personal reasons

*Meeting closed at 9.45 pm*

**Chairman**