

Minutes of the Meeting of Great Lumley Parish Council

Held Thursday 8th April 2021 at 6.30 pm

Via Zoom

Present:

Cllr Richie Court (Chairman)

Cllr Lian Court

Cllr Joan Robson

Cllr Ray Pirrie

Cllr Phil Heaviside

Cllr Audrey Willis

Cllr Peter Brown

Cllr Carole Watkiss

Cllr Tim Robson

Cllr Jeremy Whiting

In Attendance:

Miss F Ford (Clerk) & Members of the public

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

2. Police Liaison Report

There was no police report available but it was noted there had been asb issues on the Millennium Green. The letterbox at the front of the Community Centre had also been damaged and reported to the police.

3. Public Participation

- **Toddler Group** – The group would like to sell old/duplicate toys from the Centre. A discussion took place and it was agreed they could advertise the items and people can collect from the side door at agreed times and dates, ensuring covid rules are followed.
- **Smiths Arms** – It was noted that a planning application had been submitted to change the use of the former public house into a residential dwelling, with public consultation closing on 9th April 2021. A discussion took place around how the facility could be maintained as either a pub and/or facility for the community. It was noted 100 objections had been lodged including one from Little Lumley Parish Council and Bournmoor Parish Council. Cllr A Willis proposed an objection based on the lack of community consultation, which was seconded by Cllr T Robson. The vote was unanimous. Clerk to submit the objection asap.

4. Minutes from the previous meeting

The minutes were agreed as a true record with the following amendment:

Item 7 Miscellaneous Matters – Should read - Cllr Pirrie read a statement out raising concerns around the following:

- Email correspondence - It was noted that several emails had been sent between the previous Clerk and other Councillors (that appeared to be slowing down council business), however not all Parish Councillors had been included. In the interests of transparency Cllr Pirrie felt all Councillors should be aware of this and reported the matter to the Police.
- Missing alcohol – Cllr Pirrie noted that alcohol had gone missing from the bar and could not be traced. Cllr J Robson advised that a quantity of beer, cider and soft drinks had been poured down the sink as they were out of date.

5. Matters arising from the minutes

The following items were discussed:

Item 3 - Public Participation

- **View of Views** – It was noted that the original artist has advised the piece could not be repaired.
- **Damage to rubber matting in play area** – Clerk to liaise with Barrie Alderson re replacement surface

Item 10 - Community Centre

- **Durham County Council Member Budget** – Cllr Willis advised that the £32,000 funding allocated to Bournmoor was never part of the Community Centre funding, therefore has not been lost from Great Lumley.
- **Removal of the Christmas Tree** – Cllr Willis advised that she had not broken covid rules as she remained in the car, and the police took no further action.

6. Environmental and Community

- **Community Centre Laptops** - The laptops have now been donated to Lumley Infant and Nursery School.
- **Remembrance Day** – Poppies around the village – keep as a standard agenda item
- **Youth Funding** – Clerk to check when they will be beginning the Youth Work
- **Grass Cutting** – Clerk to check when DCC will cease to cut the grass.
- **Community Centre Car Park** – Clerk to check with DCC re spraying the weeds as part of the maintenance contract

7. Accounts

The following cheques had been issued since the last meeting:

300022	Scotbark	£2,934.00
300023	D Stubbs	£450.00
		£3,384.00

8. Miscellaneous Items

- **Sim Card** – It was noted that as the Sim card was the previous clerk's personal sim card, the Parish Council did not own it and therefore could not request it back. Clerk to obtain a new sim card for Great Lumley Parish Council
- **Sale of alcohol during lockdown** – A discussion took place regarding the sale of the alcohol in the Community Centre following an email from the previous Clerk advising the availability and prices. It was agreed the Clerk would pull together a report detailing sales and prices

9. Great Lumley Community Venture Trustees Report

Nothing to report.

10. Community Centre

- **Opening and closing of Community Centre** – Whilst there have been requests for the Community Centre to open, it was agreed for the moment I would remain closed to allow for the necessary checks to be undertaken. Clerk to prepare a statement advising on the position.
- **Soft drinks in the bar** – As the soft drinks are out of date it was agreed to dispose of them.

- **Receive an update on Asset transfer** – The Clerk advised she was drafting a response to DCCs letter to enable them to prepare a report for the Corporate Property and Land Board Meeting.

11. To adopt new policies and procedures for the Council

It was agreed to create a policy around undertaking tree surveys every year. Clerk to progress this.

12. Correspondence

The following items had been received/actioned since the last meeting:

- Email from Gary Brown re Fixtures
- Letter from Siemens demanding payment of rental for coffee machine that was hired by Great Lumley Community Association – agreed to contact them and advise the Community Association has folded and they can collect the coffee machine.
- Letter from BT re outstanding account
- Letter from Gazprom re outstanding account

13. Planning Applications

There were no planning applications to consider.

14. Matters for Information

- Community Centre alarm maintenance contract
- Football Fixtures – It was noted that Stewarts for required for games on Worcester Close field to stop cars parking along Cambridge Drive

14. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held in Great Lumley Community Centre on Tuesday 18th May 2021 at 6.30 pm

Signed Chair _____

Date: 18th May 2021