

GREAT LUMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at Great Lumley Community Centre
Tuesday 7th July 2020

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|---|--------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | Present | Cllr Richie Court (Chair)
Cllr Joan Robson
Cllr Phil Heaviside
Cllr Tim Robson
Cllr Audrey Willis
Cllr Lian Court
Cllr Michael Adey | Cllr Carole Watkiss
Cllr Ray Pirrie
Cllr Jeremy Whiting
Cllr John Parkin
Ian Heaviside (Clerk)
2 members of the public |
| 2 | Police Liaison Report | There was no police Report submitted: | |
| 3 | Declaration of Interests | There were no declarations of interest | |
| 4 | Point of Order | Cllr Pirrie asked whether the meeting was being recorded, The Clerk advised him that it was. He made an objection to this stating it was illegal to record without his permission however was informed by Clerk that there was no reason why any one present couldn't record the meeting (member of the public or councillor) | |
| 5 | Public comments | DCC Councillor Alan Bell asked a number of questions in writing prior to the meeting (previously circulated in full) | |

Q - Request for clarification on no golf sign on Football Fields

A - In 2017 most public authorities took down their signs as they lacked the legal power to enforce them. The Council would have no power to enforce and that it gave a false impression that there was, the Parish would have no liability if someone was hit with a ball. Cllr Pirrie apologised that he was incorrect when he stated that there was already a sign in place as there was not.

Q - Question on Public Participation Policy

A - The Council reviewed the policy at the June 2020 and a decision was made to retain the existing policy and cannot be revisited for 3 months. Cllr Robson pointed out that there was no obligation to answer questions on the night so a 7 day notice allowed immediate answers. Cllr Heaviside stated that no one should be prevented from asking questions on the night but could not expect an immediate answer unless they'd given notice and that the policy should be put on the September agenda for review.

Q - Question on Community Centre – New Build v Refurbishment

A - The Chair indicated that the community centre project was never going to be a new build. A special meeting of the Council was held on 17th May 2018 where it was resolved to take on the Community Centre under asset transfer from DCC. He further stated that a new build would not have been asset transfer as for this to be the case the building and the land would need to be transferred to qualify as asset transfer. At the public meeting it was a possibility of a new build. However this had been discounted, although may not have been recorded in the minutes correctly by the previous clerk

Q - Question on Community Kitchen

A - Chair indicated that the parish has never refused the church, the use of the kitchen at the community centre. Cllr Joan Robson stated that it was Cllr Watkis

and herself who were doing the meals from the Centre. At week 11 they thought it was time to review how many people still needed the meals as shielding was coming to an end on week 12. In addition the centre was due to be cleared ready for works to commence. This included the kitchen equipment which was currently occupying the café area which had been moved to allow a deep clean of the kitchen which wasn't clean enough to produce the meals in. Cllr Robson suggested that the church review the need for meals following feedback. They subsequently sent a letter to residents to re assess need. This indicated that the need was less and the kitchen was closed.

Cllr Willis responded that she and the chair spoke to the church before the letters went out and said that if necessary the kitchen was available should the church need it.

Further heated discussion took place regarding the facts

Cllr Whiting mentioned that no one from the church has suggested that there was a problem with the withdrawal of the kitchen

- 6 Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2nd June 2020 were accepted as a true record with amendments as follows:
1. Issues with golf will be monitored
 2. A request was made to relax the 7 day rule for speaking on topics at the parish meetings, this was considered and resolved by majority that the current system doesn't need alteration
- 7 Matters Arising
- Lock to Community Centre door – Quotation has been received for £145.00. IT was suggested that as the centre was closed it wasn't worth spending the money
- CIO update – Charities commission have asked for additional information particularly about a business plan. Clerk to liaise with Trustees to provide this information as soon as possible
- Telephone line – BT has been issued notice to disconnect
- Defibrillator Update – The unit is now in working order, registered with the PC as guardian and Clerk is doing the weekly check
- 8 Environment and Community
- Changes to licensing arrangements for football pitches – further to discussions with DCC last year they will no longer issue licenses to occupy football pitches which are not in their ownership and they will not pay to maintain them. Currently GLFC pay £329 per team pa for 2 teams on each of the pitches (Total £1974.00 We currently lease the old pitch from Lambton Estates at a rate of £360 per year however don't know what the costs of grass cutting will be. Clerk has requested costs from DCC to maintain the pitches, awaiting response. DCC have shared last years license document with us. Resolved to await maintenance costs before entering into an agreement with the football club
- Gymnastics club have requested the use of football pitches / bowling green to the rear of the Community Centre as a temporary measure to maintain classes.

Durham Model car club have requested the use of the bowling green on a temporary basis to race their model electric cars. They requested that they be able to store a small amount of equipment in the garage and have access to electricity for which they are happy to pay. As recompense they have offered to cut the grass on the bowling green and provide their own portable toilet. The saving on cost for this is in the region of £1850 (quote from DCC)

Little kickers group have also requested outdoor space to train over the summer either on football pitches or bowling green

It was resolved that it was acceptable for all groups to use the spaces, and that negotiation would take place to share them to all their mutual benefit

Marc Gordon has requested that he be able to host a food festival on Parish Land. It was resolved to allow this and liaise with the organiser on specific details. It was resolved that for the first event we would ask for a donation if it was profitable however an appropriate fee would be reviewed if it becomes popular. The traders need to take their own litter home and keep the site clean on completion

No toilet facilities will be available at the Community Centre during any of these events

Children’s Play Area – It was resolved that the play area should be remained closed until the costs and practicalities of re-opening the play area safely. DCC to be consulted for assistance

BT Open reach have requested a Wayleave to construct an equipment cabinet on land owned by the parish at Quarry Pond, if approved there would be a one off fee of £804.74. It was resolved to accept this in writing (Clerk to respond)

9 Accounts

The following payments were drawn on the Parish Councils Account since the last meeting:

I Heaviside Expenses	Transfer	£81.93
I Heaviside Salary	Transfer	£756.60
Gazprom Electricity	Transfer	£4.63
Virgin Media	Direct Debit	£38.40
BT	Transfer	£70.58
Chubb	Transfer	£11.92

10 Correspondence

As contained in the distributed correspondence Log

11 Planning Applications

There were no planning applications noted

12 Policies and Procedures

There were no policies or procedures submitted

13 Miscellaneous Items

The Council considered the necessity and cost of specific parish council e mail addresses for the use of councillors – Clerk has investigated our current provider and it would be £50 per year per e mail address box to provide this. It was resolved not to go ahead with this at present

The Council considered the need for increased use of social media platforms and resolved that this should be discussed at the next meeting, particularly how we would manage the content of postings, comments etc

- 14 Community & Community Centre
 As the architect was still on furlough there had been little progress however Clerk to contact and see when return to work is expected
- The community centre will remain closed for the present however this will be reviewed on a regular basis
- A list of alterations which were needed to the drawings was presented and accepted, Clerk to forward to Architect
- Cllr Parkin mentioned the event on the Quarry Ponds miners memorial to coincide with what would have been the Annual Miners Gala in Durham which has been cancelled this year. All members of the community are welcome to attend and the brass band will be playing
- There has been discussion between Cllr Robson and the Friday club regarding removal and storage of their equipment and they have requested that their cutlery and crockery etc be taken into the centre's ownership and be available for their use in future. This was accepted.
- Letter from Andy Barron to use the gym for a promotional video. It was resolved to allow him to do so.
- 15 Items for discussion at next meeting
 Extraordinary meeting to be held to discuss and finalise the business plan
 Social Media
 Christmas tree and Christmas lights
- 16 Next Meeting
 Tuesday 4th August 2020

Signed _____ R Court, Chairman Date 4th August 2020