

Leavening Parish Council
Minutes of Meeting held via Zoom,
Leavening on Monday 18th January 2021 at 7.30pm

Press and public were not invited to attend the meeting as due to Covid-19 social distancing rules, the meeting was held via zoom

- 1) Present: Cllrs, S McDermott (chair), P Schofield, R Ashworth, N Audsley, L Hampson, S Schofield, & Cllr to be co-opted A Hudson.

Co-option of Ami Hudson was proposed by Phil Schofield, seconded by Neil Audsley and passed unanimously.

Apologies for absence: S Langton

- 2) Declarations of Interest - none
- 3) Public session - N/A - No members of the public were present.
- 4) The minutes of the meeting held on 15th October 2020 were confirmed as a true and accurate record after a correction to the spelling of Mr Midgley's name and agreed. Due to social distancing/zoom meeting minutes were not signed at this time.

Consultations

- 5) No consultations have been received by the council during this period.

Action: Chair to check that he is getting the Clerk's emails during this interregnum from RDC.

Finance & Business

- 6) To consider financial matters.
- Due to Covid-19 Financial matters were not discussed in detail. Payments when required are being made via cheque but none required at present.
 - It was agreed that the precept should remain unchanged for the new financial year.
 - In the interim until a new clerk is appointed, N Audsley offered to take on the financial aspects of the Council. This was accepted with gratitude.

Action: Chair to get the papers and files from Kate (former clerk) and pass to N Audsley who will review them and ensure any necessary action is undertaken.

Committees and village matters

- 7) There were no updates from the Events or Play Area committees as neither had met since March 2020 due to Covid-19.

The following matters were discussed:

- The issue of **untaxed vehicles** being parked on Whin Hill and Malton Road has been resolved. The vehicles have been removed.
- **Beckside:** Blue Building on Dam Lane. No response had been received from RDC to the email sent by S Schofield. It was noted that the building had acquired an aerial.

Action: S Schofield to send a follow-up email

- **Speed signs** – The background to this matter was summarised for A Walker. The posts had been erected, although concern was expressed that they both seemed to have been positioned very close to the edge of the road which could be a potential hazard to cyclists and other road users. We will have the sign for at least 3 months each year. As we are the lead village in this scheme, it is likely that we can retain the sign for longer if other villages do not take up the offer. Once the sale of 9 houses from the new development have been made, a proposal will be put to the village that a second sign be purchased which would belong to LPC.
- S Schofield had emailed Kate about the **phone box**, but Kate confirmed she had received no reply from BT or RDC as yet.

Action: Chair to have hand-over mtg with Kate to find out where we are with the speed sign project. Follow up with Cllr Keane Duncan if necessary. Get update on phone box matter.

- 8) **Parish Clerk vacancy:** this was a matter of urgency. It would be advertised again on the Leavening Facebook page, but S Mc Dermott said that Karen McDermott may be interested once she had retired in a few weeks' time.

Action: L Hampson to put on Facebook; S McDermott to put on the LPC website and discuss further with K McDermott.

- 9) **AOB:** The problems of snow and ice on footpaths and roads clearance and treatment in the recent bad weather had been raised by Vanessa Simmons of The Rise.
- There was a discussion around the issues and practicalities of grit distribution and the legal and insurance aspects of establishing a system of Snow Marshals as used in City of York. It was agreed that this was not affordable, but that villagers should be encouraged to be public spirited (NB: clarification around any legal liability should be obtained from RDC or Highways before promoting this so LPC could be sure we are on a sure legal footing).
 - Although the village was relatively well-supplied with grit bins, the grit in the bins was often found to be degraded or unusable due to getting wet as several bins have no lids and needed replacing. A Hudson offered to take this up with Highways as she has previous experience of getting and placing salt bins.
 - It was also noted that refilling of bins probably needed to be requested proactively as it was unlikely that levels could be monitored regularly by Highways.

Action: A Hudson to contact Highways about replacing lidless bins; once legal clarification has been obtained, villagers to be encouraged to spread grit and to be reminded that grit in bins is available for everyone to use where necessary.

Date of Future meetings.

- Monday 8th March 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom

The Meeting closed at 20:25hrs