

Ilketshall St. Andrew Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of 4 January 2021 held remotely, 7.30 p.m.

1. Welcome.

This meeting of the Ilketshall St. Andrew Parish Council was held remotely, using Zoom software, as a consequence of restrictions associated with the Covid-19 pandemic. Invitations for members of the public to attend had been made via a notice on the Village Hall noticeboard and via e-mails to individuals who often attended Parish Council meetings. Four Parish Councillors (Gerald Godfrey (GG), Jacqui Harrison (JH), Andy Spinks (AS) and Rod Apps (RA) were present. There were two members of the public present (Lea Ingham and Anne Law).

2. Apologies for absence.

There were apologies for absence from Judy Cloke, the District Councillor.

It was noted at this point that Chris Bromley, one of the Councillors who joined the Parish Council in May 2019, had died a week previously. The Parish Council requested that the Parish Clerk write to Carol Bromley to convey its condolences, and to recognise the substantial contribution that Chris Bromley had made not only to the Parish Council but also to many other aspects of the Ilketshall St. Andrew community over many years.

[Action: RA]

3. Minutes.

The Minutes of the meeting of 7 December 2020 were accepted will be signed by the Chair at a later date.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes of 7 December 2020.

1. [Item 5 refers] Planning Application for Dairy Barn, Great Common Lane. Rod Apps had submitted comments supporting the application to East Suffolk District Council. It had subsequently been pointed out to one of the Councillors, however, that there had actually been **two** planning applications submitted for this property, but this had not been clear in the documentation on the East Suffolk website and Rod Apps had therefore not indicated to other Councillors that there were indeed two applications, one for a barn behind Dairy Barn, the second for a barn in front of Dairy Barn. In light of the fact that the deadline for any comments had passed, there was in reality nothing that could usefully be done to add to the comments submitted. In addition, it was noted that positive comments and support from a Parish Council for a planning application carry little influence in the planning process.
2. [Item 6 refers] Rod Apps reported that he had not managed to meet the deadlines for getting an application in for the first cycle, but would endeavour to submit for the second cycle (which has deadlines of 3 months later).

5. Village Hall Finances

The meeting of the Parish Council on 7 December had agreed to defer a decision on making a payment to the Village Hall designed to assist with the financial consequences of the coronavirus pandemic upon the Village Hall finances. It was noted that following the meeting on 7 December, investigations had been undertaken regarding the possibility of obtaining government funding, but these had not proved fruitful (although a possible source of funding to assist with the roof repairs to the Village Hall in the future had been identified).

After discussion, the Parish Council agreed to make a payment of £2,000 to the Village Hall. This would reinstate the payment of the insurance costs of the Village Hall for the current year and the previous year, which the Parish Council had traditionally met. The cost of the insurance amounted to £1,653.05. The Parish Council agreed to round this figure up to £2,000 in order to make a non-hypothecated contribution to the Village Hall finances. Rod Apps agreed to get a cheque signed and conveyed to Anne Law.

[Action: RA]

During the discussion, it was suggested that the Parish Council might, additionally or alternatively, make a payment that would indirectly contribute to Village Hall finances, with the Bowls Club being suggested as a specific possibility. The Bowls Club, in normal times, meets regularly at the Village Hall and also contributes via the bar. At the current time, the Bowls Club is in need of a new mat in order to be able to continue playing. The Parish Council agreed to defer a decision on this possibility, and suggested that a specific request or proposal for such funding would be appropriate on which to base a decision. Gerald Godfrey agreed to contact an appropriate member of the Bowls Club for this purpose.

[Action; GG]

At this point in the Agenda, the Parish Council agreed to close the meeting in order that members could listen/watch an announcement by the Prime Minister regarding additional coronavirus restrictions. The remaining items on the agenda would be considered at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

6. Date of next meeting

Monday 1 February 2021, 7.30 p.m.

The meeting ended at 8.05 p.m.