

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PLEASINGTON PARISH COUNCIL, HELD AT THE RAILWAY HOTEL, PLEASINGTON, ON 27th July 2020

- PRESENT Councillors Caton, Green, Griffiths, Isherwood and Marrow. A resident.
- APOLOGY 3053 There were no apologies.
- APPOINTMENT 3054 Further to minute 3044, when the date of the Annual meeting, and thus the Appointment of Chairman was deferred due to Covid-19, it was RESOLVED (proposed JG, seconded JC) unanimously that Councillor Marrow be re-elected as Chairman of the Parish Council for the next twelve months. Councillor Marrow thanked the Councillors, accepted the office, signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took the Chair.
- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 3055 There were no declarations of interest
- MINUTES OF LAST MEETING 3056 It was RESOLVED (proposed JG, seconded JC) that the minutes of the last meeting, held at The Railway Hotel on 23rd March 2020, having been read by the Clerk, be received and approved.
- MATTERS ARISING 3057 The situation around Covid-19 was making everything difficult to plan at the moment. This meeting was held outdoors with appropriate social distancing. Following the sudden death of Councillor John Pearson there was now a vacancy in the Livesey with Pleasington ward on the Borough Council. All Local Council elections had already been postponed because of Covid-19.
- ACCOUNTS TO DATE 3058 The accounts to date, cash books etc were presented to the meeting for inspection, and it was RESOLVED (proposed JG, seconded JC) that these be accepted, subject to audit.
- AUDIT 3059 The Parish Council could declare itself as exempt from a full external audit because of its small turnover and compliance with the conditions. It was RESOLVED (proposed JG, seconded EG) that the Council complete the AGAR Part 2 and that the Clerk send the required Certificate of Exemption to the Auditors. It would then be posted on the Borough website with all the other financial information for the year 2019-2020.
- The Annual Governance Statement – Section 1 of the Annual Return - was read by the Clerk and completed by the meeting. It was RESOLVED (proposed JG, seconded EG) that this be accepted as correct.
- 3060 The Chairman and Councillors had (as at all meetings) been given the opportunity to inspect all the relevant financial paperwork. After reviewing the year's accounts and procedures and agreeing the year-end figures, it was RESOLVED (proposed JG, seconded EG) that the accounts be accepted as a true and complete picture of the Council's financial activity over the year from April 2019-March 2020. It was further RESOLVED (proposed JG, seconded EG) that the completed Statement of Accounts – Section 2 of the Annual Return - (having been cross-checked at the meeting to the year-end accounts) – be approved as correct. Due to Covid-19, the dates for public inspection of the financial documents had been changed, with the latest publication date to now be September 1st, month for persons to inspect the documents and contact the auditors.

MEETING 27th July 2020

RISK
ASSESSMENT
AND INSURANCE

- 3061 After due consideration, the Council was of the opinion that, since there had been no change in the Council's activities or procedures during the last year, and that no new legislation impinged on the work of the Council, all identified risks were adequately covered, and it was RESOLVED ((proposed JG, seconded JC) that no further action was necessary at this time.

Following review of the Risk Assessment and insurance requirements, it was RESOLVED (proposed JG, seconded JC) that the Insurance quote received from new providers Zurich Insurance was adequate for the Councils needs, and that no increases or additions were required.

ACCOUNTS
PAYABLE

- 3062 It was RESOLVED (proposed JG, seconded JC) that the following accounts be paid :

Zurich Insurance	£251.42
NWAA	£100
CPRE	£36

INTERNAL
AUDIT

- 3063 The Clerk would meet with our Internal Auditor, Alan Cottam, to review the year's accounts and procedures, agree the year-end figures, and discuss and complete the internal audit, the date of the meeting dependent on Covid-19 restrictions.

TREES

- 3064 Mention was made of a tree, covered in ivy, near the river bridge obstructing the view of oncoming traffic. Blackburn with Darwen now have a new Tree Officer and it was RESOLVED (proposed JG, seconded JC) that the Clerk contact him to discuss possible solutions.

GAS

- 3065 Mention was made of a smell of gas, or possibly sewage, in the vicinity of the Railway Bridge. This had apparently already been reported to the authorities on more than one occasion.

PLANNING

- 3066 The Council noted that the Golf Club had begun building a new car park along the track by the railway. No planning application had been received. Permission had previously been granted for a car park alongside Links Lane. The application for housing behind Regents Close had not been granted for reasons broadly in line with the concerns expressed by the Parish Council.

CIRCULARS

- 3067 Information from LALC and NALC, plus various magazines and circulars, were presented to the meeting and it was RESOLVED (proposed JG, seconded EG) that these be accepted for information purposes.

NEXT MEETING

- 3068 A date in September, depending on the ongoing Covid-19 situation. The meeting closed at 8.45pm with thanks to the Chairman.

CHAIRMAN