

INGLETON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 25 November 2020 at 7 p.m. via video link

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming the visitors to the Council's on-line 'virtual' meeting and explained that the details would be recorded, but only until such time as the Clerk published the typed minutes; after which the recording would be deleted.

1 Attendance:

Councillors: Cllr Leech (Chairman); Cllr Hunton (Vice-Chair); Cllr Pressley; Cllr Vickers;
Cllr Humble and Cllr Mead

Visitors: 2

Clerk: J Mead

2 Apologies for Absence: Cllr Cartwright

3 Declaration of Interest

None declared

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

4 Clerk's report on actions taken since previous meeting

Road Traffic Control at Springwell Junction

The Clerk is to write to all interested parties in Springwell to report that, as both Durham County Council and the Police Authority had carried out surveys and speed checks on or near the access point to Springwell; with neither finding evidence to support any safety measure being put in place; the Members of the Parish Council felt that they had fully explored all avenues in trying to resolve the matter and regretfully agreed that there was no further action to be taken.

Speedwatch in Ingleton

Having written to the Police Authority to request some help, akin to that given to neighbouring villages, the Police response was that others got help primarily because they do not have for themselves a speed watch team to check levels but added that if we needed help they would be happy to liaise with us. Members asked that the Clerk write again to the Police Authority to state that, owing to lockdown, Ingleton too is now without Speedwatch, and request, if speed cameras work in the dark, a speed check to be done in the late afternoon, circa 5.30 pm when people are on their way home and speeding generally, but not solely, occurs through the village.

Suggested re-routing of Bus Routes to Include Ingleton

Having enquired with both Arriva and Durham County Council about the possible re-routing of bus routes to include Ingleton, the responses from both parties showed a clear inability to make any changes to the timetable. With no other department or company to appeal to, the Clerk was asked to write to the resident who raised this issue to explain that unfortunately there was nothing further the Parish Council could do to change the situation.

Planting of daffodils

1000 daffodil bulbs have been planted in new or infill areas of the village green. Letters of thanks were sent to those volunteers who joined Councillors in planting the bulbs and the Chairman asked That the Clerk follow up with a thank you in the Parish Pump and, once we are all allowed out together in public in the Spring, we could have a photoshoot of all flowers and volunteers.

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Review of Public Footpaths

DCC advised that the suggested rerouting of some paths could be a problem because of the cost involved but would liaise with landowners to discuss options.

The Clerk is to contact the DCC officer to ask for an update on his discussions with landowners.

5 a) Public Participation: Comments on agenda items

No issues were raised

b) Public Participation: Any other business.

Mr David Ormandy informed the meeting that at the most recent meeting of the I&DCA a number of changes in responsible officers had been made. Mrs Hazel Whitehead and Messrs Colin Oates, Dennis Edwards and David Ormandy himself had stepped down from office and new officers were named as Melanie and Graham Ingleson, Clare Humble, Allison Metcalf, James and Helen Carver and James and Karen Marks.

The Chairman voiced the Council's thanks to all those people who have worked so incredibly hard for so very many years on the Community Association and asked the Clerk to minute the gratitude of the Parish Council for everything they have done for the community. He also congratulated the I&DCA on bringing together a new team of officers who will undoubtedly bring forward new ideas. The wish is for a continued close relationship between the I&DCA and Ingleton Parish Council. The Clerk is to send a message of thanks to the retiring officers via the Parish Pump.

STRATEGIC BUSINESS:

Issues of strategic importance that require priority attention.

6. New Website and Government Requirements for Compliance

Cllr Mead reported that the building of the website is almost complete and that he had completed the training inbuilt in the cost of the work. The site should be available to visitors by mid/end December.

7. Playground Equipment

Discussions ensued with regard to both the wooden 'trail' which, in the most recent playground inspection, was recommended for replacement and the Huck climbing tower for repair or replacement. A survey of the Huck climbing tower would cost circa £360 by the manufacturers. Cllrs asked that further enquiries on possible surveys and their costs being done by a) the DCC Playground Inspector or b) a local playground installation firm.

It was agreed that the cost of actually replacing such expensive items was beyond the budget of the Parish Council and so Cllr Vickers, as part of the Pavilion and Field Working Group (PFWG); which in turn is part of the I&DCA; agreed to lead the task of raising funds for equipment. The target sum would be announced once choices and quotes had been accrued. There will be consultation with the community, and especially the children, for what would be a preferred choice of equipment. Chairman to send simple questionnaires to both the Parish Pump and the local school as part of the required consultation.

Proposal:

1. That enquiries be made into getting a survey done on the named equipment to determine future actions for the playground equipment and £360 be released to PFWG for this purpose.

Proposed: Cllr Leech Seconded: Cllr Mead Vote: unanimous

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2. That the Council support the PFWP raising money for the playground area, subject to consultation with the community, including especially its children to ensure all aspects of what is available is considered.

Proposed: Cllr Leech Seconded: Cllr Humble Vote: unanimous

8. Precept 2021/2022

The Council agreed that there would be no increase in the precept above the 3% rate of inflation.

Proposed: Cllr Leech Seconded: Cllr Humble Vote: Unanimous

9. CiLCA Training with Mentoring for Parish Clerk

The Clerk reported that, according to CDALC, she would be studying for approximately 200 hours extra in order to attain the CiLCA Parish Clerk's Certificate. The Chairman explained to the Meeting that such a certification would benefit the Council to have such accreditation in its Clerk as it would allow the Council to make decisions in a much more flexible way. He also explained that the cost, (£2750), would not at all affect the precept for 2021/22 because the budget for 2020/21, owing to the Covid crisis, had reduced spending by a similar amount.

The Clerk agreed that this payment would be dependent upon her not leaving the employment of Ingleton Parish Council for 3 years (one year's study and a further two years' work as Clerk). If she were to leave earlier, then the funding would be required to be repaid to the Council.

Proposal: That the Council pay the Clerk for 200 extra hours work for the Council's benefit on the understanding that she remain in the Parish Council's employ for a further 3 years. A clawback of funds would be implemented if she were to leave earlier than that period of time.

Proposed: Cllr Leech Seconded: Cllr Humble Vote: Unanimous

10. Dog Fouling in Village

The Clerk reported that she had sent a notice to both WhatsApp in Ingleton and PP to report the rising cases of dog fouling, both on the side of the highway and footpaths and in the playing field. The 'paint dog poo pink' campaign had been congratulated at the beginning of the year but now the Council has had to report the matter to DCC for their help. If a dog owner is now found guilty of not cleaning up after their pet in the village or not having it on a leash, there is a potential fine of up to £1000.

As the DCC would require playground/exercise equipment to be fenced off within the field itself to enable specific fines being placed on dog owners found to be letting their pet defecate near the equipment, the Clerk is to ask neighbouring parishes for costs of such fencing.

Dog Warden to be consulted on what services and advice is available. Clerk to purchase further supply of pink paint and 'poo' bags for supply within the village.

ROUTINE BUSINESS:

11 Minutes of previous meeting:

Members agreed that the Minutes of the Ingleton Parish Council Meeting dated 23 September 2020 offered a true and accurate record of the meeting.

12 IPC Finances

- a) Members accepted the Statement of Accounts as a true record.
- b) Invoices for payment:
Members were directed to the Statement of Accounts where transactions carried out up to the present date were recorded.

13 Pavilion and Field Working Group (PFWG)

No issues, other than those discussed in separate agenda items, were raised.

LOCAL MAINTENANCE / VILLAGE ISSUES

14 Any other Business

The meeting was told that Cllr Mead and Mrs Joyce Mead (Clerk) will be moving house on 3/12/20

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING (via Zoom Internet Link)

Wednesday 27 January 2021 at 7.00 pm

Information on how to link in to the meeting can be found below and will also be advertised via our village notice board, the Parish Pump and Ingleton Parish Council website.

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