

# INGLETON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 27 January 2021 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 reminding them that 2021 is an election year and that the Council would welcome any enquiries regarding wanting to become a Councillor. He then explained that the details would be recorded, but only until the Council approved the typed minutes; after which time the recording would be deleted.

#### 1. Requested to Attend:

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

**Visitors:** 2

**Clerk:** J Mead

#### 2. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Humble

#### 3. Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

#### 4. Clerk's report on actions taken since the previous meeting

##### Speedwatch in Ingleton

As the Police have prioritised Ingleton as a village to get key attention for speeding, and monitoring has been seen to be done recently, the Clerk is to write to Police to ask for the results of their surveys to date and also to request they come at a time when speeding is seen at its most active, between 4.30-5.30pm.

##### Dog Fouling in Village

A recent survey on the village whatsapp support site resulted in a mixed perception of the success of the council's campaign against dog fouling. Almost the same number of people believed there had been some improvement, especially in the field, as the number who believed there was no improvement, and even possibly a worsening of the situation.

The Clerk is to write to the County Council Dog Warden to request a regular presence in the village rather than spot checks so that people are more aware of the warden's presence.

Residents' suggestions for response to the problem, including DNA sampling and a dummy camera sited in the pavilion, were discussed but deemed either costly or probably ineffective. The Council agreed that whilst dog fouling was a problem from which the village constantly suffers - and that it is the Council's job to try to reduce it - it is also the role of the council to promote co-operation and unity in the village, not to incite or engage in methods that are costly and difficult to monitor. In the name of due diligence Clerk to research how other parish council's approach this problem and the costs incurred.

##### Review of Public Footpaths

Clerk is to write again to Durham County Council to request an update on the redirection of footpaths in the village.

#### 5. Public Participation

- a) Comments on agenda items – No items were raised.
- b) Any other business – No items were raised.

## STRATEGIC BUSINESS

*Issues of strategic importance that require priority attention*

### 6. New Website and Government Requirements for Compliance

Cllr Mead reported that, given all the details of the IDCA had been uploaded and verified as accurate by the Committee members and approximately 80% of all IPC documents had been uploaded, the Council's website would be available to view online in early February. All documentation set to appear is compliant with Central Government's new requirements for availability to people with specialised requirements or disabilities. Members thanked Cllr Mead for the work he had done on this project.

### 7. Elections 2021

The Chairman reiterated his encouragement to members and guests to promote to residents the chance to engage in the upcoming election in May, lockdown rules permitting. This message is to be sent to the Parish Pump, placed on the website when available and on the noticeboard.

### 8. Adoption of Policies for Approval and Adoption

The following policies were discussed, edited and finally adopted by the Parish Council:

<i>Complaints Procedure</i>	<i>Delegation Scheme</i>	<i>Equality</i>
<i>Expenses</i>	<i>Filming at Meetings</i>	<i>Standing Orders</i>
<i>Health and Safety</i>	<i>Risk Management</i>	

The Chairman asked that the Agenda for the next AGM, scheduled for May 2021, list the formation of two new Committees, a) A complaints Committee and b) an Appeals Committee. Their formation would accommodate the requirements of the newly adopted Complaints Policy.

Members agreed a limit of £500 of budgeted expenditure on any item or service purchased by the Parish Clerk on his/her sole signature. These actions must comply with any legislative provisions and the requirements of the Council's Constitution.

### 9. Trees for Teesdale

As a volunteer with the Trees for Teesdale group, Cllr Pressley was able to report that, after taking delivery of 450 trees, and planting 200, the group has a substantial number of trees available for planting elsewhere in Teesdale. The Council was grateful for being asked whether Members knew of anywhere in the village that could benefit from such deciduous, woodland trees.

The Chairman asked the Pavilion and Field Working Group to bring suggestions for sites, and in what number, to the next meeting.

## ROUTINE BUSINESS

### 10. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and being correct.

Proposal: To accept the Minutes as being accurate and correct:

Proposed by: Cllr Leech

Seconded: Cllr Mead

Vote: Unanimous

### 11. IPC Finances

The Clerk produced a statement of accounts which showed the final combined balance held as £6899.23.

The Chairman reported that the Council had submitted to DCC the required precept request for 2021/22 in line with the Parish Council's 3% inflation target, the outcome being that £8061.18 was requested plus Ingleton will receive a further LCTR grant of £180, bringing funding to a total of £8241.18. This equates to a Band D household increase of 3p per week, thus creating a 'stand still' position in the level of claim for funding in the 2021/22 financial year.

As the Clerk reported to the meeting that she would be delaying her studies for the CiLCA accreditation until January 2022, the Chairman asked that the funds set aside for study costs should be ring-fenced until required in the next financial year.

## **12. Pavilion and Field Working Group (PFWG)**

Cllr Vickers reported the good news that, when she and Cllr Pressley met Stephen Batson, a ground-care environment expert and an authority on Huck Tower playground equipment, it was established that the item, which, like all other playground equipment, is regularly inspected by the County Council's Playground Inspector, does not require any further remedial attention and in fact commented on its good condition. He gave some advice on what things to look for with regard to wear and tear which will be a great help for Councillors on their own inspections. Cllr Vickers is to now concentrate on the design of a replacement 'adventure trail', She will submit 'log trail' designs for Councillor's discussion and also contact and attend a meeting of the I&DCA to enquire whether a contribution from them could be made towards the costs.

## **LOCAL MAINTENANCE / VILLAGE ISSUES**

### **13. Any Other Business**

Concern was raised at the seemingly extensive work being done recently in the Playing Field. Clerk to request information on both the work carried out at that time and also for a report on the sewage pipes in Ingleton as a whole and their present state of repair and condition.

Clerk to write to Highways Division of Durham County Council to bring sunken manhole covers sited at the east end of Ingleton near to the Gainford junction in the direction of Darlington.

Cllr Vickers reported that she had been approached by a person who wished to remain anonymous but who wanted to donate £1000 in order for something to be purchased to visibly enhance the village because that person had such fond memories of good times in the village. The person made reference in her discussion with Cllr Vickers to a bench but wished to leave the actual decision on what to purchase to Council Members. Following some discussion on tentative ideas such as a woodland trail or a bench, the Chairman asked Cllr Vickers to consult back with the person wishing to make the donation and both offer the Council's grateful thanks for such a kind and generous donation and ask, after hearing about what was discussed, whether a decision could be given on what would be preferable. Cllr Vickers to report back to the next meeting.

In the period running up to the time of the next AGM, residents will be asked for ideas and suggestions on what they would like the Council to achieve or change for the village in the following 12 months.

A visitor to the meeting raised the point that very many houses in the village use house names instead of numbers which is proving a problem for delivery drivers so suggested that perhaps a map could either be sited in the village or become an online 'app'.

Clerk to liaise with Durham County Council to try to formulate such a map for the website and then encourage people in the village who are expecting deliveries to direct the logistics companies to the IPC webpage to confirm directions to any individual house.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.32pm

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

**Wednesday 24 March 2021 at 7.00 pm (Zoom internet link unless otherwise advertised)**

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

**Joyce Mead, Parish Clerk  
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