**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held via Zoon on Thursday 15 October 2020**

**1 Attendance and Apologies**

In attendance: Cllr Christine Jackson (Chair), Cllr Gordon Wordsworth, Cllr Tracey Elliott,

Cllr John Edge, Cllr Jean Dickinson

**2 Declaration of Personal Interest**

None.

**3 Adjournment**

i No adjournment was held, there being no villagers in attendance.

**4 Approval of Minutes**

1. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 21 May 2020 were proposed by Cllr Wordsworth and seconded by Cllr Elliott.

**5 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

1. With regard to the condition of the A635 and vibrations affecting the houses alongside, GW had contacted DMBC whose comment was that there was nothing to be done. GW is to contact them again about the state of the drain on the A635.
2. The broken road signs will be repaired but not immediately as there are still delays following Covid restrictions and DMBC continue to deal with flood issues.
3. DMBC consider it is not possible to have a weight limit sign at the top of Lidgett Lane as it is a main link road. They say that it is a Police-related issue.
4. The paths on Lady Mary Walk have been reported to DMBC but they claim there is no money to deal with this issue. A similar reply was given regarding the state of the compost heap.
5. With regard to the general appearance of the village, a meeting of interested villagers and volunteers will be set up after the pandemic.
6. As to the safety of the monument at the top of Lidget Lane, it had been assessed and the risk found to be very low of it toppling. The general appearance of the monument needs to be preserved and it was noted with thanks that the area had been weeded and tidied up.
7. A copy of the ‘Hickletone’ will be placed on the noticeboard.

**6 Finance**

 **(a) Accounts**

1. GW reported that there is a cash balance of £5458.
2. The tree that fell in the Winston Churchill Memorial Garden has been cleared away and removed by Gloaming Tree Surgery.
3. A further £430 has been paid to the gardener (G and P Simpson) for completion of the insurance work on the crossroads.
4. There have been further accidents at that site, one involving a Barnsley MDC vehicle. Barnsley Council have been contacted to find out how the remedial work is to be paid.
5. Reimbursement by insurance companies is awaited.
6. There is around £3500 to spend.

 **(b) Payments**

1. Payment to McAfee of £89.99 was proposed by Cllr Jackson, seconded by Cllr Wordsworth.
2. The gardener’s May/June payment of £780 (G and P Simpson) was proposed by Cllr Jackson, seconded by Cllr Elliott
3. Payment of £100 to Halifax Estates for use of the cricket ground was proposed by Cllr Jackson, seconded by Cllr Elliott
4. The insurance premium payment to Came and Co of £871.98 was proposed by Cllr Jackson, seconded by Cllr Elliott
5. The gardener’s July/August payment of £520 was proposed by Cllr Jackson, seconded by Cllr Elliott
6. Insurance work carried out by the gardener at a cost of £430 was proposed by Cllr Jackson, seconded by Cllr Elliott
7. Payment to Gloaming Tree Surgery of £180 to remove a fallen tree was proposed by Cllr Jackson, seconded by Cllr Elliott
8. The August/September invoice submitted by the gardener of £510 was proposed by Cllr Jackson, seconded by Cllr Elliott.

**7 Any Other Business**

1. The purchase of bulbs for the walkway to Church was discussed and a sum of £50 was agreed to allow volunteers to purchase and plant.
2. A wreath will be purchased for use on Remembrance Day. It was proposed and agreed that the ex-Servicemen in the village be asked to lay the wreath.
3. The new Local Government Code of Conduct will be copied and circulated. Cllr Wordsworth proposed that it be adopted by the PC which was duly seconded by Cllr Jackson.
4. Following on from the new Code of Conduct, it was pointed out that landowners and those responsible for land maintenance should take a risk-based approach to any trees on that land. Trees need to be regularly risk-assessed, particularly those beside roads and footpaths and an annual report made and any weaknesses dealt with. This being so, Cllr Wordsworth will approach Gloaming Tree Surgery to produce a strategy and schedule.
5. With regard to road safety on the A635, Cllr Wordsworth reported that there had been a number of accidents since the last meeting, all at the crossroads and involving vehicles coming from Redhill Way onto the A635. These had occurred on 5 June, 12 September, 30 September and 14 October. Cllr Wordsworth had asked DMBC for the recommendations of the Coroner’s enquiry following the fatal accident of 2019 but was told these were still awaited. Cllr Wordsworth will send details of the latest batch of accident to DMBC.
6. Daniel Atkinson, DMBC’s tree conservator, has been in the village noting information about the trees. The PC will await his comments on any remedial work to be done.
7. Various wooden posts in the memorial ground next to the Club are rotting and Cllr Wordsworth suggested and it was agreed to do the work after the winter, to be paid out of next year’s budget.
8. All agreed for Cllr Jackson to organise purchase of the Christmas tree.
9. Advance notice of the election for members of the Parish Council next May will be placed in the next edition of the ‘Hickletone’, for interested villagers to consider if they would like to be included in the nominations.
10. Cllr Wordsworth reported that he is awaiting a claim form from the Banks’ Wind Farm fund for the cost of a defibrillator. Cllr Ransome is supporting the bid for funding. The defibrillator will cost around £1100 and will be fitted to the wall of the Club/Village Hall.
11. Cllr Elliott reported that the new owners of Hickleton Hall are closing access to Bella Wood as they are removing trees and keeping people out to maintain safety. It is private property and has no official footpath. Cllr Wordsworth will put a note on the website and on Facebook.
12. An article will be included in the ‘Hickletone’ from the PC to ask residents to make contact if they are in need of any assistance, in view of the continuing pandemic.

**8 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 21 January 2021 at 8.15 pm.