

GUNTHWAITE AND INGBIRCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM ON MONDAY, 6th JULY 2020.

PRESENT:

Councillors Edmondson and Karle; Councillors elect Berry and Ogden; Sheila Weber (Barnsley Chronicle); one member of the public. Councillor Edmondson stated that he was also in attendance as acting parish clerk.

For procedural reasons previously discussed with Councillors Karle and Whitbread, Councillor Edmondson proposed and Councillor Karle seconded a motion to take item 4 on the agenda at this point.

ITEM 4: Appointment of new Parish Councillors.

There being two vacancies on the Council and two applications to join, no election was necessary. Having discussed the applications with Councillor Whitbread, Councillor Edmondson proposed and Councillor Karle seconded a motion to appoint David Berry and Pauline Ogden as members of the Council. The chairman duly welcomed Pauline and David as councillors for the rest of the meeting. Declaration of acceptance of office and declaration of interests forms to be provided for signing by the Parish Clerk.

It was agreed that the Parish Clerk writes to express the Council's gratitude to outgoing parish councillors Keith Batley and Graham Leeming.

RESOLUTION: It was resolved that Pauline Ogden and David Berry be appointed to the Parish Council for a period of four years from May 2020.

ITEM 1: Apologies.

Councillor Whitbread and the Parish Clerk indicated they would not be able to attend the meeting.

No declarations of interest were made by those councillors present.

ITEM 2: To receive nominations for Chairperson.

Councillor Edmondson explained that parish councillors remain in office for four years but chairs have to be nominated and appointed annually. Councillor Berry proposed and

Councillor Karle seconded a motion that Councillor Edmondson be appointed chair for the forthcoming council year. Councillor Edmondson expressed his thanks at being nominated.

RESOLUTION: It was resolved that Councillor Edmondson be appointed chairman of the Parish Council for one year from May 2020.

ITEM 3: To receive nominations for Vice-Chair.

The chairman stated that it is not obligatory for the Council to appoint a vice-chair but that it normally does. In order that new councillors can 'settle in', he proposed and Councillor Karle seconded a motion to defer the item until the next meeting. This was agreed.

ITEM 5: Minutes of the meeting dated 2nd March.

There being no amendments it was agreed the minutes be signed as a true record.

Matters arising:

Item 7: Councillor Berry asked if former Councillor Keith Batley will remain on the Crime and Safety Group. The chairman replied that continued representation would be by a current councillor but that this matter and other representation on outside bodies such as the Penistone Ward Alliance can wait until a future meeting.

Item 3: Councillor Edmondson reported that the survey of accessibility issues has been completed. Two recommendations have been taken up with Yorkshire Water. He will now send the recommendations to Barnsley Council for consideration as possible schemes in future highway programmes. He reported that Yorkshire Water have already actioned the request to widen the Ingbirchworth Reservoir gateway at Horne Lane in order to facilitate the passage of wheelchairs. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk write to thank YW.

Item 4b: Following a resident's discussion with the chairman, it was agreed to recommence production of a parish council newsletter but in on-line form only.

Item 10: Councillor Ogden referred to roadside work undertaken on the downhill stretch of Annat Royd Lane. Councillor Karle added that ditch work to improve drainage of the road has caused damage to adjacent field walls, Borough Councillor Hannah Kitching taking up this matter with Barnsley Highways.

Item 6: Approval of Accounts.

The chairman on behalf of the Parish Clerk presented the Parish Council accounts for financial year 2019/2020, namely its income and expenditure accounts and the clerk's accounting statement. Also presented for approval and signing was the Council's certificate of exemption from external audit under Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015.

Councillor Berry drew attention to two errors that work through the submitted papers. Councillors expressed concern that, while relatively minor, errors have occurred at both the preparation and the internal audit stages. Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Edmondson and seconded by Councillor Berry that, subject to correction, the accounts be approved.

RESOLUTION: Subject to correction of identified errors and a report back to the next meeting, the Parish Council accounts and certificate of exemption for 2019/2020 be approved and signed by the chairman and parish clerk.

ITEM 7: To agree and sign outstanding checks.

The following cheque payments were authorised:

<i>No</i>	<i>Recipient</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Amount</i>
574	J. Methley	Salary Jan - June 2020 inclusive	£857.52
575	J. Methley	Broadband	£60.00
576	J. Methley	Postage	£27.60
577	D. A. Edmondson	Chairman's allowance same period	£26.00
578	Y.L.C.A.	Membership fee 2020/2021	£298.00
579	Zurich Municipal	Insurance premium	£497.15
580	W. Horsfall	Internal audit	£25.00

In regard to the above payments, Councillor Berry asked if the insurance premium has increased. The chairman replied that the present insurance policy is for three years at a fixed cost, though some increase can occur if new items are added. He stated that the premium covers expensive items in Parish Council ownership and the Council's public liability risk. Councillor Karle asked if the Yorkshire Local Councils Association fee represents good value. The chairman replied that the Parish Clerk receives regular on-line updates and advice to ensure good governance. It was agreed that subsequent payments in respect of YLCA membership and internal audit be reviewed prior to the 2021 payments.

ITEM 8: To receive planning applications.

The chairman reported consultation by BMBC on three planning applications on which the Parish Council made no representations (2020/0223, 2020/0324 and 2020/0591) and on one (2020/0474) on which it has. A response on the latter, application to demolish the Fountain public house and redevelop the site for 13 dwellings, was submitted on 28th June 2020. It calls on the Planning Authority, if it were to approve the application, to grant permission subject to a Section 106 Agreement or Community Levy requiring a developer contribution towards alleviating the local lack of shops and services.

* No matters being raised under Item 9, Urgent Business, the meeting was closed. Date of next meeting to be confirmed.