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**SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on ZOOM
on Wednesday February 24, 2021, at 6.30pm**

Couns. Bev Bingham (Chairman)
Lee Smith, Lesley Churm Simon McLoughlan Heather Miller

The clerk Mike Elliott and Coun.D Simms, Rushcliffe Borough Council member. was in attendance.

1] APOLOGIES There were none

2] DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were none

3] MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 2 2020 were accepted as circulated and would be signed by the chairman when appropriate.

4] CLERK’S REPORT

 The clerk told of an action in another village where a publication on people’s thoughts on the virus and how it has affected them in the village during the pandemic was being put together. Interest in that idea was being very well supported. The chairman said she would include an item in the next village newsletter to see if there would be support from Shelford residents for such an idea.

Website: The clerk said he had been informed by a resident that we should not be using lines of all capital letters which for some people with poor eyesight are difficult to read. He will remove them gradually so that the site falls in line with regulations.

 Nottingham County Council are asking if the parish has any flooding problems.and it was felt it did not have any serious problem.

5] REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER

 The Rushcliffe Borough Council member apologised for not having attended a meeting regularly -- his previous attendance had been several months ago. He spoke on various subjects including the position involving a new school at Newton. He said the Borough council were calling for this while Notts County Council were saying there were insufficient children in Newton to warrant one. He spoke on the new Leisure Centre being provided by Rushcliffe at Bingham and said it was planned to be ready in 2022.

 Notts County Council member Coun. Kay Cutts emailed a report saying her authority will be presenting its annual budget on Thursday 25 February. Council Tax is due to rise by 1.99%, and we shall only be taking 1% for adult social care with the extra 2% taken in successive years.

“I visited Shelford during the recent flooding, and I was very sorry to see the amount of standing water both on the A606 and Shelford Road which must have been extremely difficult for everyone in the village. I hope that everyone who required sandbags received them. I was further disgusted to see the amount of litter that had been carried downstream by the Trent and deposited in the osier beds. Litter is now a serious national problem which will have to be addressed nationally.

“We had probably the worst winter weather for several years at the beginning of February, and Nottinghamshire County Council carried out salt and gritting to routes - sometimes several times a day if the weather demanded it. Unfortunately, flooded roads and spreading salt and grit during frosty weather plays having with the highways and we have £20million in next year's budget to deal with potholes.

“We learned today that schools are due to return on 8 March and the Prime Minister's announcement on finally getting the country out of lockdown permanently. Vaccinations have been carried out in Nottinghamshire, and all those who wanted it in the first cohorts have been vaccinated. Nottinghamshire is well on target after a slow start. I thanked the staff at the Gamston Community Centre, where vaccinations for Rushcliffe have been taking place, for their kindness and efficiency. Even during the cold weather, the queues outside were minimal which must be down to the efficiency of

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the staff. I have had reports from several people at their delight with the service and have been asked to pass on their comments to the NHS.”

6] PLANNING

 Rushcliffe Borough Council planning decisions

 20/03181/REM Adrian Kerrison, Holly Cottage and Lilac Cottage, Manor Lane. Application for matters reserved under application 19/00860/OUT for approval of landscaping for erection for two new dwellings. Approve.

 20/02622/ful. Stephen Fisher, Field Cottage, West Street. Construct first floor extension above existing garage. Replace first floor windows with French doors. Create first floor balcony. Grant

7] CORRESPONDENCE

 David Hancock wrote to advise of the Parochial Church Council bid to the Cultural Recovery Fund for help for the parish church for projects in the church and the churchyard. He hoped they would be told if their bid was successful by the end of March.

 Streetwise provided their safety inspection report on the play area which showed some action was needed to carry out improvements.

 Rushcliffe Borough Council were offering 3kilos of wild flower seeds free to parish council and the clerk was asked to apply for one. The seed would be given to the church for use in the churchyard. The clerk was asked to see if the limit was 3kilos or if an additional supply was available.

8] ENVIRONMENT

 Coun. Churm spoke of some flooding in her part of the village and asked if members were aware of any other instances. A few minor problems were commented on.

 9] VILLAGE HALL

 The clerk said as we were approaching the end of the financial year, the office needed to be aware of any hiring income money due or held in order the accounts could be completed. The chairman said there was a need to carryout external painting to fall in line with the lease they held with the Crown. There were other exterior items that needed attention as well.

The chairman outlined her report on the current work of the council. The chairman in her report said hopefully, after Monday’s announcements everyone is feeling a little more optimistic about the forthcoming year. In respect of our community, as at our last meeting, there isn’t too much to report as of course we have all been under the lockdown restrictions.

Village Hall: After speaking with Jayne it seems we need to have the exterior of the hall painted, I’m in the process of asking a couple of people for quotes so will report back when they have come in.

Enquiries for bookings are continuing so hopefully we will have some revenue once restrictions are lifted.

Playing Field: We have received the safety inspection for the playing field and generally we seem to be ok. There are a few maintenance issues, ie missing caps off bolts on some of the apparatus and a worn piece of wood on the picnic bench. Both benches need attention, I plan to ask Gordon Davies if he wants to carry out the necessary work as he usually does the ones around the village. Also, the path needs treating for moss again which we will get done in the next few weeks.

It was also raised that the gate signage, although adequate, could be more informative so we may need to purchase some new ones.

In respect of the continuing “clear out” of the trees, shrubs etc., we are making good progress and once all the debris is cleared it leaves a substantial area that has potential for a number of uses, the benefits of which ones will need to be discussed.

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Church and Church yard: I have received some information from David Hancock regarding plans to try and make the Church and Church yard a more accessible place for people to visit, to this end they are currently applying for some funding to help with work that can’t be undertaken by volunteers. As we have received an offer from Rushcliffe for free wildflower seeds I propose that we donate some of these to the Church, especially as we are very limited as to where we could use them ourselves, I hope you are in agreement with this.

Police and Crime figures: As we are still unable to attend the usual quarterly meetings Bob Clarke has been doing a really good job of keeping everyone in touch via emails and updates along with PCSO Dave Wesson who sends the crime figures. Fortunately here in Shelford we still seem to have a low rate of crime, our main issues are the ongoing gatherings of youths down Stoke Ferry Lane and the frequent racing of cars around the village. I have raised this with the group and patrols of the area are being maintained, although no one has, as yet, been caught. I can only reiterate the need for anyone who sees any incidents to ring 101 and report it.

10] DELEGATION OF POWERS TO CHAIRMAN, VICE CHAIRMAN AND CLERK

Currently the Government were stipulating that Zoom meetings must end after May 6, meaning face to face meetings will then be necessary. NALC, the Local Government Association and the Society of Local Council Clerks are all stating they do not support the change back as early as May,

The clerk said he had written to Rushcliffe MP Ruth Edwards asking for her to support the move to ensure zoom meetings continue after May and has also written to Robert Jennrick, M P for Newark, the Housing Communities and Local Government Minister on the same lines.

A suggestion to ensure the work of the parish council is not held up, it was agreed the chairman, vice chairman and clerk be given emergency executive powers to make decisions on items such as planning, etc after consultation with members on any contentious items if there were to be lengthy delays between meetings. The annual meeting of the parish council would be held on May 4 and be limited to a maximum of 30 minutes to allow the clerk to organise other meetings where he is clerk and which are needed to be held before the Zoomban comes into operation

10] FINANCE

 a] Accounts to pay were approved as per the circulated list.

The clerk was to make an approach to Coun. Simms to ask for a grant from his community fund after he said he had £300 available but which had to be to be used before the end of the current financial year.

11] NEXT MEETING DATE Thursday April 8, 2021

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7-40pm.