**Backford Parish Council Minutes**

**Tuesday 9th November 2021**

**Five Villages Hall**

**Backford**

**In Attendance**

Councillor Mike Cheers

Councillor Andrew Harkness

Councillor Clive Morgan

Councillor Ade Deary

Councillor Dave Ruscoe

Councillor Mark Littler

Mike Stapleton chambers – member of the public

Alektra Stapleton chambers – member of the public

**Apologies**

Borough Councillor Simon Eardley

**Declarations of interest**

Mark Littler, David Ruscoe and Mike Cheers in B4RN as potential for it to be across some of the land.

MC declared ML and AH DR in HYNET

**PART 1**

Mike Stapleton Chambers and Alektra Stapleton Chambers present and highlighted the issues related to the field along Poplar Lane which have been the subject of concern for some time and is currently with CWAC for investigation. MST also has spoken to planning with regards to The Rake Hall which is still awaiting planning permission – planning now available for this.

Poplar hall farm field dogs are still going into the adjacent fields and MST owns land which surrounds the field in question. Livestock around this area runs into thousands of pounds and the Bridle path gets used a lot. Concerned about horse riders single lane traffic and dogs could get out of the field onto the road. This is not a safe environment for animals owned by persons who have entrusted their dogs to the owner.

Michelle Hewitt is the lead officer for the planning. AD asked if there is an increase in the number of cars going down that lane which there are. MST is also concerned about the nature of a 24 hour facility. Insurance was not available and when it was sent it was pre dated. ASC is a Dog Handler and for security and provides dogs to the Police. Therefore has a long history of working with dogs. Hedges have now been depleted. ASC has had to put electric fence up now. MST said that he has been a chairman of a parish council in Sefton and asked about the response we would be able to give. MC stated that all that is wthin the Parish Councils power is to ensure that local landowners follow the rules of the law and highlight non-compliance with the local council. AST said that there was a request to just make good the fencing.

MSC stated that he had copied the ombudsman in to issues relating to planning enforcement and out of date issues raised with them.

AD explained the rules re timescales for enforcement. DR concurred and explained further.

ML explained the 60 day rule to put in application. MC agreed to keep both updated on progress.

**40/21 Minutes of previous meeting**

All agreed that these are a true record with amendments discussed

**Matters arising from May 2021 minutes**

None

**41/21 Village Hall Update**

As highlighted during the meeting all agreed that there is a significant in the village hall and it is understood that the Trustees are looking into this. The Parish Council wishes to congratulate all who have worked together on this project and note the hard endeavour and the length of time it has take to achieve such a brilliant goal (20years).

DR asked if there is any of the contingency left and if so would it be going back to the contributors as if there was any this should be fed back to the contributors – MC said that this had been completely exhausted.

**42/21 Planning**

19/02424 DJ reported back on Stephen Holmes enforcement issues related to the land off Whitby road (xmas tree area), that being that they are aware and monitoring the situation.

AD highlighted that there had been no planning consent for the entrance to the south of the site. And the considerable additional outdoor space which has recently been put down to hard core. Councillors asked could DJ write to the council and ask if planning can be passed from one area of land to another as this land is adjacent to land permitted for development some time back. If this is not their policy could we receive an apology as it is the requirement of the council to inform parish councils of changes.

DR said that permitted development could be applied for every 4 years. Enforcement to be asked about the access shared with the neighbours land.

08/02338 all agreed that the condition 2 should remain until a bat non existance survey is received. Councillors agreed to further look at this application on line other wise no objection.

**Action DJ**

21/03593 – taking some time to agree planning on this – letter of support to be sent to planning and chase up why there is such a lengthy delay.

**Action DJ**

AD reported that the land/stables now called Pretty Bridge Lodge are now running this as a business as advertised on Facebook.

**Action DJ Completed**

**43/21 Reports of Reps**

Consolidated Charities – ML trying to contact Lea representative DJ to inform them to contact him.

**Action DJ**

War memorial – MC reported that there is a meeting this week to discuss. Mr Stagg unwell and the next meeting needs to be decisive on who is in charge of this account. Also needs to be charity re-instated.

Other Ruralissues - MC highlighted the report from Borough Councillor Simon Eardlley re Hynet the group discussed the ilications of this.

DJ explained that Mollington PC had had requested a discussion re a shared Speed Camera (roger jones). Previous experience expressed by AH just cutting the hedge at Church Lane and was accosted on the road side by a cyclist.

Anito Dodd was keen for this but others were not so happy as this is essentially a policing role. AD would prefer a smiley face. Speeds are too high within the village. Not sure if the speed gun would be sufficient.

**DJ to look at costings for a Smiley Face sign**

**44/21 Finance**

Bank balance – £4807.99 current

Reserve £1512.23

Payment to DJ – pay - £208.80

Zoom - £71.94

Wreath - £20

Litter picking – DJ to source training and the risk assessment. DJ to advertise 10 hours per month at £9.81 per hour.

**DJ to advertise**

**45/21 E mail**

DJ agreed to check old e mail once weekly

**46/21 Police Report**

All are grateful for the report provided by PCSO Tony Icke and happy with the contents.

**47/21 Highways**

Road surfaces are a real concern around all of the Lanes within the village area with evidence of significant pot holes. Simon Eardley to be informed and some of the grids are blocked outside Rock Bank and A41.

**Action S**E

**48/21 Newsletter**

Thankyou to those residents who helped with the fireworks. There were no specific concerns this year and the influence of the mail drop was well received.

**49/21 Neighbourhood Plan**

Queens celebrations – carry forward to next meeting

**AOB**

Ask Mr Icke to the meeting

**Next meeting**

**Tuesday 11th January 2021**

**Action DJ**

**AOB**

Nil of note

**Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**Tuesday 11th Jan 7.45p.m. at Five Villages Hall.**