

Harborough Magna Parish Council

Virtual Meeting of the Parish Council 11 January 2021

ONLINE

Cllr Toby France (TF)
Cllr Paul Skidmore (PS)
Cllr Harriet Hart (HH)

Cllr Tony Gillias – online until end of item 11.

In attendance:

Clerk: Leona Bendall

1.11.1.21	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Cllr Toby France welcomed all to meeting and in particular Harriet Hart whose co-option to the parish council was unanimously agreed by the four existing councillors.- Cllr Toby France was unanimously elected chairman of the council and the nominations for a vice chair would be taken at the next meeting.	
2.11.1.21	Apologies for absence <p>Cllr Clarke sent his apologies and Cllr Skidmore apologised for being late.</p>	
3.11.1.21	Declarations of Interest <p>None made, although TF confirmed that he has no interest in the planning application to be discussed under item 11.</p>	
4.11.1.21	Update from County Councillors <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Cllr Tony Gillias gave an update on Borough issues<ul style="list-style-type: none">o The Community Grant level has been agreed at £63,000 but this money may be prioritised to help communities struggling with Covid related issues.o New asymptomatic centre for Covid has been set up in Edward Street in the Indian Centre – it is open for bookings on the RBC website as is another centre in the Town centre.o A big increase in the number of fly-tipping incidents is causing concern but all incidents should be reported.o The Planning Enforcement Team are now dealing with 311 cases which is a big increase on last year.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ TF raised the high incidents of Covid in the Revel and Binley Wood ward and asked if there were anything specific behind this. Cllr Gillias said there is nothing untoward but we are a very small ward and even a few number of cases can skew the statistics – but he repeated the government advice for people to stay home. ○ Vaccinations are now underway in the Borough and some over 80s are being invited to a new hub in Birmingham. 	
5.11.1.21	Suspension of standing orders to allow parishioners of Harborough Magna to address the meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No matters were raised 	
6.11.1.21	Standing orders were resumed	
7.11.1.21	Approval of minutes and financial papers from last meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The minutes and financial papers from 30 November 2020 were taken as read and approved and will be signed by TF after the meeting. 	
8.11.1.21	Matters arising from the minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There were no matters arising from the minutes 	
9.11.1.21	New Village Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nothing new to report 	
10.11.1.21	Parish Plan – Village Hall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cllr Skidmore reported that the new village hall still cannot be used because of Covid. He also reminded the meeting that the Trust is urgently seeking a volunteer book-keeper/treasurer and while a volunteer from the village would be ideal any volunteer would welcome. 	
11.11.1.21	RBC/WCC Fosse Community Forum and Walc update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nothing new to report – Clerk continues to send the online notifications to all councillors and will provide sign on details to Cllr Hart and Cllr Skidmore to enable them to access the WALC website which has very good information on legal issues, best practice and training opportunities. 	Clerk

12.11.1.21	Planning applications and appeals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The meeting discussed the re-consultation on the planning application for the new HGV service station, with shops, cafes and a nursery, on the Monks Kirby side of the A5. The clerk had previously circulated an update to the last response. It was agreed that after the inclusion of a greater emphasis on continuing issue with Montilo Lane traffic levels, this should be submitted. 	Clerk
13.11.1.21	Neighbourhood Watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PS said he had nothing new to report but would make direct contact with our CSPO to ensure good communications continue. 	PS
14.11.1.21	Financial and Governance issues <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The cashbook and bank reconciliation to the end of December were reviewed and accepted. The new three year spending budget was reviewed and accepted - but income will be amended to reflect the precept decision. <p>The meeting reviewed the draft precept paper prepared by the clerk and noted that the tax base had fallen this year so if the Council decided to keep the precept at the current level its income would fall. Three further options were discussed and the meeting felt that it was prudent to increase the precept to £58.44p a year – an increase for each Band D property of £5.31 a year or 44p a month. The clerk pointed out that for smaller properties the precept would be less while larger properties would pay more. The clerk also pointed out that reserves were healthy at circa £9000 [which included ear marked sums for a contested election, new printer, new battery for the difibrillator and/or replacement of lamp posts] so that in the event of an unforeseen incident the council had some financial capacity. The increase was proposed by Cllr France and seconded by Cllr Skidmore – there were no objections.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> No cheques/invoices were presented for payment. Governance framework – work will continue on policies and procedures for approval at the February meeting. The clerk confirmed that all documents were backed up each month. 	Clerk
15.11.1.21	Correspondence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None received. 	

