

Minutes of Monyash Parish Council March 7th, 2022

Present: J Scoggins (chair), S Mudford, J White, P Riley,

Acting clerk L Fitton

Absent G Elliot, A Woolley

1) see above

2) Declaration of interest – see points below

3) Not applicable

4) some errors have been noted in Feb minutes, JS taken away to correct and when approved will be re posted on web site

5) nothing noted

6) Items not discussed elsewhere

- It was agreed that the mowing contract and the toilet cleaning would be put out to tender but whilst the quotes are coming back the PC approved the current contractors to continue until end May
- Rubbish near donation bins to be carried forward
- The PC did not agree to acting as nominated name on school raffle tickets

7) NP/DDD/0222/0155 single story extension at 3 The orchard, representatives for the planning application were present and answered any questions. The PC approved and supported the plan

8) Replacement of clerk.

Unfortunately, clerk appointed from 01/01/2022 resigned on 28th February 2022. LF agreed to be acting clerk (pro bono) until 4th April. If a new clerk has not been appointed by this time, then a locum clerk will need to be appointed. As acting clerk than the following activities will be conducted.

- Payment of invoices
- Preparation of March minutes and April agenda
- Perform VAT return
- Apply for minor footpaths grant
- Payment of donation box cash into bank
- Monitoring of email account
- Reply to planning applications

An advertisement has been posted with a closing date of 3rd April. An interested party has come forward and asked if it could be considered as a job share. JS to follow up with DALC.

9) Toilets. The toilets will be reopened in time for Easter, JS to contact cleaner to ensure they are cleaned before then. The ongoing discussion re the management and leasing of the toilets will be followed up with Natural England.

10) Environmental matters.

- Cut back of trees at Fere Mere is in discussion with TPO and as such ongoing as part of the 3-to-5-year plan for trees in the local environment
- The sycamore tree crown can now be lifted as the kingfisher has moved on
- The litter bin outside Turners Lane is to be moved to next to the current dog waste bin on Naylor Lane
- The council have been contacted re the emptying of dog waste bins and no new ones can be added so the PC will discuss with them removing of other bins to ensure the one on Blackwell Lane is emptied.
- An electric car charging point at Jack Mere is not financially viable at this point in time (remove this item from future agendas)

11) Filming at the mere. The contract can now be agreed, and a payment of £200 / day is to be agreed with payments to be made at least every 6 months to the Parish council. JW to contact filming company.

12) Traffic speeding

- Parking on verges. This has become a grey area as recent legislation now prohibits parking all or part of a vehicle on a pathway the area between the pavement and a property boundary is less clear. The PC will try and get further clarification although the PC accepts it would be difficult to enforce.
- Moving of the signs on Tagg Lane needs to be done via the Highways agency, carried forward to the next meeting.
- Highway's agency also to be contacted via the installation of a road narrowing sign
- Parking outside swallow barn. The PC have looked at getting a mirror installed to help with the speeding / dangerous driving in this area but unless approved by the Dept of transport would leave the PC open to litigation if an accident were to occur and currently the issue does not meet the guidelines for intervention from the Department of transport for the installation of an approved proximity mirror. It is therefore regretful that the PC have deemed no further action can be taken at this point in time. As the money for the mirror was a grant the PC will evaluate and gain approval for using the money for other options including a picnic bench at the toilet area.

13) Bank statement review carried forward

14) payment of invoices approved by the PC

- £283.34 for clerk for February (wages plus expenses)
- £101.25 for hire of village hall
- £218.61 for DALC membership and training package
- £78.08 water rates for toilets (2 months)
- £694 for mowing round the mere (JS declared conflict of interest)
- £677 annual for maintenance of village green (JS declared conflict of interest)
- £430 for minor footpath maintenance (to be claimed back) (JS declared conflict of interest)

Income

- £138.57 from donation boxes

15) Date of next meeting 4th April

Meeting closed at 20.40