Minutes of Gillingham Parish Council Meeting September 2021

Parish Ten - parishioners slot. 16 members of the public attended the meeting. The clerk confirmed a petition of 90 signatures has been sent with the Planning Consultation comments detailing reasons why the inclusion of more houses off The Street should be rejected.

The chairman agreed that, initially, the information regarding the consultation had not been as widely shared in a timely manner as it should have been. Discussion around how this could be avoided in the future resulted in a suggestion that an email group should be set up and managed by the clerk, so that information could be disseminated to several points to help the distribution of information and the attendance on any webinars that the councillors could not attend (the councillors who did use the internet were generally working) but felt there should be representation. Anybody wanting to be on the group should send their email details to the clerk. There was also concern that the district councillor representing Gillingham was not supporting the residents views. The clerk was asked to contact him and ask him to attend the next meeting so they could reinforce their views on the issue.

Apologies – Cllr Brown, County Cllr Barry Stone & Dist Cllr James Knight.

Minutes of Last Meeting - Approved by the parish council and signed by the Chair person.

Declaration of Interests – none.

Village Matters

The willows behind the Swan PH on the playground are becoming a safety concern, the Swan has asked if they can be attended to and will consider a contribution to the cost. Quotes being obtained.

The clerk has written to the owner of the field with the overgrown hedge, opposite no 18 Kings Dam. A request has also been made to the landowner of the hedge next to the village hall to be cut.

Now the bird nesting season is over, would residents please check and cut where necessary any hedges that are overhanging paths and roads.

Insurance claim for bus shelter being submitted.

SNC have been reminded about the location of dog bins – anyone who feels one is being missed completely, please let the clerk know.

Correspondence

Email received regarding state of the church yard and N Meade response (Romanian Orthodox church) – the graveyard is being cut, but some of it is being left to encourage the wildflowers.

Email regarding protected trees, tree warden investigating

Planning Matters

The clerk said that after comments received about the new road markings at McDonald's roundabout that at the very least a 'new road layout' sign should be requested. Cllr Warman said he felt that the road should be returned to its previous layout as that worked perfectly well and the new layout was just confusing everyone and causing road users to get angry. Clerk to contact Highways for comment.

Finance

Clerks Expenses (new Laptop) - £639.00 Norwich Glass Co - £328.42 Donations: Village Hall - £300.00 Romanian Church - £250.00 Clinks Farm playground maintenance - £240.23

Any Other Business

2021 Litter Pick will be held on 16th October. Starting off from no. xx Kings Dam at 11.00am for collection of equipment. Please see posters on the village notice boards for details.

Wasps near the toddlers swings on the playground are being dealt with.

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