

MINUTES OF GILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL MONTHLY MEETING **DECEMBER 2020**

A Meeting of Gillingham Parish Council was held at the village hall on Wednesday, 2nd December, 2020, at 7:30pm.

Parish Ten - parishioners slot. The meeting was held via Zoom, one member of the public joined the meeting. No issues received.

Apologies – Councillors Mrs Thrower, Mrs Foreman, Mrs Brown, Dist Cllr James Knight and County Councillor Margaret Stone.

Minutes of Last Meeting – Minute's approved by the council, signed by Cllr Massingham.

Declaration of Interests - none

Village Matters

Kings Dam will be closed during day on the 17th December.

Church Road is again having problems with parked cars and litter. Clerk to contact the police. This is a restricted road and is Access only. Also contact McDonald's to ensure they are visiting Church Road to collect litter.

Cllr Massingham said he had removed some litter last week. The councillor's commented on the amount of McDonald's litter on Gillingham Dam. The clerk said she would ask our local litter collector if he could walk the path side and collect litter.

The chairman said that the demolished signs on the bypass had been removed but had not so far been replaced.

Correspondence

Invitation to a Q and A Session with the Police and Crime Commissioner and The Chief Constable Tuesday 15th December.

4th – 15th January Bascule bridge will be shut over night

East Anglia 2 Offshore Windfarm – updates on website

Planning Matters

None

Finance

South Norfolk Council – Annual Dog Bin Maintenance - £656.40

R Massingham – 1st repayment on Loan - £500.00

Norfolk ALC – Budget training course for clerk - £36.00

Precept for 2021/2022 - the parish council discussed the budget and unanimously agreed to increase the Precept to £8500.00 for the financial year 2021-2022. This is because the Internal Auditor reported that the council did not have enough money for any unforeseen issues that might arise. If the council were to have to pay for an election there would be insufficient funds to cover the cost.

Any Other Business

The Octogenarians Christmas list is now believed to be complete for this year and the clerk will deliver the gift during the 2nd or 3rd week in December.

The clerk requested that the council give consideration to the purchase of a new notice board. The current board is often too small to take the required amount of notices. It is currently situated inside the bus stop at the village hall. The clerk said that this is not sufficiently visible and that it has come under attack from vandals who have tried to set fire to it, super glued the locks and poured liquid over it. It is also difficult to access if people are standing in it.

Ideas for spending the CIL money the council has received were requested. Cllr Warman has put forward an idea of putting in a proper path leading onto Kings Dam, down the side of the houses

opposite Falgate Terrace. There is a short muddy track that pedestrians use to avoid the blind bend opposite the playground/allotment entrance, which also floods in times of a lot of rain. The clerk will find out if this is feasible.

A member of the public has put forward the idea of Pinch Points at either end of Gillingham Dam to slow traffic coming onto the Dam near the bridge and entering the village at the Swan public house end. Clerk will look into the feasibility and cost of this.

Another idea which has been suggested previously, is to put flashing lights for the benefit of the school, near The Boundaries. Clerk to investigate cost, etc.

Date of Next Meeting: Please note that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday 3rd February, 2021 at 7.30pm. The parish council are hoping to resume public meetings in the village hall. Please check the website or with one of the councillors to confirm this.

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