

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bitteswell with Bittesby Parish Council
Held virtually via Zoom on Thursday 14th January 2021 at 7.00pm**

Present: Cllr Margaret Foster (Chair), Cllr John Allsopp, and Cllr Nigel Chapman
Clerk Cathy Walsh, Cllr Rosita Page and 2 member(s) of the public.

1. To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Flint.

The Parish Council is delighted to hear Cllr Flint is on the road to recovery following his recent accident and wish him all the very best for his recuperation.

2. To receive Member's declarations of Interests

None.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19.11.20 and 08.12.20

Resolved: The minutes were approved as a true record of proceedings.

**4. To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 17.09.20
St Mary's Primary School improvements**

Work to improve accessibility at the school is completed. Premises Officer and Tree Warden, Mark Osborne ensured the work was carried out without compromising any tree roots.

Lutterworth Area Community Projects Fund

The Council submitted an application for funding towards replacing the bus shelter on Ashby Lane. Applications will be considered by mid-January.

Neighbourhood Plan Grant Funding

The Council will maintain regular checks with YourLocale to ensure that financial matters relating to the Neighbourhood Plan cost are adequately dealt with.

5. To note any comments or matters from residents

None.

6. To note any matters raised by the District/County Councillor

Leicestershire County Council's (LCC) latest four-year proposals show the difference between income and expenditure will reach £92m in 2025 meaning that significant savings will be required.

Cllr Page provided an update on coronavirus in the Harborough district.

Cllr Page left the meeting.

7. Financial Matters

7.1. Accounts for payment

Resolved: To approve.

Cheque No.	Payee	Description	Totals
265	YourLocale	Evidence gathering, policy writing, site assessments	£7,200.00
266	Citizens Advice LeicesterShire	Grant funding donation	£50.00
267	HMRC - 120PT00292871	PAYE for Q3	£71.40
268	Royal British Legion	Donation in lieu of wreath	£40.00
269	Helen Denton -Stacey	Neighbourhood Plan hours and expenses	£169.84
270	Cathy Walsh	Expenses (inc Zoom licence)	£141.69
271	LRALC Limited	Virtual Climate Emergency Action Day	£22.00
272	Helen Denton -Stacey	Neighbourhood Plan hours and expenses	£71.83
273	Cathy Walsh	Expenses (inc Zoom licence)	£41.83
Total			£7,808.59

7.2. Bank Reconciliation to 09.01.2021

Resolved: To approve.

Opening Balance	1-Apr-20	£21,139.78
Receipts to	9-Jan-21	£33,766.82
Payments to	9-Jan-21	-£20,485.36
Closing Balance	9-Jan-21	£34,421.24

The balance carried forward is represented by these funds

Current Account	£11,844.84
Business Reserve account	£22,780.06
Add income received but not yet cleared	£0.00
Less payments made but not yet presented	-£203.66
Bank Reconciliation to	9-Jan-21
	£34,421.24

7.3. Receipts & Payments Summary to 09.01.2021

Resolved: To approve.

7.4. Clerk's Claim for Expenses

Noted.

7.5. Neighbourhood Plan Expenditure

Noted.

7.6. Neighbourhood Plan Clerk's Claim for Expenses

Noted.

7.7. To approve the Budget and Precept for 2021-2022

It was **resolved** to approve a precept requirement of **£22,445** and advise Harborough District Council accordingly. This represented an annual increase of 7.9% or £6.80 in Council Tax for a band D property.

Approved & Signed:

7.8. To approve the Budget Statement for 2021-2022

Resolved: To approve the Budget Statement.

8. To nominate a trustee to fill the current United Charities Bitteswell vacancy

Resolved: To appoint Charlotte Cowie as the Parish Council's representative.

9. Planning Matters**9.1. To note any planning matters – new and unresolved applications****9.1.1. 20/02067/NMA | (proposed non-material amendment to 20/00172/FUL) | Bittesby Farm, Mere Lane, Bittesby**

Resolved: To make no comment.

9.1.2. 20/02075/OUT | Outline application for biomethane refuelling station | Land East of Bittesby Way, Magna Park

Resolved: To make no comment.

9.2. To note/discuss any enforcement cases

None.

9.3. Other Planning Matters**20/01846/FUL | Newstead House, The Green, Bitteswell**

Leicestershire County Council Highways response to the planning consultation does not support a speed table and requests the applicant submits a revised proposal, considering alternative measures. The Parish Council is considering responding to LCC's observations.

9.4. To provide an update on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) and Regulation 14 consultation period

The Regulation 14 Consultation on Bitteswell with Bittesby Draft Neighbourhood Plan has been delayed while the Council respond to a query that has been raised. It is anticipated that the public consultation period will commence in February. The Council will advertise the consultation in the village newsletter and on its website. Hard copies of the document will be available if required.

10. Any Other Business**Handrail over the cobbles**

A quote to install the handrail is being prepared by GS Pearson Builders.

Policy on Tree Felling

The Council expressed its concerns that large numbers of trees are felled in the village and considered whether to produce a local policy on this in the future.

Neighbourhood Plan

The Limits to Development map in the pre-submission draft is not clear and needs enlarging.

Lutterworth Road Footpath

The Council once again noted its dissatisfaction with the condition of the footpath.

Inadequate drainage and fallen leaves from overhanging trees block the drain covers and fall onto the path which makes the path very slippery and difficult to walk on.

Ashby Lane – Highway Verges

The Council has noted that a number of rocks and wooden posts have been placed on various sections of verges along Ashby Lane, possibly to prevent parking. These cause an obstruction and hinder the verges intended use. It is an offence to place unlawful items on a public highway. The Highways Act 1980 sets out the power and duties of local councils. With this in mind the Parish Council agreed to report the issue to Leicestershire County Council and Cllr Chapman agreed to write an article for publication in the newsletter.

11. To receive an update on The White Cottage

The Parish Council will seek guidance from Leicestershire County Council Solicitors on how to move things forward.

Action: Item carried forward to the next meeting.

12. To confirm the date of the next meeting

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 18th March 2021 at 7pm.

The meeting was closed at 7.41pm.