



**Minutes from the ZOOM MEETING OF
SOPLEY PARISH COUNCIL
21st January 2021 at 7.30pm.**

1. Apologies were received from Chair Julia Emmel.

In attendance: Cllr Brake, Cllr Rawstron, Cllr Eccles, Cllr Ludford, Cllr Shutler, Cllr Allen, Cllr Shutler, Cllr Hacker. Guest was Lord Willie Manners and Lizzie Shutler briefly. Clerk Katie Hughes was also present.

2. Notes from meeting held on 17th December 2020. **All Council members approved and there were no matters arising.**

3. CURRENT ISSUES & FORWARD PLANNING:

Cllr Shutler reported on the Village gateway and unfortunately the gates he had thought would be suitable will not be and has sourced some more that will be painted and installed shortly and raised higher than the signs already in place. (Cllr Shutler)

The Clerk confirmed the No Cycling signs have been ordered and will be delivered in approximately two weeks. 20 for Sopley/Ripley and 5 for Heatherstone Grange. (Clerk)

Vernon Dene Willie Manners reported on the site at Ripley his comments were that planning will be needed especially for the sewage. NFDC planning have received objections. Also the out of character walls are low enough not to need planning. It was decided also with the current/ongoing flooding issues in Derritt Lane that everyone should send any photographs to the clerk to compile a report and send to NFDC to confirm the problems with sewage/ditches before they can add their development to the situation.

Lizzie Shutler joined the meeting briefly the situation was felt to be of immediate priority, consideration was given as to which budget source could be drawn upon with speed, in order to be able to make a full commitment during the meeting.

The Clerk had recently received a fund of approx £587 for Covid Emergency use. However, whilst this could have been readily available, it would only fund a total of 2 Chromebooks.

The Allotments for the Labouring Poor Fund, containing £5,500 was identified as a possible alternative. However, the Parish Council had previously agreed an

intention for this fund to be put forward to the Charities Commission for approval, for use at Heatherstone Grange as a Community Rural Project.

Cllr Hacker, felt confident that Heatherstone Grange would understand the priority need and would approve of the funding being diverted. It was noted that a commitment still remained from Sopley Parish Council to achieve further funding for the Heatherstone Grange project going forward. (Cllr Hacker)

Sopley School is currently closed and that approximately 10 children are without laptops and accessibility for online learning. Clerk was asked to contact Lynn Solly and find out exact numbers and prices roughly £250 per laptop/licenses. Clerk was also asked to contact Charity Commission for the Allotments for Labouring Poor to see if this money can be used with some urgency under the current Covid crisis.

It was agreed if the money from the Allotments for the Labouring poor is available that the Council would approve 10 chrome books and licences. **All council members agreed, and this was approved in principal.**

Cllr Ludford was asked to source people who are currently recycling unused equipment to wipe clean and make available. (Cllr Ludford).

Cllr Allen said he will contact Bransgore Parish Council to see what they are doing to help the children at Bransgore School. Edwin or Lexi as they are in the middle of transferring the Clerk role in Bransgore. (Cllr Allen).

Clerk was asked to find out about the need for a Council representative for the Governing body at Burley/Sopley schools. (Clerk)

4. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT:

Current Account		£ 31780.25
Deposit account		£0.21
Allotments account		£5514.38
Parish Hall Account		£1055.96
Lengthsman Scheme	Total:	£38350.80
		£1283.90

The clerk confirmed she is still chasing Parish Maintenance Contractors as an ongoing matter and will give an update in February 2021. (Clerk)

5. Planning update:

19/01/2021			
App No	Address	Application	Current Status

20/11325	Old Blacksmiths Shop, London Lane, Avon	chimney rebuild	approved subject to conditi
20/11323	Fernhills, Ringwood Road, Sopley	Two storey rear extention	Submitted to NFDC
20/11361	Land adjacent to Hill View Ringwood Road Sopley	3 bed bungalow	Submitted to NFDC
20/11472	The change of use of x2 agricultural barns to commercial units - B1 Light Industrial Avon Tyrrell Farms	Full planning permissio	Awaiting Cllr Comments

6. It was approved the temporary standing as Chair of Cllr Rawstron and Vice Chair Cllr Brake and Chair Cllr Emmel standing down as Chairman for the time being but staying on Sopley Parish Council as a member. **All Council members approved this motion with regard to the current Chair stepping down due to Covid work responsibilities.**

7. BURIAL BOARD REPORT: (Clerk) Bessie Walker imminent interment in the next two weeks. (Clerk)

8. PARISH HALL COMMITTEE REPORT (Cllr. Eccles):

It was confirmed that the Hall is still sat on a healthy bank balance and is currently closed until further notice. Two grants have been received to help with closure costs. (Clerk) This item was not discussed online due to technical problems with Zoom but this information was shared to all Council Members on the Agenda.

9. HEATHERSTONE GRANGE UPDATE (Cllr. Hacker).

Again due to technical problems with the Zoom application this was not discussed but will be raised again at the February Action meeting.

10. PARISH FOOTPATHS & RIGHTS OF WAY ISSUES: (Cllr. Shutler).

The council agreed that an order of 4 additional kissing gates should be made and these should be fitted as soon as possible. The council will reassess the need for the purchase of any further kissing gates at a later date. Cllr Shutler to advise the clerk regarding when they will be replaced. Gates cost will be £310.00 and £90 to fit each one. (Cllr Shutler).

It was agreed by all Council members that the kissing gates need to be replaced/repared and the cost of a new kissing gate would be £310 and £90 to install. Cllr Shutler to advise the clerk regarding how many and when they will be replaced. (Cllr Shutler)

11. HIGHWAYS & TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ISSUES:

All ongoing and going to be addressed in a healthier climate. (Cllr Rawstron/Brake)

Date of Next zoom meeting 18th February 2021 at 7.30

Action plan update meeting. Any other matters to be sent to the Clerk and added to the Agenda if necessary. This was agreed at this meeting and all Council members agreed the process.