

MINAL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Meeting Held on 10 January 2022
At 6.30pm in the Village Hall

Draft for approval on 14.3.22

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| <p>1. Present:
John Bevan - Chairman
Brian Devonshire – Vice Chairman
Rob Bailey – Vice Chairman
Anna Whitehead
Guy Gagen
Lucy Kirkpatrick
Adam Kebble</p> | <p>Apologies Accepted from:
Caroline Thomas, County
Councillor
In Attendance:
Sue Hine Clerk/RFO</p> |
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Declarations of Interest for Matters being discussed: None.

2. Questions from Members of the Public

None

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2021

The Clerk had sent out the minutes and these were approved.

- 4. Matters Arising** – These had been circulated and updated Action sheet accompanies these minutes. The main actions have been transferred to Agenda items.

5. Playground Works

Adam Kebble had circulated the quote from Hungerford Land Ltd for the works to the Cableway surface and replacement of the logs around the Mound. One option was to repair one side of the mound only and leave the south side to another year. Councillors approved the quote and the completion of all works this year. AK said that work would likely start in late February.

The Clerk had received the annual inspection and the underside of the roundabout (Spinning Dish) was again coming loose. This had only been fixed last year so the Clerk will get in touch with the contractor to fix this. AK said that the matting was also old and broken and he would order some extra when the cableway surface is repaired. LK said her husband Gareth would help lay it.

Action: AK and LK

There was some discussion about a new piece of children's equipment and the fact that the adult exercise equipment was little used. BD said that some of the funding was given because the playpark catered for all ages. It was agreed to promote this more widely in Minal News and AK will come up with ideas for a new piece of children's equipment.

Action: Clerk, RB and AK

6. Proposal for a new Filing Cabinet

This was approved by Councillors. The Clerk will also file copies of the Pump and Minal News and ensure none are missing. **Action: Clerk**

7. Aster Social Housing Issue

The Clerk and JB had been approached shortly before Christmas by the sister of one of the long-term residents of Berry Croft. He had been advised that as a single person he was being rehoused away from the area although he had been born in the village. It had long been thought that the land was gifted to Kennet District Council with a covenant that it was intended for local people. Aster housing now run the site and are prioritising each unit's suitability for those on their social housing lists. JB has researched this and it is highly unlikely that such a covenant exists. The land was previously owned by the Gale Trust. Following some discussion, it was agreed that the PC could write a letter in support of the resident and signpost to Wiltshire housing. **Action: Clerk**

8. Review of Policies – Complaints Procedure

This policy required review on the PC's regular cycle. The policy has not been enacted but was considered suitable. Councillors approved with no changes.

9. Waymarker Post

Adam Kebble has looked at the Waymarker post. The post itself is solid and only requires rubbing down and repainting. The horizontal finger post needs replacing and he has offered to do this in the Spring. JB thanked AK and all materials etc will be reimbursed.

Action: AK

10. Highways/Cat G update

Lucy Kirkpatrick reported that at the last Cat G meeting Minal's request for short-term traffic calming measures was approved. The painting of lines in the road will be fitted into the Council's programme and the signs should be fitted in the next 3 months. She also reported that an Active Travel Fund for communities has been announced by the Government. This is likely to be a fund to support walking and cycling and it may be possible to apply for funding for the footpath to link the east side to the rest of the village.

11. Planning

Rabley Equestrian Centre PL/2021/06348

BD gave an update of the Eastern Area Planning Committee meeting regarding the Rabley Equestrian Centre retrospective application for windows. The application had been refused. BD particularly praised the professional work of Councillor Caroline Thomas. The applicants now have 6 months to appeal and Councillor Thomas has already been in touch with Neil Smith in the Enforcement team. The Clerk will keep in close touch with CT.

Poulton Mill Equine Clinic PL/2021/04663

John Bevan reported that Highways have approved the new opening to the proposed Clinic and whilst this was a disappointing development there were a number of external bodies commenting on the unsuitability of the location. The Clerk said the application was likely to come up at the February meeting of the

Eastern Area Planning Committee.

12. Rights of Way

John Bevan reported that the new residents in the Werg had noticed that the footpath connecting Ramsbury 42 and Mild 30 was blocked. This had been reported to Ramsbury PC and Terry Danziger Miles has offered to pay for a gate at the location.

13. Financial Regulations

As part of the Annual Accountants and Governance (AGAR) review the Clerk had circulated these to Councillors. No changes were made and Councillors approved the regulations for use in 2022-23.

14. Clerk/Responsible Finance Officers Report

The Financial Statement and Expenditure against Budget had been circulated. Councillors approved the statements and the balances were verified by Guy Gagen. The Clerk reported that the Precept for 2022-23 had been applied for. Santander and Lloyds are still not accepting applications for their Treasurers account. HSBC have converted the PC's Community account to a Business Account and charges will be taken on 21 January backdated to November.

15. Any Other Business

15.1 Church Car Park

JB advised Councillors that the church car-park had to be closed again as the entrance was muddy and rutted. He asked Councillors if the PC could provide scalplings to improve the entrance. Councillors felt that this would not last and after some discussion it was agreed to discuss solutions and obtain a quote from Simon Edwards' ground work company. **Action: AK**

15.2 Duke of Edinburgh Award

Guy Gagen's three sons are undertaking their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award and would like to volunteer to pick up litter in the village for three months. Councillors approved this and JB will write and co-ordinate. **Action: JB**

15.3 Horseshoe Pub

BD reported that Pam and John Desmond have sold the pub to a local buyer and will be moving on in late February.

15.4 Village Hall Windows

The windows have been delayed. Councillors approved £500 contribution.

15.5 Queen's Platinum Jubilee

RB said there is a fund to enable villages to celebrate and he will apply for a grant. Councillors suggested a village party on the cricket pitch. RB also mentioned that an old friend he had lost touch with in Germany had found him on the village website.

Meeting closed at 7.50pm Next meeting Monday 14 March 2022 6.30pm