

MARTIN and MARTIN DALES

PARISH COUNCIL

These are the **draft** minutes of the Martin and Martin Dales Parish Council Meeting held on 8th December 2020 and will not be agreed until the next meeting of the Council.

Public Session - 3 Parishioners Present

The Chair welcomed the Parishioners to the meeting and introduced Parish Councillors and the Clerk.

Two parishioners detailed their concerns which included an historical incident of behaviour by a Councillor, the timing of response to recent communication, concerns regarding the Martin cul-de-sac footpaths and the potential impact of any future action.

The Chair acknowledged the comments made and although couldn't respond to historical events he acknowledged all comments, apologised for any distress caused and confirmed the Council's commitment to fairness and transparency to work for and behalf of all Parishioners.

Agreed: For Councillors to review the detail and potential impact of future action with regard to the footpaths

Cllr. Les Porter co-opted to the Council

Present: Cllrs. R. Millband, D. Busby, G. Charles, S. Barrie W. Jenkins, Attwell, Kendrick and the Clerk(via zoom)

1. Apologies

Cllr. Ogden

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Jenkins declared himself a Trustee of Mary Kings School.

Agreed: Clerk to inform electoral services and will forward additional form if requested by the Elections team.

3. Minutes of the last meeting held in 22nd September 2020

Wording of minutes changed as Cllr. Jenkins is not yet a Village Hall Rep.

Minutes agreed as correct .

All agreed

4. County and District Councillors' Remarks

Cllr. Kendrick will be sending his monthly newsletter before Christmas.

He informed the Council that due to Covid, most staff where possible, were working from home but fortunately key services were maintained and running well.

Work to start soon on the North Hykeham Road and the Lincoln Eastern bypass would be opened before Christmas.

Agreed: Cllr. Kendrick to contact the Highways officer with regard to outstanding signs etc.

Agreed:

Signed:

5. Planning

There haven't been any new applications.

The Clerk gave some details on the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which is payable on new build properties excluding self builds and some affordable housing properties.

6. Highways

Cllr. Barrie informed the Council that a survey truck had been driven through the village.

7.1 Playpark

Cllr. Barrie and Jenkins updated the Council on the work completed by themselves and a parishioner e.g., filling trenches, removing wood and planting seeds etc.

A quote had been received for around £2300 plus vat for parts only for the repairs and Councillors to fit them themselves, saving the Council over £2000 in labour.

Proposed: Cllr. Barrie Seconded: Cllr. Charles

All agreed

**Agreed: Equipment purchase to be considered when the work on the trees has been undertaken.
An extraordinary meeting to be held before the next meeting to look closely at finances and agree the 2021-2022 Precept etc.**

7.1.2 Trees

A general discussion took place and agreement reached that priority should be given to making the trees safe in partnership with the Trustees who are responsible for some of them. A tree report had been received.

Quotes have been requested by Cllrs. Barrie and Jenkins and the following was agreed.

Agreed: Up to £2500 to make the trees for which the Council are responsible to ensure safety.

Proposed Cllr. Millband Seconded: Cllr. Jenkins

Clerk to write to Parishioner who owns the land with the poplar trees and send the report.

Cllr. Jenkins due to meet with someone the following day.

Cllr. Busby to be sent the report on the trees.

7.2 SID

Agreed: Clerk to follow-up the last email to Cllr. Millband stating that he may hear something by the end of this week with regard to electric signage.

7.3 Grounds Maintenance

Agreed: Final invoice to be paid and the clerk to write to the gardener explaining that this will be the last cut for him as other arrangement will be made for next year.

Agreed:

Signed:

Proposed: Cllr. Charles **Seconded by:** Cllr Barrie

All agreed

7.4 Farming Tenancies

Agreed: Farming tenancies to be reviewed in 2021 and raised in line with current land rental values. This is as a result of professional advice obtained by Cllr. Jenkins indicating that the current charges are currently below market valuation.

7.5 Land Registry

Cllr. Jenkins to continue the work on clarifying the land allocation and properly registering the land.

7.6 Phone Box

The work on this has now been completed and the Trustees of the school are now responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the Phone Box.

7.7 Footpaths

An in-depth discussion took place considering the importance of retaining the footpaths for the future whilst acknowledging the potential impact on current parishioners. The footpaths are clearly defined on the definitive map and it is the duty of the Lincolnshire County Council Footpaths Officers to maintain and preserve footpaths across the Parish.

Agreed: It was proposed that the Footpaths Officer be informed that the Parish Council wished to halt any further action on this matter.

Proposed: Cllr. Attwell Seconded: Cllr. Barrie

All others agreed with two abstentions

Cllr. Jenkins to draft a letter and then send it to the Footpaths Officer. The chair will contact the Parishioners who attended the public part of the meeting

7.8 Community Champions

The Clerk confirmed that MATES have now received the award and Cllr. Millband confirmed that the Council had applied for and received the grant of £500 which is held on account.

7.9 Martin Dales Village Hall

Cllr. Busby confirmed the Trustees of the Village Hall and that they had not met for a while due to Covid.

The current understanding is that the School, the Church and the Parish have a shared interest and the property and it is governed by the Trustees. It is understood there is an Abstract of Titles to the Property but the Parish Council does not have a copy of this and have not seen it.

Agreed: Cllr. Busby to inform the Council of any facts that may come to light in the future if relevant to the business of the Council and/or parish as a whole.

7.10 Newsletter

This has been distributed across the Parish.

Agreed:

Signed:

7.11 Emergency Plan

To be discussed in the future

7.12 Litter Picker

A general discussion took place and it was confirmed that the litter picker is an employee of the Council and contact with him is via the Clerk. A grant is applied for each year towards cost of employment.

Agreed: To put this on the agenda for the next meeting to discuss future action with regard to litter picking in the parish. The Clerk will forward any relevant documentation in connection with this role.

7.13 Bus Shelter

Agreed: To write to the current cleaner to say that the cleaning is no longer required

Proposed: Cllr. Millband Seconded:

All agreed

8. Clerk's Update

8.1.2 Finance – Statement Balance of Accounts and cheques for payment from the last meeting

Current Account As at 30th November 2020 £ 15036.35

Business Account “ “ “ £ 5722.54

001188	£100	Petty Cash
001189	Cancelled	
001190	117.00	SLCC membership
001191	288.54	HMRC
001192	156.96	Litter Picker
001193	604.61	Clerk Salary and Expenses
001194	Cancelled	
001195	350.00	D Holvey
001196	1200.00	Brown & Co
001197	380.00	P & S Services Groundwork
001198	14.95	W J Seeds
001199	40.00	D Holvey

All Agreed

8.1.2 Spread Sheet

The spread sheet had been sent prior to the meeting for consideration.

Agreed:

Signed:

Extraordinary Meeting to be held on Tuesday 5th January 2021 in the village hall and/or Zoom to discuss and agree finance in preparation for the precept. All Councillors to give some thought to ideas for the future to help the finance group come up with ideas to agree at this meeting.

8.2 Correspondence

8.2.1 Village Gates

Agreed: Clerk to contact Walcott and Branston to enquire about their Village Gates etc.

8.2.1 Tree Litter

Agreed: Cllr. Jenkins to report this

8.2.1 Quality Mark/Documents

Agreed: Clerk to report to next meeting with regard to how this is managed to date and if necessary, Parish Council to review over the next year to include putting key documents on the website

8.3 Websites

This work on the Council Website is ongoing and administered by Cllr. Charles.

The LCC Parish Website is currently being updated. The Clerk to complete the training post covid.

A history page was considered as a good idea for the future.

Agreed: All Councillors and Clerk to send priority material to Gareth for inclusion on the website if possible, including the newsletter report prepared by the Clerk.

8.4 Clerk Vacancy

Agreed: The New Clerk to start early April and inducted in time for the meeting in May 2021. The advert to be prepared by the end of January and put in the Notice Boards, on the website, Facebook and the LALC round robin. Clerk to ask when the next newsletter is due.

Interviews to take place in March 2021 and the panel to include at least 3 Councillors. Interview panel to be agreed in January 2021

Clerk to draft proposals and send to the full Council.

9. Reports from Representatives

9.1 Finance Group

All ready discuss

9.2 Village Hall

The Clerk has distributed the new contact emails for the village hall.

10. Agenda Items for next meeting

Litter Picking

Village Hall Representative

11. Date of Next Meeting -Tuesday 19th January 2021 at 7.30 Martin Village Hall and/or zoom

Agreed:

Signed: