

Minutes of the meeting of **Cainscross Town Council's Virtual Full Council** held on Monday 22nd February 2021, commencing at **6.00pm**.

Present: Councillors Carlos Novoth (Chair)
Graham Barton (Vice-Chair)
David Dale
Leah Gray
Jenny Miles (Town & District)
Diane Prosser
Ros Scott-Hodgetts
Clive White

County Councillor Lesley Williams

District Councillor Tom Williams

In Attendance: Clerk Jeni Marshall
Assistant Clerk Emily Forgione
Project Officer Jessie Hoskin

Apologies: Councillors Adrian Cross
Ron Smith

FC229/21 To receive apologies
Apologies were received as above.

FC230/21 To confirm the minutes of the last meeting of the Council
The minutes of the last meeting of the Council held on Monday 18th January were approved as a correct record and will be signed when the office re-opens.

FC231/21 To receive any declarations of interest
Councillor Scott-Hodgetts declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 7 (FC235/21)
Councillor Novoth declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 16 (FC241/21)

FC232/21 To receive any representations or questions from members of the public
No members of public present

FC233/21 To receive the Clerk's report
The Clerk reported as follows;

- the bowling club at Victory Park has been broken in to twice in recent weeks.
- an order has been placed for Cashes Green Allotments from the grant money to populate the allotment shed with wheelbarrows, spades, rakes and shovels as requested by Down to Earth.
- the Assistant Clerk has re-booted and factory re-set the old Councillor tablets and they have been donated to St. Matthews school
- funding for some IT provision has also been provided to all three schools in our area, a sum of £542.60 for each school from County Councillor Brian Oothuysen.
- following the disbandment of Stroud Road Safety group, a proportionate refund of £162.68 has now been received.

- the water bill is showing a credit of £1830.88 We insisted we did not owe this money last year and they threatened us with court action which after a final court action threat we paid whilst continuing to investigate. They have now agreed we do not owe it and will be refunding.
- a settee has been dumped by the brook at Hamwell Leaze and I have arranged for Ubico to pick up and dispose of at a cost of £175
- the new Project Manager, Jessie Hoskin started works with us on Monday. She will be initially looking at the bike ramps, Victory Park play area, defibrillators and phone boxes.
The Project Officer introduced herself to the Council and gave a brief outline of her first week in the role.

FC234/21To receive any reports from County and District Councillors

District Councillor Jenny Miles read a pre-written report and she explained that it is quiet currently due to current restrictions however she attended a briefing regarding Brimscombe Port on Thursday, where several issues were discussed regarding the development including protected trees and the port building. District Council are working towards the local plan being sent out to inspectors imminently.

There has also been a grant issued to help insulate hard to heat homes in the district working alongside 'Warm and Well' and the NHS, who are keen to help reduce related health issues and admittance to hospitals, therefore taking more pressure off the NHS.

County Councillor Lesley Williams reported that the Budget meeting is to take place this week, the increase is 2.99% with a 1% levy including Adult Services.

Lesley confirmed she has not been selected to stand for the Labour Party in the forthcoming elections and that this will be her last meeting with the Town Council. The Chair and Vice-Chair both thanked Lesley for all her hard work over the years. Lastly District Councillor Tom Williams reported that he is not aware of any further movement with plans for Tricorn House.

FC235/21To consider Council support for community initiatives

Councillor Scott-Hodgetts working with Sue Capener and David Joyce has set up 'The Standing Together Charitable Trust' to provide a flexible, effective response-hub at times of crisis for local communities. Following on from the slow cooker initiative before Christmas, they have requested grant funding of £500 to help vulnerable people in the Cainscross Parish. Although it was felt the initiative to be laudable, there were concerns expressed regarding grant money being used in this manner (Unspecified / nonspecific spend) and that the CCTC must remain cognisant with regard to taking on initiatives that are not part of our statutory duties. Members resolved to make a grant of £500 and it was agreed that the organisation will produce regular reports for the Council to indicate clearly where the funding is being spent.

FC236/21To discuss the use of dedicated emails and provision of IT equipment for Councillors

Members considered the documentation provided by the Clerk regarding GDPR and the use of personal email addresses for Council business. After due discussion it was resolved that members should use Council emails and this was carried with 7 in favour and one abstention.

Members then discussed the use of personal equipment for Council business and it was agreed that a working party would be formed to generate a plan that suits all

parties. It was also considered that some equipment could be provided in the budget if members were in need of it.

- FC237/21** To receive a presentation from Councillor White regarding solar energy
Councillor White had previously circulated a report regarding the potential installation of solar energy at the Pavilion in The Park and gave a brief talk on his findings. After due discussion members resolved that solar was an excellent idea but would like to look in to this further to see which type would be best for Victory Park.

Planning, Highways, Amenities & Recreation

- FC238/21** To consider the following planning applications
- S.21/0132/HHOLD – 6 Kingley Road – Construction of two storey side extension. – Noted.
 - S.21/0125/HHOLD – 4 Merrivale, Foxmoor Lane – Replace old shed with new shed / garden store – Noted.
 - S.21/0160/FUL – Land adjacent to 14, Orchard Road – Erection of 5 residential dwellings built over two storeys with associated vehicle parking and landscaping. – Members resolved to object to the application as the access to the properties is very restrictive and the visual splays were not perceived to be good.
 - S.21/0235/HHOLD -Springfield, Chapel lane – Refurbishment to include first floor extension to the North and first floor balcony to the West. – Supported.
 - S.20/2649/HHOLD – 25 Springfield Road, Chapel Lane – Erection of rear two storey extension and loft conversion with dormers - Noted.
- FC239/21** To note any planning decisions
The Planning decisions were noted.
- FC240/21** To discuss an event draft for a proposed 'Post Covid Celebration' event
The Event Draft was considered and it was agreed to delay plans for now and review this in April when further information has been given regarding restrictions on larger events. Councillors were encouraged to send event ideas to the Assistant Clerk so she can collate them for a future event.
- FC241/21** To consider taking over the maintenance of the bus shelter near Renards Rise from Stonehouse Town Council in light of the boundary change
It was resolved to take over maintenance of the bus shelter now that it is within the boundary of the Cainscross Parish.
- FC242/21** To consider a request for a grit bin in Hyett Road
After due discussion it was agreed that Cainscross Town Council would not approve this request and that the applicant would be referred back to Gloucester County Council.
- FC243/21** To receive a Highways update
The Clerk had previously circulated a Highways update which members noted.
- FC244/21** To consider a request from Victory Park Bowling Club to take ownership of the small area of the bowls club building owned by the Town Council

Members agreed that they would be happy to sign over this small part of the bowling club, however as there is no benefit to the wider community, they would expect the bowls club to cover any of the Councils legal costs.

- FC245/21** To note the results of the tree surveys and subsequent actions at Victory Park, QEII Field and Hamwell Leaze
The results were considered and it was agreed to carry out the relevant works.
- FC246/21** To consider some grounds work at Victory Park
Councillor Barton reported a rotting tree stump which is now causing a trip hazard. He felt it would be sensible to get this dug out and whilst this was being done, it would be an ideal opportunity for the goal mouths on the rugby pitch to be topped up with soil.
It was agreed to carry out necessary works in consultation with the rugby club..
- FC247/21** To receive a response from Opus Energy regarding the high bills and consider whether to employ an independent electrician to investigate the metre
In relation to item 9 on the agenda it was agreed that the electricity bills were exceptionally high considering the amount the Pavilions have actually been used this year and that it is necessary to re-evaluate the energy supply. The Clerk will consider other suppliers and obtain the best deal available with a contract for the next 12 months so that the usage can be properly considered.
- FC248/21** To confirm the date and time of the next meeting of the Council
The next meeting will be held at 6pm on Monday 29 March 2021 using Zoom.

The meeting concluded at 8pm

Signed

Dated

Actions

FC235/21	Issue grant to The Standing Together Charitable Trust	Clerk
FC236/21	Gather information regarding setting up of dedicated emails & redirection to personal accounts.	Assistant Clerk/Project Officer (working group)
FC238/21	Send in planning responses	Assistant Clerk
FC240/21	To gather more event ideas from Councillors. And adapt plan to present in future meetings.	Assistant Clerk
FC241/21	To confirm taking responsibility of maintenance for bus shelter with Stonehouse Town Council	Clerk
FC242/21	Refer applicant back to Gloucestershire County Council	Clerk
FC244/21	Contact Victory Park Bowls Club & notify of Council decision	Clerk
FC245/21	To organise relevant contractors for works	Clerk
FC246/21	Contact the rugby club and organise relevant works	Assistant Clerk/Clerk
FC247/21	Contact Opus Energy and other companies to obtain quotes	Clerk