



**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM ON
MONDAY, 24TH MAY 2021 AT 8PM**

Present: Andrew Marchant
Simon Bagnall
David House
David Oxley
Amanda Parker
Jan Pledger

Members of the Public: Jenny and Gus Goymour
Kate Oxley
Tony Pledger

District/ County Councillor: None present, see 38.1 below.

Officer present: Caroline Jones (Clerk)

The chairman welcomed councillors and members of the public to the meeting and advised attendees to remain seated, wear masks unless they were speaking and to report any covid symptoms either today or in the next 2 weeks to the chairman or clerk.

38.1 To Appoint the Chairman for 2021-22

Following a proposer and seconder; Andrew Marchant was elected as Chairman.
No further proposals were received.

38.2 To Appoint the Vice Chairman for 2021-22

Following a proposer and seconder; David Oxley was elected as Vice Chairman.
No further proposals were received.

38.3 Apologies

Apologies were received from PC Leon De Bruyn, CC Jeff Jones (to keep attendance numbers to a minimum during COVID-19) and DC Boylan who was working.

38.4 Personal / Prejudicial Declarations : none.

38.5 Public Comments : None.

38.6 County Councillor Comments :

CC Jones reported; I was very pleased to have been re-elected as your County Councillor for the next four years following the local elections held on 6th May. Thanks to all those that supported me by coming out to vote on the day or by using their postal vote. I was very pleased to have received 2,393 votes representing 61% of the votes cast.

Vaccination uptake

Over the next six weeks every area in Hertfordshire will see a new and more intensive round of efforts to increase vaccination of eligible cohorts. Measures will range from pop-up to walk in-clinics and highly targeted communications will be employed. We have worked hard to close the gap between populations with higher and lower vaccination uptake. There remains work to do, especially as part of a strategy to help prevent the spread of new variants. Accelerating the pace of the vaccine programme and ensuring maximum uptake in all populations is crucial.

- 1,290,528 persons are now eligible to be vaccinated in Hertfordshire of whom
- 653,862 persons (50.67%) have had a first dose of and 337,661 persons (26.16%) a second dose.
(figures correct as of last Friday 22/5/21)



A person can consider themselves fully vaccinated and to have developed a very strong immune response 21 days after their second dose, although evidence is now growing that the vaccine provides strong protection (estimates vary but are over 75%, significantly better than' flu) even after a single dose and the delay between first and second doses actually enhances this response by having an effect not unlike a "booster". We know the vaccine has a major impact on preventing people becoming so ill they need hospitalisation.

At the same time, evidence is increasing that :

- the vaccine does prevent transmission
- The vaccine offers good protection against the most common Indian variant circulating in England B.617.2

Highways Matters

With regard the three items Councillors requested an update on:

1. We will be attending Silkmead on the 28/05/21.
2. Cave Gate - Added this to our list and will get the area engineer to attend site.
3. Anstey Quarry – nothing further to report.

District Councillor Comments : Planning have been chased for a response/comments that were received today.

38.7 Police Report : PC De Bruyn included his April report where there were no reported crimes in Brent Pelham, Meesden and Anstey during April or May up until today's meeting. No matters were raised from the LPP meeting in March which was positive. The type of items raised could be speeding or agricultural plant thefts. LPP priorities are to carry out mobile speed checks in hot spot areas. PC De Bruyn has been in contact with an Essex police representative to see if there are any cross-border incentives that can be looked at for the local rural areas we cover. He asked that the communication platform, Echo was mentioned as there has been little feedback from Anstey residents – it is an ideal way to highlight any concerns police should focus on.

38.8 Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th March 2021

The minutes were reviewed and it was unanimously agreed that they were a correct and a true record of the meeting held on 15th March 2021, and the Chairman was authorised to sign them after the meeting.

38.9 Planning

38.9.1 Cherry Tree House, Hare Street Ref. 3/21/1120/HH – two-storey side extn, accommodation into roof space, FF Front and Rear Extension – no objections. Made a similar application 2 years ago – there were no objections from the PC previously but it was refused. It was noted that the rear of the property was not residential but industrial units and so any development would not have a detrimental effect on the surrounding area.

38.9.2 Flint Cottage, Anderson's Lane Ref. 3/21/0255/FUL – no objections from Parish Council – **REFUSED** 31/3/21.

38.9.3 Coltsfoot SG9 ODE Ref. 3/20/2542/HH – Retention light windows. There were three main issues and the Parish Council made the Planning Officer aware of renovations undertaken a few years ago without permission but received no reply. This application is retrospective planning. One was for the listed property.

38.9.4 Coltsfoot SG9 ODE Ref. 3/20/2543/LBC – Parish Council gave a neutral response on this, awaiting decision.

38.9.5 Plot 64 Ref. 3/20/2139/FUL (Replaces 3/19/2256/FUL) Change of use of land to Gypsy / Traveller residential : no news or decision. It was noted there are a new set of gates 10m into the entrance now. DC Boylan reported there was no update on Plot 64, the application adjacent to Anstey's border, other than some further work was being undertaken in terms of landowner's certification.

38.9.6 5 Two Acres Ref. 3/21/1245/HH – Single storey oak framed orangery extension with roof lantern to rear. It's not out of character of existing building or over large. It looks toward the back of Moatside and towards the horse field. No concerns raised by PC. No objections.

38.9.7 High Trees Ref. 3/20/0639/HH and 3/20/0640/FUL – received a response from the officers that states the applicant has submitted a wrong title and they are awaiting a reapplication. The site cannot be visited due to Covid-19, officers are not inspecting sites and therefore cannot determine if any action is required. The case is ongoing. Clerk to write to respond to the e-mail received requesting information as to when High Trees can be inspected.

38.10 Finance

38.10.1 The Financial Report was approved and accepted.

38.10.2 The Bank Reconciliation 16/5/21 was approved and accepted. Clerk to scan bank statements to chairman.

38.10.3 The payments for May and June were approved. Cheques signed at end of meeting.

38.10.4 AGAR 2020/21 Return Part 1, 2 and the Exemption Certificate were approved and signed.



38.10.5

38.11 Phone Box

The repair to the K6 phone box undertaken by BT was substandard and no further repairs were expected. A pane of Perspex is now missing and rain is getting in, clerk to chase BT again. Carried over to next meeting.

38.12 Highways / Vegetation

Improvements at Silkmead to ensure water drainage started today.
To note cow parsley has fallen into the road.
Majority of recent highway issues reported have been repaired promptly.

38.12.1 Silkmead

As above in 38.12.

38.13 Playing Field

Cllr Oxley was thanked for cutting the pathway from the school to the playing field.
The old village hall situated in the hedge is to be removed.
Tree work required will be investigated and works arranged for autumn.
Clerk to investigate small goalposts : 8x4 size x 2 – ones at Hormead were good.
It was agreed to go ahead with installing a roundabout – clerk to approach EH Grants and County Councillor funding.

38.14 Church

Currently tree works are being carried out on the beech trees at a cost of £3K.
One beech will be removed due to it being damaged. The one to the right will be cropped.
It was agreed that if approached, the PC would look positively into assisting financially with costs of tree works.

38.15 School / Parking : No issue arising, both school and church parking has been sensible.

38.16 Speeding : Ongoing and being co-ordinated by Carolina/ PC Leon De Bruyn.

38.17 Village Hall : This was reported at the AGM earlier.

38.17.1 Good Fortune : The Village Hall received a sizeable grant and have offered £4K to Anstey Fair and £1K Anstey PC for play equipment. The PC agreed to accept the £1K funding offer for play equipment.

38.18 Anstey Quarry No update.

38.19 Defibrillator Thankfully has not been needed or used. It is checked regularly and all in good working order.

38.20 Correspondence – a list of correspondence received and sent was received.

38.21 Any other Business

38.21.1 Parish Council has been notified that Mary Cayford's bench is broken.
A kind resident has repaired it and sprayed around the bench with weedkiller.

38.22 Next Meeting : 12th July 2021.

Meeting closed at 20.50.