

RIBBLE BANKS PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Regular Council meeting
held via Zoom on Tuesday 23rd March 2021 at 19.30

PRESENT

Councillors – C. Yorke (Chair), E. Roe, J. Ketchell and R. Haynes (due to technical issues only was able to attend the very first part of the meeting).

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms. B. Roos (Clerk/RFO), Cllr D. Staveley and 0 members of the public.

21/15 Welcome by the Chair

The Chair welcomed those present and officially opened the meeting.

21/16 To receive and consider apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

21/17 Declarations of pecuniary interest & requests for dispensation

There were no new declarations or requests relating to the agenda.

21/18 Confidential items

There were no confidential items to discuss.

21/19 Reports from the District and County Councillors if able to attend

Cllr Staveley reported that byelections will soon be held following the passing of Councillor Welch. The Select Committee has conducted a meeting around building control and a report is imminently due. The Select Committee touched on the topic of performance reviews and it was noted that since the introduction of working from home due to the pandemic, absentee numbers have dropped significantly. There are still issues around planning applications due to staff shortages, staff being on long term sick leave and such. New officers are obtained via agencies but need to be trained up first so there are still delays in the processing of planning applications. The Clerk mentioned that the Ward Grant scheme is not closed and thus no application could be made for the new Council website. She asked if the scheme will be reopened in the new financial year and an application can be made. Cllr Staveley confirmed that this is the case.

21/20 To approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 19th January 2021

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 19th January 2021 were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

21/21 Public participation

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

21/22 Matters arising

There were no matters arising that needed to be discussed here.

21/23 Finance

21/23.1 Current bank balances

The Clerk took Councillors through the current bank balances.

21/23.2 Payments to be authorised

The Clerk took Councillors through the payments that required authorisation. The payments were approved and the Clerk arranged to meet with the Chair in order for cheques to be signed.

21/24 Planning matters

It was resolved not to comment on planning application 2021/22490/HH, 2021/22532/HH and 2021/22403/FUL (for this one comments will be made on the Caravan/mobile home site licence conditions consultation).

21/25 Correspondence

No new correspondence has been received that Councillors have not yet been notified off.

21/26 Reports from Councillors and Council representatives

Chairman

None.

Halton West

None.

Rathmell

Cllr Roe reported that Natural England is no longer able to formulate a plan of what needs doing on the Hesley Moss site but can only enforce such a plan. Cllr Roe will pull together a list of local landowners that will be contacted with the request to remove any items that do not belong to/on the Moss. The Clerk has been asked to set up a site visit with the new contact person at Natural England. Footfall on the Moss has increased during lockdown to 30 – 50 people each weekend.

Wigglesworth

None.

Clerk

The Clerk thanked Cllr Ketchell for his willingness to be on the VAS work group.

21/27 Village environments, rights of way and highways

There was nothing further that needed to be discussed.

21/28 Date of the next meeting

It was resolved that the next meeting will be held on 18th May 2021 via Zoom.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 20.58 hours.