

# Minutes of the Askerswell Parish Meeting held on Washingpool Green at 6.00pm 13<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Owing to the Covid-19 restrictions the Spring Parish Meeting had been postponed and this meeting was called to ensure that the necessary directives were met.

**Present:**

John Mahoney	Chair
Frank Hemmings	Deputy Chair
Margaret Barrett	Clerk

**In attendance:** 20 Electors

## **Item 1/20:** Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair opened the meeting by thanking everyone for coming to this unusual meeting that had to be called so the Parish Meeting could mainly officially approve the financial records.

## **Item 2/20:** Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Prof Howard Atkinson	Mrs Pat Atkinson	Mrs Eileen Bryan
Mrs Patsy Harrison	Mr Peter Harrison	Mrs Jenny Hemmings
Mrs Alison Lancashire	Miss Ursula Mahoney	Ms Maya Pieris
Mrs Veronica Sheppard		

## **Item 3/20:** Minutes

The draft minutes had been posted on the village website after the last meeting and a copy had been on the village notice board along with this meeting's agenda. As there were no amendments the minutes of the meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019, were agreed by those present as being a representative record of that meeting.

Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Mr Godfrey Lancashire and seconded by Mr Ian Russell. The Minutes were then duly signed by the Chair.

Any matters arising will be carried forward to the next meeting.

## **Item 4/20:** Financial Reports

### Item 4/20/1: Financial Report 2019/20

The annual financial statement, (see below), had been circulated back at the beginning of May through the 'Askerswell Post' email and had also been on the village notice board since the notice of this meeting had been put up. Mr Nigel Guard had examined these accounts and has completed the Annual Internal Audit Report. There are different formalities that are completed, and approved, by Parish Meetings where the higher of gross income or gross expenditure was £25000 or less.

<u>Askerswell Parish Meeting</u>				
Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2020				
	2019-20		2018-19	
<u>Receipts</u>	£	£	£	£
April Precept		900.00		900.00
September Precept		900.00		900.00
Profit from Calendar		-		135.00
Neighbourhood Forum		-		-
Environmental Award		-		-
Neighbourhood Plan Grant				2072.00
CPRE Grant		60.00		
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>1860.00</b>		<b>4007.00</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Contributions				
Askerswell PCC	400.00		500.00	
Askerswell Village Hall	400.00	800.00	500.00	1000.00
Insurance		160.65		160.65
DAPTC		33.67		32.59
Repairs & Maintenance				
Washingpool	0.00		175.18	
Parish	225.30	225.30	123.60	298.78
Hire of Hall for meetings		20.00		24.00
Administration		93.78		-
Neighbourhood Plan		-		2072.00
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>1333.40</b>		<b>3588.02</b>
<b>Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year</b>		<b>526.60</b>		<b>418.98</b>
Cash in Bank at 1st April		1556.28		1137.30
+ Receipts		1860.00		4007.00
		3416.28		5144.30
- Payments		1333.40		3588.02
Cash in Bank at 31st March		2082.88		1556.28

The Chair, has signed a 'Certificate of Exemption' showing that the Parish had an income of £1860 and an expenditure of £1333. The Chair called for a vote for the Certificate of Exemption to be approved, this was proposed by Mrs Mandy Hall and seconded by Mr Tim Bowden, and was passed unanimously. This will now be forwarded to the External Auditor who is currently PKF Littlejohn LLP.

Item 4/20/2: Approval of the Annual Governance Statement: As in previous years a Parish Meeting needs to approve the Annual Governance Statement. The Chair asked the meeting if they agree that it does ensure that there is a sound system of financial governance and he asked for a vote to approve the Annual Governance Statement. This was proposed by Mrs Dinks Bowden and seconded by Mrs Mary Russell and was passed unanimously.

Item 4/20/3: Approval of the Accounting Statements 2019/20: This has been completed using the figures from the Financial Statement already examined by Mr Nigel Guard. The Chair called for a vote for the Accounting Statement to be approved, this was proposed by Mr Vincent Sheppard and seconded by Mrs Gill Reypert, and was passed unanimously.

These three documents will be published as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulation 2015 for a period of 14 days. The Chair reminded the Parish of their 'Legal Right' of access to the Parish's 'Financial Records' and made them aware that officially they have 30 days in which to make their request for access, which will officially end on the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

Item 4/20/4: Appointment of an Internal Auditor: The Chair thanked Mr Nigel Guard for examining the accounts and reported that he is happy to continue to act as Internal Auditor so he was proposed by Mrs Margaret Barrett, seconded by Mr John Mahoney and was passed unanimously.

**Item 5/20: Election of Officers**

The Chair reminded parishioners that the Chair of the Parish Meeting and the proper officer of Dorset Council are the body corporate of the Parish Meeting and are known as “the Parish Trustees”.

The following nominations had been received: Parish Chair – Mr John Mahoney, proposed by Mrs Gill Evans and seconded by Mr Frank Hemmings; Deputy Chair – Mr Frank Hemmings, proposed by Mrs Jessamy Wilsdon and seconded by Mr John Mahoney; Clerk – Ms Lauryn Mealing, proposed by Mr John Mahoney and seconded by Mrs Margaret Barrett. There being no other nominations they were voted in unanimously.

Mrs Barrett was thanked for her help and support over the past years.

The newly elected officers will take up their role from 14<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

**Item 6/20: Any Other Business**

Item 6/20/1 Fibre Broadband to remaining houses in the Parish

Mrs Mia Lewis and Mrs Jane Richards reported that there is a grant available to households and businesses that do not yet have access to fibre broadband. They asked for support to encourage all those affected (properties from Greenacres Farm westwards and at Nallers Farm) to join together to make a case for funding. The Chair will add this to the next ‘Askerswell Post’. He also noted that the grants from the national Giga-bit voucher scheme are being supplemented by money from Dorset County. He will send further information to Mrs Lewis and Mrs Richards. It was agreed that the Parish Meeting strongly supports the case for fibre broadband for properties that are not yet connected.

**Item 7/20: Date and time of next Parish Meetings**

The next Parish Meetings will take place on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 7.30pm hopefully back in the village hall. Mr Godfrey Lancashire said that, as churchwarden, he was happy for the meeting to be held in the church if for some reason the village hall was not able to be open.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 6.13pm.

Chairman’s signature .....

Date .....