

## Minutes of Mouldsworth Parish Council Virtual Meeting

27th April Monday 2020

### 1 Councillors Present

Cllr. G Jones

Cllr. M Garnett

Cllr A Lowry

Cllr. H Deynem (CWAC)

### 2 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr. H Nuttall.

### 3 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were taken as read, proposed by Cllr. Garnett, seconded by Cllr. Jones and approved.

### 4 Matters Arising

- a) It was agreed that the proposal for a Parish survey in respect of Neighbourhood Plans should be considered at the next Parish Meeting. Cllr. Deynem reported that there was a possibility of a CWAC grant, however this depended on the financial requirements of the Covid-19 situation.
- b) A number of spelling mistakes were identified.

### 5 Planning

- 1) The Chairman reported that he had been approached by the Applicants in respect of a Planning Application at Cornwood, Station Road (20/00260/FUL) to request support from the PC. This application has arisen as a result of the effects of the approved planning at Willow Cottage. It was agreed that the Chairman should respond to the Applicants and suggest that they engage the services of a Consultant. It was also agreed that it was highly possible that MPC would support this application.

2) The Treasurer reported that he had been informed of a new infill application on Smithy Lane, of which MPC is yet to be informed. The problem which might arise in connection with this application is that in light of the delays which may be caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, the Planning Department may not deal with it in the required 8-week period. In which case I would be referred on appeal to Bristol, which in most recent cases have approved infill applications. An additional problem has been caused by the untimely death of Philomena Hall and it may take time to elect a replacement.

Cllr. Garnett suggested that in view of the current pandemic the Planning Department may be able to extend the 8 week decision period. Cllr. Deynem agreed to investigate this.

## **6 Finance**

The Treasurer presented the Meeting with the Annual Governance and Accountability Return which he had completed. A copy of which is attached to these minutes. Summary as follows:

- 1) Page 1 Details of document requirements.
- 2) Page 2 Guidance and accountability completion.
- 3) Page 3 Certificate of Exemption.
- 4) Page 4 Annual Internal Audit Report.
- 5) Page 5 Annual Governance Statement.
- 6) Page 6 Accounting Statement 2019/2020.

The Treasurer also presented the MPC Annual Accounts for 2019/2020, ending March 2020. These recorded an opening Bank Account balance of £17116.43, income of £1562.00 and expenditure of £1131.81, leaving a closing account balance of £17546.62. These Accounts have been audited Johanna Monks of Delamere Parish Council.

Cllr. Deynem asked why the Accounts were not audited externally and was informed that under an income level of £25,000 it was not required and also it would cost in excess of £200 to prepare.

It was reported that although the Parish Counsellors were the Trustees of the Charity Account, it was not a requirement that these be recorded

on the PC Meeting. However, the Trustees agreed that the Charity should fund the acquisition of new weighing scales for Ashton Community Shop in light of their most valuable contribution to the local community.

The Chairman wished to record a vote of thanks to the Treasurer for all his invaluable contribution to the PC.

7 **Correspondence**

The Clerk reported that there was no relevant correspondence received since the last PC meeting.

8 **Any Other Business**

Cllr Deynem suggested that future Virtual PC Meetings should be open to the public by advertising on the website and the Parish notice board, or surgeries should be held before the next PC meeting. However, it was reported that those PC's of a similar size to MPC who had such meetings were abandoned as unworkable due to the large number of individuals joining and disrupting the virtual meeting.

9 **Date of Next Meeting**

20<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.00pm.