

# POYNINGS PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council  
Mr Colin Warburton

Minutes of the Virtual meeting of Poynings Parish Council using Zoom on  
Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7.00pm

Present: Nigel Evans Chair  
Neville Searle  
William Selby  
Michael Crowther

Colin Warburton - Clerk to the Council  
Joy Dennis - County Councillor  
Allison Bennett - District Councillor  
Rodney Jackson - District Councillor



09-09-2020

8 members of the public attended

**1 Apologies**, Colin Trumble (50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Aniv)

**2 Minutes**

The Minutes of the previous meeting, as circulated, were agreed.

**3 Matters Arising**

The clerk was asked by A. Cook for details of the Conservation Area character Appraisal Plan. Two replies from residents have been received so far with the following comments: "Morville" should be 'Merville'

The Cave Cuttress family mentioned regarding the memorial, and the Brewery, lived in Dyke Farmhouse, which is mentioned in the next section.

Upper and lower brewery flats were built before the Second World War, not in the 1950's, and were actually built to be a Butchers shop, with living accommodation above, which is why there is a fascia board running along above the ground floor windows.

The 'delightful public art feature post' was designed and made by the local blacksmith, lifelong resident of the village.

Photo of Glebe Cottage is wrongly captioned "Grange Cottage"

Forge Garage is wrongly captioned "Grange Garage"

Photo of the South side of the Street states that "Some 20th Century inserts were set back.." Those cottages, although they have been heavily modified in recent years, are much older than the 20th Century. Certainly Victorian, and possibly older still My Grandfather, Mums father, was born there..).

The "parking places" were once cottage gardens, with a flint wall adjacent to the road. Suggest the officer has a look at them from the back.

The lower photo on the same page describes 'traditional houses', which were actually rebuilt in the 1960's.

Oak Cottage was the original post office, as can be seen in a mid 18 C engraving, not Shepherd's Hey which was the Cobblers Shop.

Oak Cottage, judging by its low ceiling, recycled ship's timbers, large stone slab floor

downstairs and huge upstairs floor boards as well as the old path from the lower Causeway going under Stream Cottage's kitchen but around Oak Cottage, is probably the oldest of the three, not Forge House.

Cora Littler, or Goffin as she was known, was famous in her own right as a principal boy. She did not live out her old age in Downmere as the couple moved out in probably the 80's when Geoffrey Harris bought the property.

Re Downmere - sadly Gatehouse it is no longer the fine example of the 'Arts and Crafts movement entrance to the village as described in the appraisal. It's a great shame that Downmere only bordered the Conservation Area rather than falling within it!

MC suggested attention was drawn to the "action points" which the clerk read out.

A. Cook suggested that the wheelie bins are unsightly in a conservation area and are used by visitors (not the public ones) and attract vermin. It was suggested that the 650 photo competition may have some good photos to pass on to the SNDP for inclusion. Clerk to check.

A. Cook suggested that as Downmere barn has been 30 years as an equestrian venue there should be some sort of celebration. Any details/ideas to the clerk who will put on the Facebook page to see if there is any interest.

#### **4 MSDC Rodney Jackson**

MSDC has a loss of revenue due to leisure centre closures, less planning applications and free parking. Also increased costs on helping the homeless. This has been funded mainly from reserves. The budget will have to be revisited for 2021 and 2022.

Three new leisure centres have opened with large start up costs. The future of Claire Hall is being looked at.

The re-development of Burgess Hill town centre has been given the go ahead with a reduction in Office space.

**MSDC Allison Bennett**

The local committee commission is carrying out a review of MSDC boundaries. Parishes will be consulted.

**WSCC Joy Dennis**

There has been a large increase in Covid-19 cases in the last 14 days and testing has increased. The majority of cases are people under 40 with the 20-29 age group being the largest. Worthing is a hotspot.

Amex has closed as a testing centre as football has re-started. The replacement is in Tangmere. There are delays in testing results and new technology is to be launched at the end of September.

There has been a decrease in the number of deaths in care homes.

Libraries, recycling centres and schools are re-opening and the installation of temporary cycling lanes are ongoing.

PROW are starting their footpath checks again, not as thorough to start with though.

Hedge cutting has re-started but low priority.

A programme to identify Ash die back has started, once identified it will probably be cut and remove. They often look okay but are rotten in the core.

Broadband is still being rolled out to rural areas.

#### **5 Public Participation**

None

#### **6 Expenditure for April 2020 and May 2020**

The following amounts have been paid for June 2020 and July 2020

| Date         | Payee                                  | Amount           |
|--------------|--|------------------|
| 04/06/20     | CPRE Annual membership                 | £36.00           |
| 10/06/20     | WSALC and NALC membership              | £94.49           |
| 30/07/20     | M Brennan - Cemetery grass cutting etc | £420.00          |
| 30/07/20     | Clerk wages May - June 2020            | £500.00          |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |  | <b>£1,050.49</b> |

Receipts for June 2020 and July 2020

| Date         | Payee                            | Amount         |
|--------------|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 16/06/20     | Frank Davey Burial Joyce Hill    | £100.00        |
| 16/06/20     | Frank Davey Burial Joan Goldring | £300.00        |
| 10/07/20     | HMRC VAT refund                  | £69.31         |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |                                  | <b>£469.31</b> |

This was agreed

**7 Planning Applications**

**a. Pondtail Wood Muddleswood Road.**

Planning application for the erection of an agricultural building. The agricultural building is required to assist with the management of the surrounding woodland.

SDNP/20/01731/FUL

Withdrawn

**b. Downmere Farm Mill Lane Poynings- (Pre Planning)**

To become an Equine Assisted Learning Centre for Sussex

SDNP/20/03099/PRE

There is a concern that a full commercial venture in the centre of the village with the associated increased traffic is not suitable. Clerk to advise SDNP.

**c. Punnyngs Folly. The Street Poynings**

Side Dormers and Conversion

SDNP/20/03125/HOUS

No objection

**d. Wilton House The Street Poynings - (Non-Material Amendment)**

Removal of the 300x300mm corner column to the patio doors which access onto the upper terrace

SDNP/20/03137/NMA

No objection

**e. Shepherds Hey The Street Poynings**

Portuguese Laurel - Fell

SDNP/20/03346/TCA

No objection

**f. The Royal Oak Inn, The Street, Poynings**

33% reduction on 1 no. Norwegian Maple (T1) and reduce the height by 1.8m on T2 (Ash and Sycamore), T3 (Norwegian Maple) and T4 (Sycamores).

SDNP/20/02494/TCA

No objection

**8. Fireworks night**

Due to Covid-19 it was felt that it would not be appropriate to have this event this yr.

**9. Letter to SDNP planning**

It was agreed not to go ahead with this.

#### **10. Ash Dieback**

Due to the outbreak of Ash dieback in this area it was felt that it would be a good idea to create a map showing where the Ash trees are in Poynings. Clerk to email and do a leaflet drop.

#### **11. Memorial bench in cemetery**

A resident whose mother passed away recently has asked if they could put a memorial bench in the cemetery. There is one there that needs replacing.

All agreed.

#### **12. New residents welcome pack**

WS suggested that a welcome pack is put together for new residents to give to people when they move to Poynings. Ideas include details of: History, Church, contacts, Schools, doctors, dentists etc.

WS to send out skeleton ideas.

#### **13. Community fibre project**

NE stressed that it would be better if more people signed up for the Faster Broadband initiative to keep cost low or zero. There are 110 houses in Poynings and it needs a good percentage of these to sign up. There is no commitment made if people sign up. Clerk to look at adding to leaflet drop to add awareness.

#### **14. Items for next month's Agenda**

Co-opt councillor

#### **13 Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.10pm