

Press release 2nd June 2020

Holymoorside & Walton Parish Council

Holymoorside & Walton Parish Council held their full meeting of the council, via video conferencing on Tuesday the 2nd June 2020 and in attendance were Councillors; Martin Thacker (in the chair), Audrey Broderick, Ann Grinbergs, Diana Hinchliffe, Alan Holmes, Pat Maskrey, Denise Phelps, Jeff Swallow, Paul Truscott, Norman Wragg, Clerk Kate Brailsford and one member of the public.

Under public participation, North East Derbyshire District Councillor M Thacker reported that a discretionary grant fund, for businesses not eligible for any other schemes, had been launched with grants up to £25,000 being available. NEDDC will continue to provide emergency help (such as contact services, pharmacy, food banks and helping self-isolators and those with mental health issues) even as lockdown is eased. Cllr Thacker was also pleased to report that parish councils were still supporting the NEDDC via food collection banks and that the parish had proved to be very successful with food, toys, books and monetary contributions.

Also under this agenda item, Cllr Broderick, speaking as a parish council with a pecuniary interest in an agenda item, noted the fact that Holymoorside Bowling Club had received a £10,000 small business grant. She reported the current struggles with membership and action taken to increase numbers and on the current use of the green, membership costs and the impact of the covid-19 virus on play. She acknowledged the parish council had waived the annual fees and this was appreciated. She then reported what the club intended to use the additional funds for, including making a £2000 donation to the council.

The Clerk stated the parish council had already resolved the bowling club is not be charged their annual fee for this year before the Club was in receipt of the Government grant. However, whilst acknowledging the Clerk's comments members agreed that the bowling club should be supported and the donation accepted from the club with gratitude.

Members were also pleased to note that both the tennis and bowling clubs had reopened and were both adhering to national guidelines for their use. Correspondence from the tennis club was considered in relation to a court being used for pickleball but the Clerk was asked to seek clarifications before this is fully considered by the council. The parish council were pleased to note that the work to re-paint the tennis courts had been completed and the club were very pleased with the work provided. It was confirmed that the club would be paying 50% of the costs with the remainder being used from the dedicated tennis fund account. The Clerk updated members on the change of water supply company and the contract for Somersall Rangers Junior Football Club was resolved.

Planning matters were considered, council policies reviewed and the council's response and actions required during the current pandemic, together with initial plans for the re-opening of the village hall. It was noted, with sadness, that the council could not proceed with a possible VJ 75 day event in August due to the uncertainty of when lockdown eases and what social distancing measures may still be in place. Other matters related to the pandemic included the fact that an insurance claim had been submitted for loss of income from the village hall and the Clerk reported on the monthly loss to date, which was in the region of £5300 from the end of March, and all of April and May.

Members considered a report into the boundary hedge, which was in response to a neighbour's request. However, following detailed discussion, it was agreed not to proceed further with this.

All financial matters and paid invoices were reported and the end of year accounts and the Annual Governance Accountability Return was resolved.

The next meeting of the parish council is scheduled for Tuesday 7th July 2020 at 7.30pm with format to be decided at a later date in line with up to date government regulations.