**BONINGALE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of meeting**

**Wednesday 9th September 2020**

**Present.**

Cllrs. D Thomas (Chairman), R Bennett Casserly, A Sankey, D Slatcher.

In attendance: M Ward, Clerk to Boningale Parish Council

Two members of the public were present.

**01. Apologies**

Cllr. P Snowdon tendered his apologies (hospital appointment) which was accepted by the council.

**02. Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**03. Public Participation**

The two members of the public present referred to an email they had sent relating to the appointment of a new councillor and indicated that they had nothing more to add and asked members to reflect on the points that had been raised.

**04. Minutes of the previous meeting**

Cllr. Thomas proposed that the minutes were a true and accurate record which was seconded by Cllr. Bennett Casserly and agreed by the council. The minutes were duly signed by the chairman.

**05. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

**06. Correspondence**

The clerk referred to a letter from the Co-operative Bank informing members of an interruption to services while improvements were made to the on-line banking system and offering the council involvement in on-line banking regarding to its current account. Members agreed that it was not necessary or desirable and that the present arrangement was working satisfactorily.

The clerk had also received a letter of resignation from Cllr. Bennett Casserly which he read to members. The decision was received with regret by council members and Cllr. Bennett Casserly was thanked for all her work over the previous. The clerk agreed to initiate the process of finding a replacement and liaise with Shropshire Council over the forthcoming vacancy.

**07. To approve accounts for payment**

The clerk went through the details relating to five cheques that had been submitted for payment which included payment of a grant for the development of the former telephone box and the purchase of a new council notice board for Church Lane Boningale. Members also noted that there was now a ten-pound hire fee for each use of the Old School Room for council meetings. Councillors agreed each payment and the cheques were signed for payment.

**08. Financial statement September 2020**

The clerk went through the financial statement relating to the current account to 9th September 2020. There were no receipts received since the last council meeting in July 2020 and the total expenditure relating to the five payments agreed by council came to £813.20. In addition, there was one unpresented cheque of £40 made payable to the Information Commissioners Office for registration as a data controller. When these deductions were made it left a balance of £1,232.44 which was agreed by council and the chairman and the clerk duly signed the financial statement.

**09. Items for inclusion on the next agenda**

Councillors agreed that a draft budget would need to be considered at the next meeting in December and a precept agreed for 2021/22. The clerk was asked to prepare a budget for consideration, amendment, and approval at the December meeting.

Members also agreed to consider a suggestion that each member would be allocated an area of the parish and take a special interest in any developments, problems or proposals that would be brought to future council meetings for discussion. It was agreed that this suggestion would be placed on the next council agenda.

**10. Draft Standing Orders**

The clerk presented draft standing orders for the council which would determine future procedures and actions and emphasised that if approved the orders would determine the way that the council would discharge its responsibilities in the future until new orders were agreed. Previous orders had been unavailable and other local council’s orders were thought to be sometimes inappropriate for a council the size of Boningale.

Cllr. Thomas proposed that the orders be accepted which was seconded by Cllr. Bennett Casserly and agreed by members.

**11. Draft policy for responding to planning applications**

The clerk presented a planning applications policy for consideration by members after council had experienced some difficulty in agreeing a view regarding a planning application considered on-line. After discussion members agreed to adopt the policy with the added provision that an extra council meeting could be called to consider a particularly controversial application. The clerk agreed to add this provision to the policy.

**12. Draft complaints policy**

The clerk presented a draft complaints policy as the council did not have this provision available. He informed members that an appeals section was still to be added and members agreed to adopt the policy and consider an appeals addition when it became available in December.

**13. Development of the former telephone box in Church Lane, Boningale, and future actions.**

Members were informed that the base of the former telephone box needed to be straightened and once the machinery became available from a local farmer this would be done. The box would then be painted and the surrounding grass cut. The provision of the grant already agreed would greatly assist those involved in the development of the box.

**14. Consideration of the purchase of a new parish council notice board for Church Lane, Boningale.**

The chairman confirmed that now the money for the purchase had been agreed an order for a notice board to be sited in Church Lane, Boningale would be placed immediately. No planning permission was required, and an additional purchase of posts and cement would also be needed. The board could also be used to display notices from local organisations as well as council business.

Members also considered the possibility of getting professional help to develop the council website but as Cllr. Snowden was not present at the meeting and because costs were not available it was agreed to defer this discussion to the meeting in December.

**15. Outstanding planning applications**

20/02836/FUL Land at Parkside Farm, Holyhead Road, Albrighton, Shropshire WV7 3DA. Erection of an agricultural livestock building.

Members noted that the development at Pepperhill Farm for a new pig facility was now in the hands of the county planners. The proposal 20/02836/FUL had caused considerable local disquiet regarding extra traffic on country roads and damage to road surfaces that were already displaying wear. Because of the traffic issues and the use of heavy vehicles on narrow lanes associated with the proposed new livestock facility councillors agreed to object to the application.

**16. Time and date of the next meeting**

Members agreed the following dates for council meetings in 2020/21 as follows:

* 9th December 2020
* 10th March 2021
* 12th May 2021, the Annual Parish Meeting
* 8th September 2021
* 8th December 2021

Each meeting would be held in the Old School Room, Church Lane, Boningale and begin at 7.30 pm.

Signed……………………………………………………………………. Date………………………………………………………………