

MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY HORSMONDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD REMOTELY ON TUESDAY, 21 JULY 2020 FOLLOWING THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Present:

Cllrs March (Chair), Davis, Larkin, Richards, Russell and Sheppard

By telephone:

Cllrs Jenkinson and Stevens

In attendance:

Lucy Noakes (Clerk), Jackie Stanton (Assistant Clerk)

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Hunn: absent.

2. Request from Social Club to position William Lambert Plaque at the Institute Building

The Social Club had approached the Parish Council concerning the installation of the William Lambert plaque into the wall of the building as well as to replace all windows facing the village green.

Some ideas had been supplied which were similar to those discussed some years ago. These would have the plaque set into the door to the old cellar. The Clerk advised that pre-planning advice would be required for both the plaque and windows. The Social Club had requested that the Parish Council give permission for them to seek quotes.

The Council discussed a variety of issues which would need to be considered to set in and protect the plaque, as well as creating a story.

It was proposed by Cllr Stevens and seconded by Cllr Richards that the Clerk should contact the Social Club advising that they may look into obtaining quotes into the feasibility of the works but that the Council would not be paying for this but may consider paying something towards the cost. Unanimous

3. Request from the Social Club to position chairs on the green to allow social distancing during Club use

The Social Club had decided, following further consideration, that the plan was too complicated to implement under the current situation. The Parish Council had refused this type of operation in the past and it was also pointed out that there could be concern over licensing if the space was used.

4. Parish Council Agreement of quotations for assessment of Legionella risk at public buildings

The Parish Council is responsible, as landlord, for the Social Club, Village Hall and public toilets which require these risk assessments.

The Clerk had approached a number of different contractors and recommended Envirocure as the most suitable. The quotes would be:

- Quote K4725: For all three buildings: Risk assessment, Log book, hard copy of risk assessment and legionella testing in the water - cost at £960 plus VAT
- Quote K4726: Chlorination of the Village Hall - cost at £500 plus VAT

Cllr Sheppard proposed accepting the above quote; Cllr Larkin seconded. Unanimous for those present. (Cllr Stevens had just left the meeting)

5. Debate SLCC Request to support their letter asking for financial support for Town and Parish Councils following Covid 19

The Society of Local Council Clerks ("SLCC") was encouraging clerks to send a letter to local MPs asking for more financial assistance for local councils asking for more funding due to additional costs incurred over the pandemic period. It was suggested that this would lend a voice to the representations made by colleagues at the National Association of Local Councils ("NALC"). Ideas for the Clerk could be to send a letter to the Tunbridge Wells MP, Grey Clark, setting out the added costs to the Parish Council, including the cost of risk assessments and legionella costs, costs for keeping the public toilets open which show the community-minded attitude as well as contributions to the food bank which all necessitate more spending. Clerk will follow-up with this.

6. Updates

The Clerk had circulated some posters showing guidelines and rules for the reopening of the play area following the risk assessment which has been carried out. Cllrs Jenkinson and Larkin would review the risk assessments and posters and would work with the Clerk to see if it could be opened next week. The importance was stressed that any contractor working in the play area should follow all risk assessment guidance when carrying out tasks for the Parish Council.

The Council will review the play area after it had been open for one week and will be able to close it should the guidelines and rules be ignored and the health and safety of users compromised.

Lucy, I noted something about "Nourish for food supplies" but I don't remember what that means. If you know, would you add it, please?

There being no further business the meeting closed at 22:17.