

Emails for meeting February 2021

Bin men

I have had a phone call from a villager asking if the P C will send a letter of thanks to the 'bin men' for continuing to collect the rubbish during lockdown. It seems a strange request and all I could establish was that they felt it was unfair for the NHS to get all the thanks and praise and everyone else was forgotten.

I said I would ask you to put it on the next agenda and see how the councillors felt about it.

ENC Planning

I refer to the emails below and understand you were not able to get a reply in time for your meeting.

As I believe you still require a reply, I will do my best to respond to your query.

The only extra housing sites that the Planning Policy team is currently looking for beyond those currently identified in the November 2018 draft Part 2 Local Plan are ones in the vicinity of Rushden. This is to take account of the Rushden East Sustainable Urban extension which is not coming forward as fast as we thought it would and also delays in a development at Irthlingborough West which we have been relying on to help us achieve our housing targets.

The Local Plan is not seeking to identify any extra housing sites associated with Easton on the Hill and there has been no change in national government Policy since the 2018 draft was prepared which would encourage the allocation of the size of proposal that these developers are talking to you about.

I hope this is of assistance. I have copied my reply to Richard Palmer, the Council's Planning Policy Manager, as I have been out of the Policy Team since last March, in case he has anything to add or has any corrections to what I have said.

Neighbourhood Plan consultation

As you may be aware, Ketton Parish Council and Tinwell Parish Meeting (both in Rutland) are preparing the Ketton and Tinwell Joint Neighbourhood (Development) Plan, covering all of the combined Parish Area (see map in the attached Designation Notice). The work is being managed by a Steering Group (SG) comprising Parish Councillors and members of the community. As a Neighbourhood Plan expert, I have been appointed to provide professional planning support for this process.

The SG has undertaken initial consultation with the local community and is now in the process of evidence gathering. However, in addition to finding out the opinions and aspirations of local people, the Steering Group wants to obtain the views of statutory bodies and other interested organisations at each stage of plan making. You may have an interest in terms of: statutory duties, service provision, land ownership or business operations or some other (planning related) matter? I am, therefore, contacting you to make you/your organisation aware of the process and to invite any input you wish to make at this stage.

It is intended to move to a full Draft Plan, which will include a formal 6-week consultation, later in 2021. In the meantime, the SG would welcome any comments that you wish to make on any matters which you think should be included in the plan. If do not wish to comment at this stage, but you

want to be included in formal consultation on the Draft Plan later in the year, please let me know. Alternatively, if you do not wish to be contacted again concerning this Neighbourhood Plan, a short letter, email or telephone call to that effect would be appreciated.

If you wish to discuss technical aspects of the Neighbourhood Plan, contact me on 07815 950482 or by email at clive.keble@btopenworld.com

I look forward to hearing from you, if possible, by 5pm on Monday 1st February (i.e., within 3 weeks). However, please notify me if you need to consult colleagues or take comments through committees/boards and a response later in February will be acceptable.

Please note that this email has been sent to around 50 organisations and individuals, but in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) it has been sent Bcc to avoid disclosing individual email addresses.

Kind Regards, Clive Keble (MRTPI) for the Ketton and Tinwell Joint Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Here is an update on the Village Hall for the next PC meeting:

The Hall continues to be closed due to government lockdown restrictions and it will reopen as soon as we are able to do so. We continue to complete weekly checks on the hall in line with our insurance guidelines. We are working with the County Council to ensure that we receive the grants available to use during lockdown. We regularly place updates in What's on the Hill and posters on notice boards to encourage residents and our local societies and hirers to book activities and events for later in the year. We are working on our website page on the village website and there is more to do on this.

Tim has come up with a suggestion to solve the notice board problems. The present one is too small and is also situated on a wall that receives no sun and consequently suffers from condensation which makes reading the notices inside impossible, at least during the winter. The board at the crossroads is a lot bigger and much better situated, but it isn't locked and there would be much village grumbling if we simply took it over so to speak. So the idea is this - we buy a new, bigger notice board and site it in the bus shelter near the Blue Bell pub. Put a notice in the old board to the effect that all Council business will now be displayed in the new one, a note on the Facebook page and What's on the Hill and that should please everyone. The board we are looking at is available on Amazon for £279, delivery and VAT included but I've put a link to the supplier's website so you can see what we are looking at:

<https://www.wonderwallproducts.co.uk/product/outdoor-exterior-lockable-noticeboard-showcase-with-aluminium-frame/>

It's weatherproof and lockable, takes 18 X A4 sheets and no siting permission would be needed as the Council already owns the shelter and it even has a light in the shelter so the notices could be seen at night

Finance report end January 2021

	BUDGET	ACTUAL TO DATE	% of budget
Payments (excluding VAT)			
Staff costs inc hmrc	£ 9,520.00	£ 8,240.30	86.56%
Insurance	£ 1,550.00	£ 893.32	57.63%
Room Hire	£ 200.00	£ 80.25	40.13%
Admin costs, station, post, miles	£ 500.00	£ 280.27	56.05%
Subscriptions	£ 665.00	£ 634.02	95.34%
Training/conference	£ 1,250.00	£ 1,108.00	88.64%
Audit	£ 420.00	£ 522.00	124.29%
Street Lighting	£ 2,300.00	£ 1,525.50	66.33%
Solicitor		£ -	#DIV/0!
Parks & Open Spaces, grit, bins, trees	£ 5,610.00	£ 4,636.63	82.65%
Asset Maintenance	£ 1,225.00	£ 390.07	31.84%
Website & email	£ 585.00	£ 464.00	79.32%
PWLB	£ -	£ -	#DIV/0!
s137 payments	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	100.00%
Other payments (not in budget)	£ -	£ -	#DIV/0!
Total Payments	£23,875.00	£18,824.36	78.85%
Receipts (excluding VAT)			
Precept - ENC	£32,835.00	£32,835.00	100.00%
Allotment Rent	£ 140.00	£ 122.50	87.50%
Interest	£ 25.00	£ -	0.00%
Donations		£ 250.00	#DIV/0!
Other receipts (not in budget)donations/grants	£ -	£15,537.18	#DIV/0!
email a/c credit		£ 12.50	#DIV/0!

Total Receipts	£33,000.00	£48,757.18	147.75%
Reserves/projects	Opening Balance	Spent	
General reserves	£ 3,000.00	£ -	0.00%
Election	£ 1,000.00	£ -	0.00%
Village plan	£ 150.00	£ -	0.00%
PF imp project	£ 3,000.00	£ 4,850.80	161.69%
Replace bench	£ 700.00	£ 418.00	59.71%
Replace pole New Town	£ 650.00	£ 650.00	100.00%
Solicitor fees	£ 500.00	£ 340.00	68.00%
Path, grant, benches	£10,000.00	£10,000.50	100.01%
Grant gym equip	£ 2,650.00	£ 2,633.68	99.38%
Grant/CTP		£ -	#DIV/0!
Total Reserves	£21,650.00	£18,892.98	87.27%

Comments

- Highlighted sections are budget headings where savings have been made this year
- Total general budget spent is 79% and we are 83% through the year
- Bank balance end Jan is £14756 with 3k VAT reclaim due, and expenditure expected in Feb and March approx. £3.5k - £4.5k depending on fence, tree survey and tree works due and PFIC equipment order shortfall to underwrite – see below

PFIC position

- PC paid £4445 to Augean as third-party contribution. Budget has £3k for PF improvements, so PFIC asked to repay £1445 by end of year. This has been done.

- Remainder of 3k asked to repay asap. 1k has been raised. 2k remains outstanding unless original PF budget of 3k used against this.
- Asking to underwrite a further £429 min - £2096 max depending on slush fund of £1667 used up from grant money.
- PC agreed to spend money on extension of fence, quotes to be agreed around £900.
- £900 left in parks/open spaces budget and same in asset maintenance budget. Tree survey/works and clock service to be done this year yet.
- General reserves are left untouched at 3k, with less expenditure this year leading to a carry forward of higher reserves, around 12k depending on VAT and expenditure on above.

My recommendation is to underwrite the additional costs required by the PFIC.

Parish Councillor Elections – briefing feedback and role of current Councillors

Timetable – key dates

- Elections are happening on Thursday 6/5/2021 unless something catastrophic happens to prevent them!
- Notice of elections must go up on 29/3/21
- Nominations are open from 30/3/21 to the firm **deadline of 8/4/21 at 4pm** – Easter in this period so beware – application still has to be **delivered by hand**
- **Nomination forms** from Clerk or ENC website or Electoral Services (www.electoralcommission.org.uk)
- Easy form to complete – just need proposer and seconder (and to be eligible)
- Statement of nominations published 9/4/21 so will know if a contested election or not. Need 12 nominations to be a contested election.
- Ballot results 8/5/21
- Current Councillors automatically resign then are re-elected if nominated and elected
- All new Councillors come into office on 10th May and new Council in place at first Annual meeting of the Council, anytime from 17/5 to 28/5.
- Old Chairman opens this meeting until new Chairman is elected.

Recruitment of candidates starts now!

- Who is going to put themselves forwards? Need to have a rough idea of numbers if possible. **Say now or let the Clerk know** in confidence if you prefer.
- **Councillors have a responsibility** to promote candidacy Need to advertise the Election and the opportunity for new Parish Councillors and get a contested election ideally.
- Posters on all notice boards, website and Facebook
- Councillors to approach potential candidates, via groups, one to one, word of mouth
- Be positive and upbeat about this important role. Sell it. Talk to people.
- Clerk will be the point of contact and encourage people to apply and keep in contact with potential candidates.

After the closing date

- **Councillors need to promote the election**, if contested, and get people to **VOTE – take your own pen!** Registering for postal votes closes 5pm on 20/4/21

After the election

- If not all the positions are filled, a co-option process can begin
- Signatories on bank account need to be sorted if necessary – important to pay bills and Clerk.
- New Councillor training, forms and new Committee members to consider.

Clerk has no statutory role in the process but will be the point of contact for candidates and those newly elected. Will handle the forms, keep the electoral register and advise Council/lors of the steps of the process and position.

Playing field fence

Quotes for fencing from end of cricket club fence to the emergency gate in the car park

This fence is approximately 65 mts in length

Its a Creosoted posts and a 2 ht wire with a holland style wire fence plastic coat green

I have approached 3 contractors to quote for this fence

Contractor 1 is the same one that put in the cricket club fence.

Contractor 2 is a local contractor from Yarwell

Contractor 3 is a local contractor from kings cliffe

Con 1 quote includes removing the soil along hedge line so fence can sit on ground level

The other quote we would have to do this

Con 1 works with Dunk and will sort out timing the hedge back some more so the fence will go back behind path line

The others we would have to arrange this

The quotes are

Contractor 1 total £826.40 ex vat

Contractor 2 total £773.50 ex vat

Contractor 3 total to follow if produced in time for meeting.

I would recommend contractor 1 for ease