

dated 10th
May, 2021.

A Summary of the Parish Council's Year 1st April 2020 to 31st March, 2021. COVID - PANDEMIC YEAR.

COVID:
The AGM. was held at Hollinsclough School on 27th August 2020 having been deferred due to a Global Pandemic and Lock Down in the UK. (See previous minute book for details). Councillors Richard Slack and Daniel Stead were appointed as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively.

Action Point
Election of Officers 2021 - 22.
The Annual Parish Meeting which should be held between 1st March and 1st June in each year and which had been organised for 24th April - and to be led by Community Police Officers Lauren Drew and Rebecca Gorman followed by the business of members of the Parish to raise matters of parish interest and to pass resolutions where relevant - had to be cancelled because of the COVID situation.

Action Point
to identify a date for an A.P. Meeting 2021
The Clerk with the authority of the Chairman circulated a letter to all parishioners providing them with a list of Councillors and their contact details and offering their assistance to anyone in need during this COVID YEAR. A postcard was also sent to each household that could be used by the residents to send to someone as a token of friendship.

Comment.
The letter was appreciated by the community being. This resulted in sending a specially designed and acted upon by some individuals. The Chair and the Clerk identified key people for more.
The PC. responded to a letter from the Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire Mr. Ian Dudson CBE to identify those people within our community and who served the community from beyond and contributed to its physical, social intellectual and emotional well-being. This resulted in sending a specially designed card from the Lord Lieutenant with an explanatory letter. This ^{was} much appreciated by recipients. The Chair and the Clerk identified key people for more. The cards provided and a request was made for

Recipients: Longnor Stores • Longnor Post Office • Longnor fish and chip shop • Hollinsclough School • Longnor Church • Hartington Surgery • Flash Bar Stores • The Corn Store.

Between 27th August and 31st March 2021 when site meetings and Zoom meetings were not possible (COVID).

The PC adopted a strategy whereby;

- The clerk delivered details of each P.C. issue to Councillors by hand for their deliberation.
- Councillors reported their comments by telephone, in writing and frequently both.
- The clerk produced a collated report of the PC's deliberation on individual matters and circulated/delivered same to Councillors.

Comment.

The clerk wishes to

thank all

councillors

for their

diligence,

sincerity of

purpose and

high level

of responsibility in

enabling the whole process to be dealt with efficiently and to a high standard.

- Councillors reported their confirmation of the detail and approval or requested refinements, additions, amendments.
- A final report was produced, checked by the chairman and circulated to Councillors by hand until full approval and accuracy was agreed.

The issues dealt with using the above system were

- Setting of the Parish Precept:
 - It was decided that £1300 should again be requested
 - a) the projects identified 20-21 would be held up on account of COVID and would require funding.
 - b) the 2nd instalment of the PC election would be required Feb. 2021.
 - c) reserves were needed in light of a major consultation taking place re. Limer/Swan Rates which could impact on PC. and
 - d) further work may be/would be needed on the telephone box and street furniture once the basic work had been done.

31st Jan 2021 SCC's Parish wide and beyond consultation re. Swan and Lamer Rales - Repairs - Function etc. (7 pages).

- The PC sent two reports outlining its knowledge and views. The first covered the historic background to S. and L. Rales
 - Details of complaints and letters to 'the Councils' for repairs from 1902 onwards
 - The impact of the PDNP being established in 1951
 - Conflicts in the Parish as a result
 - Letters sent to the PDNP re. above
 - Complaints made by visitors / residents
 - Survey details re. HxH and motor bikes using the 'greenlanes' carried out in 2011

2. The PC's conclusions in light of (1) above. (6 pages)

- identifying 12 areas of debate that it had to consider from a position of responsibility for the Parish as a whole
- a consideration of each mode of travel
- decisions that they must be kept open as highways for pedestrians, cyclists, equestrians, landowner access bordering the Rales. The complexity of m/bikes and recognising that it may not be desirable to prevent, for a whole range of reasons set out in detail. The importance of use by local people was stressed summed up with evidence. It could be argued that to remove motor bike travel by local people is an erosion of how the area has functioned in the past and continues to function

Comment.

The Chair authorised the purchase of PDNP Development Management Policies Part 2 of the Local Plan 19 to inform its thinking.

Reports (1) and (2) attached herewith.

Comment

The proposed dev. was granted on 5th March 2021 with conditions

* relating to family

nowadays where it is allowed to

NB A H.C.G. Zoom Group. A copy of a report sent to SCC was deposited with the PC by a group of local people referred to as Hollinsclough Community Group said to be directly impacted by the Rales and living either adjacent or within close proximity. Said also to have the support of Anne Robinson (CPRK Peaks and Yorks) and Chris Woods (Peak District Greenlanes Alliance). It was deposited with the PC after the deadline for reports to be sent to SCC and would not therefore be considered by Councillors.

Planning Application for Wilshaw Bottom Farm, Sandy Lane, Hollins. Mr. and Mrs. Childs. Construction of a 2 storey side extension for use as an annexe for a dependant relative. NP/SM/0121/0049 (5 Jan 2021). Note that the applicants provided each councillor with a letter explaining fully the background to the application which was much appreciated in informing their understanding. This material information was considered to be personal but had been given to the PDNP officers too rather than publicised to the general public.

H.C.G. report continued.

H.C.G. would very much like to see access enabled for all walkers, disabled users, cyclists and horse-riders. However, EVC concerns that enabling the last two user groups would also enable continued MPV use (even if illegal should a TR0 be implemented by SCC) leads us to conclude that unless motorised use can be prevented, the Rales should only be made available to walkers.

The use of HxHs was considered to be unsuitable. Impacts on Jue's Lane were outlined. Blame apportioned to SCC re. drainage was identified. Strategies of management outlined for the Rales, infuture identified. The PC called for a creative management plan with SCC and the PDNPA working in partnership rather than the proposed minimal repair of the Rales.

Comment Planning Application NP/SM/1220/1214 App. for a first floor extension above an existing stable to create ancillary accommodation at Nether Colshaw Farm to conditions on Colshaw Lane, Quarnford. (Holl). (PC response attached).
24th March, 21

- SCC Ref 021477 S.53 application to upgrade public footpath 17 Holl. to a bridleway. (S 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) The application is based on historical evidence. The Director of Corporate Services, Ms. Hannah Titchener is investigating evidence both in support and against the claim. The application to the SCC legal services was made by Felicity Edmeston on behalf of the Staffordshire Moorlands Bridleways Group. A whole range of documents and map accompanied the application.

Comment The PC was of one resolute mind in beseeching SCC letter received to retain the status of FP17 as a footpath and NOT to upgrade it to a bridleway, based on evidence both from Director of C.S. 4:3. 21 factual and circumstantial contained in its 8 page report and map of the line of the path and appendices 1a, b, c, d.

acknowledging and thanking the PC for its comments in relation to the application and if any further info come to light to get in touch.

Other Matters.

- Joe's Lane - following storm damage / intense heavy rain Feb. 2020. Need for repair at the junction with The Hale and at the junction with Redfern Lane. Subsequently wrote re. accident on the Hale and need for additional grit at places in the Gollen. Reported to Highways that the Chairman had used grit from Mr. Hudson's yard to ensure that Brown Brook Cottage and The Glen had supplies and asked for their inclusion in the gritting programme.

The clerk asked if the SCC could afford an additional grit bin at the top of the Hale at the junction with the Gollen.

Planning Applications Not Received.

Early in 2020 there were 2 planning applications at a time when staff were working from home and admin. was still to work smoothly. Both apps. were subsequently granted and I asked for the decision notices to be forwarded.

Annual Parish Council Meeting held at Hollinsclough Primary Academy School at 8pm 10th May, 2021.

Present
Chair C. Stuck
Councillors Ball,
Stead, Kidd,
Hails, Mellor
unpaid.
Clerk Hails

Apologies Councillor Belfield.

Minutes of AGM. 27th August, 2020.

These were read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising.

• Parish Council Accounts.

The clerk informed the meeting that she had received notification from Mazars^{HP} that Agar Part 2 needed to be completed for 2020/2021 by 30th June (Audit of Accounts). As the AGM 2020 focused in the main on the Council's finances the clerk presented details of its account of payments and receipts 20-21 and emphasised that £429.53 was ring fenced for the maintenance of the defibrillator. The balance as at 31st 3. 2021 was 2,314.50 and Mr. G. Tinson had been paid his annual lengthsmen sum of £1400 (report submitted to SMDC for this to be reclaimed) and £60 payment to SPCA. annual subscription leaving £1,854.50. The clerk stated that 2 payments had now been paid to SMDC for the PC election in 2019 with 2 further payments each for £442.43 to be made.

The PC had again requested £1300 for

The PP 2021-22 and that this sum was identified as being necessary

The Council gave its approval to submit the statement of finances 20/21 to Mr. F. Bellamy - internal auditor.

- ① for instalment 3 due in Feb. 2022.
- ② Painting and conversion internally to create an exhibition / notice display kiosk. Mr. Lucking / Mr. Goodwin
- ③ The noticeboard restoration - Mr. Hitchen
- ④ Repair to the seat at Coatstown.
- ⑤ Reserves for highway / env. work provided by the lengthsmen beyond his £400 per annum contract should that be necessary in view of the impact of high rain fall - storm damage 2020/21.
- ⑥ Potential / Possible Implications of the restoration of Swan and Limer Rates for the PC.
- ⑦ Distribution of grant in the upper reaches of the Parish and possible purchase / contribution towards a new grant pen at the top of the Hollin
- ⑧ Consideration of visitors (increase of) to the Parish eg. waste / leaflets re. the Country Code and visitor responsibilities.

The lengthsmen's Contract

The clerk explained that as per instructions she had forwarded a new potential contract of responsibilities to SMDC re. the lengthsmen's responsibilities. It had been sent to the legal dept. by the officer in charge of the lengthsmen scheme. As a decision had not yet been received, she had written again to expedite matters. In the meantime she would go through the contract with the lengthsmen to inform 21/22.

The Annual Parish Meeting

The clerk reminded the meeting that in 2019 in order to provide added interest to the Parish Meetings it had organised a successful defibrillator training day prior to elections raising parish affairs

of concern to them.

In 2020 a similar occasion had been arranged. The Community Police were to present an afternoon of discussion re. Rural Policing and Rural Crime. This had had to be cancelled due to 'COVID' restrictions (24.4.2020).

The PC wished for the above to be organised again at a date to be fixed after the Nation was set to be un-locked by the Gov. (June 21st) and to give time for any new increase in COVID-Spread to be dealt with. Such a date would need to be outside the P.M. dates of 1st March - 1st June. July (mid) was suggested. The Chair and the Clerk were instructed to explore. Councillors wanted an emphasis on what the Police Service could do to support the local community (Becky Gorman and Lauren Drew?).

PC Relationships with the Community

The PC was informed that it had been worthwhile to write to residents at the start of the Pandemic and that the contact information had been well received and made use of.

The Lord-Lieutenant's expression of thanks to those who had contributed to the health and well-being of local people during the challenging and extraordinary times of the Pandemic - 'inspirational and uplifting' (Mr. Ian Judson CBE KStJ). The PC had identified and delivered cards / letter of its own to a range of services that had benefited Hollinsclough. (pg 2).

The PC matters dealt with during the Pandemic Year and the Strategy Adopted to ensure thoroughness and responsibility:

- The clerk went through the matters dealt with as follows.
1. The SCC Parish wide consultation re. Swan and Limer Rates
 2. Planning applications at Wilshaw Bottom Farm and at Nether Colshaw together with PDNP decision notices.

See pages 1-6

3. Application to SCC by Staffordshire Moorlands Bridle group to upgrade FP 17 to a bridleway.

4. The condition of Joe's Lane following storm damage.

5. The distribution of grant in the Parish/need for grant.

6. The vehicle accident on the Rake, B17 (near to The Grotto).

AOB.

The clerk reported that Mr. and Mrs Hudson/Daniel and Sarah had asked the Council to find out from the PDNP whether they would be allowed to develop an honesty shop in the Parish. Written details were provided. The clerk contacted Sandra Hamp - pre-planning officer who contacted the family directly. An honesty shop is in place adjacent to Daniel and Sarah's home.

Using Funds for Church Upkeep - Clarification of the Rules

This matter had been raised in the 'Clerks and Councils' Direct guidance. Having stated in Jan 21 that payments were allowed but in March it was reported that NALC debarred local councils from giving financial assistance. The Jan. advice was given erroneously. This issue apparently had been of country wide interest in view of the current well publicised financial situation of churches under lock-down rules. [Note 5137 of the LGA 1972 does allow a local authority incur expenditure on their opinion is in the interests of and will bring direct benefit to their area.]

Looking Ahead to The Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2-5th June 2022.. and the purchase of commemorative mugs with the Parish name.

The Clerk was instructed to contact Longnor Parish Council with a view to ascertaining whether it would be organising an 'umbrella event' for this event as it had in the past.

Moor Top Incident.

It was felt that an incident here was not a PC. matter and was a neighbour dispute that had got out of hand.

Not marketed yet but will be sold soon.

Update re. St. Agnes Church and school, Hollins church. The clerk had spoken to Mr. Phil Lovell, the Operations Manager and had been informed that the sch. was working with the PDNP (Rebecca Waddington) and that negotiations were moving forward to sell the property within a short space of time. The next meeting would be after the 1. A's examination of the accounts.

The clerk was instructed to pay for the materials necessary for the maintenance of the defibrillator as and when they were provided by Marie Frodsham (in charge of local defib).
Future Council Meetings.

These will be held at 7.30 pm. *Phil D* 24/6/2021

- Present.
Chair, R. Slack
V.C. J. Stead
C. L. Ball
C. J. Belfield
C. N. Mellor.
C. J. Hails
Clerk.

Meeting of Hollinsclough Parish Council held at Hollinsclough Academy, 8 pm Thursday, 24th June, 2021.

Apologies: None.

Minutes of the meeting 10.5.2021. These were read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

The main business of the meeting was prioritised to ensure that it was given the time that it needed in its fullness - viz.

The Internal Audit of the Parish Council's Accounts 2020-21.

The Chairman left time at the presentation of each page (by the clerk) to invite Councillors to question and/or comment.

The clerk reported that she had published the Notice of appointment of the dates of exercise of the public's rights to inspect, question, object to the accounts. (1st July - 9th Aug. 2021).

- The Councillors with their own copies of Int. Aud's report in its entirety read the 1. A's. report paying particular attention to para. 2.
- Petty cash This page was examined carefully and in particular the recommendation that it should remain as a balance over £50. Councillor Ball wanted this item to be addressed immediately. A cheque was signed and authorised for a further £50 accordingly.
- VAT reclaim This had been done for the VAT on the minute book.
- Statement of accounts This was examined. The increase in precept was acknowledged 2020/21. Differences in balances and payments confirmed.
- Variations in receipts and payments. This was read by the Councillors and the clerk was encouraging regarding the more recent →

determination by the lengthman to get his invoices in on time. It was recognised re. the defibrillator that more fund raising would take place when possible.

- Total other payments - The P. insurance was discussed as shown and its consistency into 2022 acknowledged. Re. the I.A.'s fee, the clerk reported that she had constructed a letter of appreciation and ^{for 20-21} organised payment, thanking Mr. Bellaby for his professionalism and attention to detail. His fee had remained consistent throughout his supervision. The Council approved the above. The clerk reminded the Council that 2 further payments re. the PC election would be needed into the future and that she was awaiting the delivery of new pads for the defibrillator which would arrive and be invoiced soon. She was instructed to pay for these as appropriate. Re. the lengthman, the clerk reported that she had ensured that Mr. Tison had presented his invoice on time for the necessary claim to be made on SMDC and that she was planning to meet with him next week to go through his contract. The full amount of £400 for 2021 was acknowledged.

• Bank reconciliation

This was confirmed as shown.

- Items of expenditure confirmed.
- Land and building assets - details confirmed as were the Councillors' details and changes during the year. The Councillors approved the I.A.'s report overall.

The Annual Governance Statement, 2020-21.

- Each page was confirmed. The Certificate of exemption was certified and duly signed by the Responsible Financial Officer (clerk) and the chairman.
- Pages 4 and 5 I.A. Report Internal control objectives were examined together with the PC's responsibility statements. Pg. 5. was again signed by the Chair ^{and clerk} with the approval of the Council.

- S.2. Accounting Statements 20/21 were confirmed - Pg. 6. and again were signed by the clerk and the chairman with the full approval of the Council.

This concluded the Council's consideration of the I.A. report and the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020/21. Part 2.

At this point the Council returned to the minutes of its meeting 10.5.21. and deliberated on the matters arising as follows:

The Lengthman

The Council was still awaiting P.M.D.C.'s approval of the lengthman's contract that it had redrawn in 2020. 'COVID' had slowed things down.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Chair had contacted the 2 Community police officers to re-negotiate their presentation of rural policing (2020 Presentation had had to be cancelled due to 'COVID-Lock Down'. The clerk felt that mid July was too soon for the deferred event on account of the Government's extension of its 'LOCK DOWN'. The clerk provided a number of articles re. rural crime and issues for the Council to consider re. content. Timing needed to be monitored in line with Government rulings. The Key Theme would continue to be one of how the Police Service could support the Parish. The Chairman wished to have more knowledge of cycle law and codes of conduct and this was fully endorsed. Event planning to be continued.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2-5th June 2022.

The clerk had contacted the SPCA in order to ascertain whether guidance would be provided to P.C.s. Informed that there would be. The clerk communicated with the clerk of Longnor PC re. whether the event should be an 'umbrella' occasion centred on Longnor. Discussions ongoing but to include:

- presentation of mugs to youngsters aged 16 and under at the time of the Key dates. Sourcing these

was discussed and the Chairman agreed to investigate a local source. The clerk would look into Edwards and Lockett of S.O.7. and the Jubilee Mug Commemorative Corp as advertised in the Clerk and Councils Direct. The former Chairman of the P.C. C. Mellor expressed an interest in planting a tree on the village green, possibly a fruit tree - wild cherry - a tree with blossom - ornamental and the placing of a bench. He was willing too to pay for these which was applauded by Councillors. The clerk offered to visit nurseries re. a possible tree and C. Mellor would take responsibility for any seat. The plan was fully endorsed. The Chairman noted that he had seen stipes in other parts of the country that had been dedicated in the memory of individuals/events. Again, this was a valuable idea.

Litter and Need for bins-?

Councillor Ball was concerned that with more visitors coming into the countryside and more provision of refreshment in the village area of the Parish the disposal of litter may become a bigger issue. The clerk reported that she had obtained a catalogue of litter and recycling bins and had contacted the PDNP to research the nature/type of bin that would meet with the approval of that auth. inside a conservation area. She had also investigated ^{any} financial support available. The cost of such a bin being emptied regularly was likely to be as important as the cost of any bin. At this point in time the P.C. was unanimous in its desire for visitors to take their rubbish home and to be totally responsible for it especially with the health and hygiene lessons from the COVID PANDEMIC. The clerk reported that she had obtained very good posters and fliers from the PDNP and

that she had placed these on both noticeboards and in the telephone box. She would explore too other possibilities of emphasising this message. The Chairman expressed his disimay at the piled up rubbish in car parks within the PDNP and the whole Council felt that such sights detracted from the vision of the countryside that visitors expected to see and experience.

Land ownership S.C.C.

The clerk reported that S.C.C.'s Rights of Way Officer had approached the PC with a view to providing landownership information prior to work being carried out on Bridleway No 8. Information had been provided and landowners informed.

Public Spaces Protection Order (Wild Flora).

Details of a proposed order by SMDC to apply to all parts of the Staffordshire Moorlands that lie within the PDNP ^{and} or is owned by SMDC - which ^{are} open to the air and to which the public are entitled to have access with or without payment - with the intention of preventing fires - were examined.

A.O.B. Ash dieback

Councillor Mellor again raised the matter of Ash dieback having seen an authoritative article in the Farmers' Guardian. He had reported concerns in the Staffordshire Moorlands with the NFU and he wished to know what S.C.C. was planning to do about it. Who was responsible for eg. for the self seeded - Ash dieback damaged trees along the highways. A number of examples ~~and~~ can be seen in Hollinsclough Parish and surrounding areas. The clerk had already written to S.C.C. some months previous but had not received a reply. The Highways Supt. Mr. Rushton of SMDC agreed to investigate the S.C.C. position on the matter. Landowners and farmers needed to check trees on their own land too.