

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 7TH APRIL 2020
VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM.**

Present: Councillors: S Cook (Chairperson), P. Wait, M Percy, B Bywater, J Hobson, C Eardley and Lynn Thornton (Clerk)

Also present: District councillor Jim Dewey

Apologies: None

REF

66/20 Open Forum
None.

67/20 Apologies for absence
None.

68/20 Declarations of Interest by Councillors
None.

69/20 Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 3rd March 2020 were approved and signed as a true and correct record by those present at the meetings.

70/20 The council has received notification of the following planning applications:
a) S.20/0179/FUL – Mobile home, Smithfield, Elmcote Lane –erection of single dwelling house with associated works. **Supported.**

71/20 Accounts

Incomes received and payments for authorisation

None.

Payments for Authorisation

L Thornton	406.40	Wages March 2020
S Cook	100.00	Newsletter editing
S Cook	115.95	Newsletter printing
Greenville Grounds	100.00	Grass cutting
Coaley Village Hall	66.00	Hire of Jubilee Room
S Cook	49.99	Website security
S Cook	14.39	Zoom subscription

b) Councillors voted to use the same internal auditor as previous years.

72/20 Clerks Report

1. The audit has been delayed to September and there has been a change to how the council publishes the statement of accounts.

73/20	<p><u>Tennis courts</u> Gloucestershire county council has cut the trees behind the tennis courts but the wood chippings need to be removed. The courts are presently closed further to guidance from central government. Cllr Cook has received a call from a resident regarding the chippings, Cllr Cook confirmed the resident could take as much as needed. Cllr Cook will take the remaining chipping up to the Far Green allotments.</p>	Cllr Cook
74/20	<p><u>Village shop</u> The Village shop has geared itself up to respond to the Coronavirus by issuing a note which went out with the newsletter saying they may be able to help local people in need by taking orders and delivering shopping by people volunteering to help deliver goods or in any way they can. The response for volunteers was impressive as only to be expected by residents of Coaley. It is working well with the inevitable very few hiccups which is only to be expected in these unprecedented times. They are still hopeful that the building of the new shop might start sometime this year but that remains to be seen. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the shop is operating reduced hours (9am - 12pm) and carrying out deliveries in the afternoon. There has been some collaboration with the council's help scheme regarding the procedure for safe delivery of goods.</p>	
75/20	<p><u>Village hall update</u> The hall is now closed until further notice. The cleaner is being retained for the time being and she is using the time to polish the hall floor, clean the ovens and steam clean the chairs. It's hoped that the electrical system tests and portable appliance testing will still take place early April.</p>	
76/20	<p><u>Coaley climate action network</u> Nothing to report.</p>	
77/20	<p><u>Policing</u> Nothing to report.</p>	
78/20	<p><u>Telephone Box</u> The new board has been put up in the phonebox.</p>	
79/20	<p><u>Footpath, ditches and stiles to be discussed</u> Nothing to report.</p>	
80/20	<p><u>Coronavirus Update</u> The parish council has set up a COVID-19 pandemic support scheme so that vulnerable people can be put in touch with people who have volunteered to help. This is managed on the council's website, also telephone numbers have been published in the newsletter so people without internet access can register. There are about 30 volunteer helpers and only four vulnerable households registered. Only one of these has required any actual help and they were put in touch with someone well known to them. As far as the council is aware of several other vulnerable households but they are all being helped by friends or relatives. The council is not aware of any households isolating because of COVID-19 illness. Cllr Cook sends occasional messages to the helpers so they know they haven't been forgotten. At the moment we are fighting a phony war, but things could get worse before they get better. The website also collates the other help available in the village. Cllr Cook has made Gloucestershire's community help hub, Stroud District Council</p>	

and GL11 aware of our help scheme to try to avoid duplication of effort, to get any requests for assistance referred to us, and for them to publicise our scheme through their channels.

The shop delivery service is in a similar position regarding the number of helpers versus the amount of help required. They may stand down their helpers but have asked whether there is any point using those helpers to leaflet the village to encourage vulnerable people to make themselves known to us. They anticipate each helper would be given a group of addresses to look after. The newsletter article had the same intention and since it has been distributed a couple of helpers have registered and one vulnerable household.

Because the website has been used to gather personal information Cllr Cook felt that it should be made secure. The council has therefore bought the required SSL certificate which costs £49.99 a year. Our ISP, very unhelpfully, has recently moved our website to a new server which has proved to be not very reliable. Cllr Cook has complained but the problem seems to be ongoing. It's impossible to move elsewhere without a significant amount of work, some disruption and risk of making things worse, so we're stuck where we are for now.

Cllr Cook felt unable to ask the newsletter deliverers to do their rounds for the April issue, but because the shop wanted an insert in the newsletter delivered they organised volunteers to do the delivery.

Other help:

The Old Fox is distributing free meals to deserving people, it seems once a week. There is a Facebook group called 'Coaley Village Coronavirus Help page' set up by others. Big Event Catering, whose owners live in the village, have seen their business dry up overnight. They have re-purposed their kitchen in Dursley to create the Severn Vale Community Kitchen and are providing low cost chilled meals to anyone, and subsidised meals through GL11.

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| 81/20 | <p><u>Allotment Update</u>
The council have put on hold the planned tree planting at Far Green because it would be impossible to organise the tree planting workshop during the COVID-19 lock down. There is a planting opportunity in the autumn and as the £500 grant from the CPRE is available all this year the council should still be eligible. Cllr Cook has been advised even then, given the circumstances, it's likely to be carried over to next year. In the meantime, Cllr Cook will try to keep the weeds under control. A parishioner has also offered to run his ride-on mower over it.</p> | Cllr Cook |
| 82/20 | <p><u>Village Maintenance</u>
Nothing to report.</p> | |
| 83/20 | <p><u>Highways repairs and maintenance</u>
Cllr Cook had a problem reported to him about the surface water drains just outside the shop. Apparently, when it rains water comes out of one drain and runs down the road to the next drain. This has been reported to GCC highways website and a confirmation has been received back that the problem will be dealt with. Cllr Percy has had notification that the pothole on Peters Street has been filled, this is not the case and the clerk will reopen the ticket with GCC.</p> | Clerk |
| 84/20 | <p><u>Playarea Update</u>
The RoSPA inspection is due in the next few weeks. The playarea is presently closed to adhere to present guidelines.</p> | |

- 85/20 Recreation field subcommittee report
The planned meeting with Richard Fishlock has been postponed until a future date.
- 86/20 Matters for forward consideration
None.
- 87/20 Items for press release
Minutes.

Meeting closed at 8.20 pm.