

**MINUTES OF MOTTISFONT PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING Held on
Wednesday 23rd September 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom.**

PRESENT: Parish Councillors Channing, in chair, P Barnett, J Barnett, Simmonds, Millns, Jenkins. Also, in attendance was Vicky Fletcher from the National Trust, County Councillor Andrew Gibson and clerk to the council, Sue Holder.

21/020 OPEN FORUM: None

21/021 APOLOGIES: None.

21/022 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

- a) **On agenda items only:** None.
- b) **Changes to the disclosable pecuniary interests registered with Test Valley Borough Council:** None.

21/023 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 22ND JULY: were sent to all councillors prior to the meeting and were unanimously agreed to be a correct record.

21/024 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- A financial contribution towards the maintenance of the defibrillators has now been sent made payable to The Community Heartbeat Trust.

21/025 NATIONAL TRUST

Vicky Fletcher, the new General Manager at The Abbey, was welcomed to the meeting. Vicky provided the following report:

- The National Trust has suffered financial loss this year because of the COVID pandemic with visitor numbers so low. Consequently, it will be necessary to make some redundancies, and within a community such as Mottisfont, it is recognised that the changes will inevitably touch friends and families too. In the future, the tenant properties will be run from a centralised location not by a local team. Furloughed staff will return from the 1st November.
- Visitors to The Abbey over the summer have been steady with the new booking system maintaining a safe flow of people. There are now plans to open the House, with a one-way system in place.
- Events over the Autumn and Winter will be minimal.
- Visitor numbers have been between 500-750 per day with a capacity of 1000.

21/026 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT, Cllr Andrew Gibson

- Hampshire County Council are focusing on green energy.
- Recycling centres are running 30% down on capacity however the service is good.
- B3084 has been repaired to a good standard.
- The new village gateway was discussed, and Skanska will be returning to finish the gates and to lay the red road surface and white lines. Noted that there is some debate if the gates have been installed the correct way around.

21/027 FINANCE:

TSB Account 00182619	£ 5,700.73
TSB Account 01542503	£ 11,000.66

	£ 16,701.39

a) Payments for Approval (R) = Retrospective

Costs towards defibrillator®	£250.00 # 651
Clerks pay Jul, Aug, Sept	£638.64 # 652
ICO	£40.00 # 653

b) External Audit Report: None to report at this meeting.

21/028 PLANNING

- a) **New planning applications:** None
- b) **Decisions received:**
20/00631/OBLS Russell Drive: PENDING

21/029 HIGHWAYS

- a) **B3084 Traffic:** It was reported that the volume of traffic on the B3084 has increased including use by heavy vehicles. Cllr Simmonds noted an increase in Raymond Brown vehicles using the lanes.
- b) **Other:** Potholes continue to be reported, including previous repairs that are now failing in Bengers Lane. The B3084 from Hatt Farm to the Village Hall was reported to have large ruts in it and is collapsing in places.
- c) **Lengths man:** The Lengths man has been assigned to clear the foliage from around village signs and nameplates and to clean the signs.

21/030 CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

With infection rates rising again the parish council agreed to remind all parishioners of the support network now in place across the parish if required.

21/031 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- The Mottisfont 10 footpath sign has been broken and will be replaced at a cost of £120.00
- Given the cost of a new notice board of a type that would fit in with its rural location, it was proposed to seek to repair the existing one at Dunbridge.
- An update regarding the village gateway will be included in The Acorn.
- Overnight work to commence at the train station from the 3rd October.

21/032 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 18TH November

There being no further business, the chairman closed the meeting at 8.40 pm