

Village Committee Zoom meeting 10 February 2021

Date: Wed, 10 Feb 2021 17:07:23 +0000

Present: Mike Ager, Janet Norman-Philips, Sue & Allan Chapman, Tony Freitas, Lesley Abbott, Adrian Smith, Katie Abbott, Drew Abbott, Lesley Ann Rose-Freitas, Graham Abbott, Emma Hewitt, Jeanette Brierley.

Apologies: Will Edwards,

Village Committee Meeting – Notes

1. AGM

Obviously, we can set a date for the AGM (at 8pm on a Wednesday in May sometime as usual). I'm not sure what the situation regarding the AGM is going to be - I don't know if we will be allowed to do it via zoom - and I know that quite a few people in the village, who would normally attend, are not zoom users.

Apparently if we have a meeting before 7th May we can hold a zoom one (after that remote meeting become illegal again) - though the Government may allow an extension to allowing zoom for meetings after that date - it is still deciding. Given how many people in the village don't have/use zoom - I'm not sure how democratic this option is.

For a face-to-face meeting - Horham is still not able to say when it plans to re-open it's community centre or will be allowed to.

I've asked for legal advice (from SALC/NALC) as to whether or not a zoom AGM meeting can elect a new Parish Meeting Chairman - my reading of it suggests that has to be done in person but I'm not sure...

I suggest we set a Zoom date for a Parish Meeting (prior to 7th May) - which if nothing else will allow anyone in the village who can zoom to chip in. Possible dates: 28th April or 5th May...

Agreed Action: Date set is 28th April – JNP to schedule zoom meeting and inform residents (also include in village magazine).

SALC has responded that we can hold a “normal” AGM via zoom anytime prior to 7th May 2021 – including appointing officers and chairman. They said it is not a problem that only zoom users can “attend and vote”.

2. Flooding

In centre of village (blocked pipes under road) - This has been reported to highways several times in the last couple of years - they did come out and have a look and said it wasn't serious enough to do anything about! I last emailed them on the 14th January - sending them the video that Alison took - they have not responded and I've emailed them again on the 7th February and again today.

Agreed Action: JNP to follow up blocked pipes under road with highways (at The Knoll and on Green Lane). Plus include item in magazine asking people to clear out their ditches.

3. Doorstep Green:

Undergrass reinforcement for roadway and parking - still haven't bought the materials (they are manufactured in the UK) - we need a goldilocks moment - not too wet, not too dry, very short grass and area suitably flat (no ruts or lumps etc). Then a gang of people to unroll the material (very heavy) and pin it down, then add 2cm of good topsoil and grass seed it. It took around half a day to lay a slightly lighter mesh on the existing doorstep green with half a dozen people doing it - so probably several days work is needed to install the roadway and car park.

Installation of side barriers (the metal field gates) on bridge (Will Kerry has volunteered to install these, with a bit of help, when weather is better - March or April (He's a bit busy gritting at the moment).

Install a new or clear out existing pipe at entrance to "car park" area from church path - needs digger and suitable pipe. Probably a days work but I don't know. **(Note: This has already been unblocked by Pat and Alex! Thank you.)**

Action: noted Drew & Katies confirm they can store undergrass mesh etc at their farm.

4. New Village notice board

Needs installing - **Alan has said he will look at doing it when weather is suitable.**

Action: When weather improves

5. Village Magazine for Spring 2021

Is due out at the end of this month. All contributions or items for inclusion need to be with mike by this weekend.

6. AOB

6.1 Village Committee formally thanked Jeanette Brierley for all her hard work as our Treasurer over the last few years and wished her and Stuart the very best in their new life in Wales. We will miss them!