**Minutes of the Meeting of Conington Parish Council**

**held on 6 May 2021, using Zoom, 6.30pm**

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| Present: Cllrs Cooper, Braid, Johnson, Bennett and the Clerk.  Members of the public: 0. | | |
|  | Chairman’s welcome | The Chairman welcomed all attendees |
|  | To receive apologies and reasons for absence | County Councillor Simon Bywater and District Councillor Tim Alban had sent apologies. |
|  | Election of Chairman | Cllr P Cooper was proposed by Cllr Braid and seconded by Cllr Johnson. Cllr Cooper accepted the role for 2021-22 and took the Chair. Declaration of acceptance of office signed. |
|  | Election of Vice Chairman | Cllr M Braid was proposed by Cllr Cooper and seconded by Cllr Johnson. Declaration of acceptance of office signed. |
|  | Co-option to fill vacancy for Councillor. | Mr J Buchanan was proposed by Cllr Braid to fill the vacancy, seconded by Cllr Cooper. Elected unanimously. Clerk will ensure Cllr Buchanan receives the requisite paperwork. |
|  | Members declaration of Pecuniary Interests | None |
|  | Public and press participation session | None |
|  | To sign and approve minutes dated 8 March 2021 | Minutes were unanimouslyapproved as a true record of the meeting and were signed by Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Bennett, seconded by Cllr Johnson. |
|  | Matters Arising | 1. Speeding/Signage at road junction at entrance to Home Farm. Cllr Braid has arranged a meeting with Highway Engineer. 2. Dyke Maintenance. Clerk to advise Middle Level Commissioners of the flooding issues over winter and ask whether any further measures to clear the dyke should be taken before next winter. 3. Trees. Cllr Bennett volunteered to remove invasive ivy on trees and Cllr Johnson with Cllr Cooper will trim trees where they obstruct pedestrians. 4. Litter pick aroused a lot of interest and many participants. Almost 30 bags of rubbish were collected. More events like this to be considered. |
|  | Review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations | 1. Standing orders – the Model Standing Orders issued by the National Association of Local councils (NALC) were adopted. 2. Financial Regulations – the draft circulated before the meeting was agreed and adopted.   The above proposed by Cllr Braid, seconded by Cllr Johnson, carried unanimously. |
|  | Financial Matters | 1. Clerk wages (by Standing Order) £116.00 March, Exps £74.60, and April £143.60 2. Precept received £2650 3. End of Year accounts. Clerk presented the figures. 4. Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) Questions read (p5) and completed. 5. Adoption of Accounts and signature of Accounting Statements (AGAR p6) agreed. 6. Certificate of Exempt status (AGAR p3) agreed.   All the foregoing proposed by Cllr Johnson, seconded by Cllr Braid and unanimously agreed. Chairman Cllr Cooper signed the forms, accounts and certificate. |
|  | Planning | No new applications. One local application has not yet been determined. |
|  | Correspondence & Reports | 1. Parishioner proposal. A parishioner has asked for the Council to consider his proposal that minutes of the Parish Council meetings should be delivered to every household in Conington. This was discussed in detail.   The Council resolved not to adopt the proposal on grounds of cost and time as well as for environmental reasons.  Council notices are published both on the noticeboard and on the website and this exceeds the requirement laid down by law.  Clerk is happy to send out minutes by email free of charge to anyone who asks and will do so to the parishioner.   1. When litter picking it was noted that there was no bin and lot of litter at the layby near Woolpack Farm. Clerk to suggest to HDC that a litter bin be placed there. |
|  | Community Events | Cllr Bennett suggested a programme of community events be arranged to follow the successful litter pick. Councillors were happy for her and Cllr Cooper to proceed to organise some village events between Council meetings. Cleaning of the (closed) Church & bulb planting were suggested. |
|  | Date of next meeting | Tuesday 10 August at 6.30pm. This will be a meeting in person (unless anything changes) and Clerk had made contact with the Churches Conservation Trust which can allow a meeting to be held at All Saints Church. Clerk to make the booking (no cost) and to carry out the required Risk Assessment and advise any special Covid-19 procedures/precautions necessary nearer the time.  Meeting closed at 7.40pm |

Prepared by J Osborn, Clerk to the Council, 10 May 2021.

SIGNED: ………………………………………………………………………………………………..DATE………………………………….............................