



**GISLINGHAM
PARISH COUNCIL**



Working for our Community

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**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD BY ZOOM
VIDEO LINK ON THURSDAY 18th FEBRUARY 2021 @ 6PM**

Present: Cllr J Bell, Cllr C Tranter, Cllr J Clifford, Cllr I Urwin, Cllr D Kearsley, Cllr F Oliver
Clerk – J Challis
1 member of the public

Apologies: None received

1 Chair's welcome and to consider and approve apologies for absence

Cllr Bell welcomed everyone to the meeting, including the member of the public who was present for item 4 on the Agenda.

2 To receive Declarations of Interest on agenda items

Cllr Bell declared a non-pecuniary interest on item 5 as a Foundation School Governor for Gislingham Primary School. Cllr Oliver declared a pecuniary interest on item 4 as the planning applicant.

3 To consider requests for Dispensations on agenda items

None requested.

Cllr Bell proposed changing the order of the Agenda and discussing the planning application (Item 4) first as Cllr Urwin was experiencing internet issues and he was present at the original Parish Meeting when the school first submitted their request for CIL monies for the Running Track in September 2020 (Item 5). This request was agreed unanimously

4 Planning DC/21/00771 – Bowmans Barn, Back Street, Gislingham, IP23 8JH

Cllr Oliver was not permitted to participate on this item due to his declared pecuniary interest. Cllr Tranter queried the application as the applicant had not declared that they were an elected member. Cllr Bell advised that the Clerk had confirmation from MSDC that this only related to being an elected District or County Council member.

6:10pm Cllr Urwin joined the meeting

Councillors discussed the application and agreed they had no objection based on the works carried out being in keeping with the grade II listing status of the property, but in addition would like it noted that there was no Heritage Report available against the application on the MSDC Planning Portal.

ACTION Clerk to prepare comment for Councillors to approve prior to adding it to the MSDC Planning Portal.

Comment added to planning portal:

Gislingham Parish Council note that there is currently no Heritage Report for this application. Therefore, subject to all works carried out and all materials used meeting the relevant Grade II listed buildings criteria, we have no objection to this planning application.

5 MSDC Consultation – CIL Application Gislingham Primary School Running Track

Cllr Bell handed over the Chair to Vice Chair Cllr Tranter due to her declared non-pecuniary interest.

The application was discussed. Points were raised regarding the shortfall required should MSDC agree to provide funding for 75% of the total cost as per the application.

- Can the School reclaim any VAT associated with the shortfall amount?
- Will there be any additional legal fees?

The member of the public present in her capacity as School Governor advised that the quotation received relating to the Deed of Variation or a Deed of Surrender and Regrant for change to the land leased from GUC, should cover all legal fees. She will check the School is able to reclaim the VAT and report back. The member of the public also clarified that the total amount requested from the Parish Council to fund the 25% shortfall could be less than £6,162.50 depending upon whether or not extra stones are needed for wet grounded areas, but this would not be known until the work was started.

After discussing the application Councillors agreed they supported the application but required clarification on the VAT element.

Cllr Kearsley proposed approving the School's request for the Parish Council to fund the 25% shortfall upon clarification of the VAT element.

Cllr Clifford seconded the proposal, and it was agreed unanimously with one abstention due to the non-pecuniary interest.

Cllr Tranter handed the meeting back to Cllr Bell.

ACTION Clerk to send approved response to MSDC.

The following response was approved by Councillors and sent to MSDC on 23rd February 2021.

Further to the Extraordinary Meeting held to discuss this application, Gislingham Parish Council fully support the provision of a running track at Gislingham Primary School, considering it to be a welcome addition for the good of the community.

19th February 2021 – it was confirmed via email from the Head Teacher at Gislingham Primary School that the school can reclaim any VAT costs.

In addition the RFO confirmed that CIL money cannot be used for VAT costs or legal fees.

6 Date of next meeting 15th March 2021 at 6pm via Zoom.

Meeting Closed at 6:30pm