

Draft minutes of the virtual meeting of Bowsden Parish Council on Tuesday 23rd March 2021

Present: Councillors Ian Jackson (in the chair), Graeme Reavley, Julie Gibbs, Harry Wilson, Jayne Watson and Mike Simpson (Parish Clerk).

Parishioners: 2

1. Apologies for absence – None.
2. Declarations of interest – None.
3. Minutes of meeting of 19th January 2021 – Approved and signed by the chairman.
4. Matters arising.

(8) The first risk assessment of the park was completed and recorded on the 22nd January 2021.

(11) The clerk wrote to the bus company on 26th January 2021 to end the Bowsden Hall Farm temporary turning point from 27th February 2021 and to ask them to resume the “Black Bull” lane turning point. Apart from the odd hiccup this seems to have happened.

5. Finance – The clerk reported a positive balance of £2762.98. The 2020/21 account closes on 31st March 2021.
6. Elections.

The upcoming county wide parish council elections are to be advertised in The Bugle to alert parishioners who may want to stand in Bowsden. A notice to this effect has also be placed on the Bowsden Village Hall notice board. Councillors will also sound out potential candidates.

The clerk agreed to take nomination papers into Berwick for checking and submission

7. Parish clerk vacancy.

Councillor Wilson briefed the council on the advertising campaign to date and on potential next steps. He will liaise with the clerk if it becomes necessary to advertise on the NALC website. Councillors will also check out a few people who could be interested. The chairman proposed a budget for a paid clerk if a volunteer appointment was not possible and this was agreed by the council.

8. Any other business.

- (i) The chairman proposed funding towards a post pandemic village event/celebration and it was agreed that this be done jointly with the Bowsden Village Hall committee.
- (ii) The clerk reported the arrival of a new grit bin on 18th February 2021.
- (iii) Councillor Wilson reported that the hole in the road near the park had been repaired.
- (iv) Rob O’Rourke resigned as a councillor on 14th March 2021. The chairman thanked him for his service and contribution over the last 2 years.

9. Date of next meeting – This was fixed for Tuesday 11th May 2021. This date was set as new councillors take office from 10th May and an AGM has to be held no later than the 24th May 2021.