

# SILVERSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on MONDAY 27<sup>th</sup> JULY 2020 via Zoom

The meeting was opened at 7:30pm

1. **Present:** Councillors James Laband (JL) (*Chair*), Carol Tosh (CT) (*Vice Chair*), Dermot Bambridge (DB), Sally Williams (SW), Mary Jane Branch (MJB), Glenda Fuller (GF), John Rudland (JR), Karen Fanning (KF).  
Cherie Carruthers (Clerk to the Parish Council) and three Members of the Public were also present.
2. **Apologies of Absence:** Cllrs Colin Rhodes, Michelle Webb, and Sally Cann.
3. **Chairman's Announcements:** Noted.
4. **Public Participation:** None.
5.
  1. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
  2. **Dispensation Requests:** None.
  3. **Update Register of Interest Forms:** Members were reminded of the requirement to update the register within 28 days of any changes.
6. **It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020 meeting were a true and fair record.**
7. **Accounting Software:** The Members **APPROVED** with JR as proposer and DB as seconder, that the council migrate to Rialtas Accounting Software from Edge IT. The decision was made following receipt of a valid and competitive quotation from Rialtas. CC preferred to work with this software due to the clarity and transparency of its reporting. She declared an interest in that she independently freelanced as a Finance Consultant for Rialtas during the Local Government year end periods. She also noted that she was not personally benefitting in any capacity from the switch, and that the Parish Council had benefited from her connection in receiving a 50% discount off the initial set up.
8. **SRA:**
  1. **Approval and appointment of Solicitor to act on behalf of the parish council:** Before the meeting JL had circulated to the members the three quotations he had obtained from Solicitors to represent the PC in this matter, these being: **Darren Millis @ Geoffrey Leaver Solicitors, Spratt Endicott and Wellers Hedley.** Each Member individually voted and explained their reasoning. It was unanimous that Spratt Endicott were vastly overpriced in comparison to the two other quotations, this immediately ruled them out of further consideration. The general opinion was close between the remaining two, but the majority swayed for local resident (Darren Millis), who would hopefully have a more personal approach, along with being more accountable to the time being taken in relation to value for money. The concluding outcome being 3 votes for Wellers Hedley, 0 votes for Spratt Endicott and 5 votes for Geoffrey Leaver. Therefore, it was **RESOLVED** that Geoffrey Lever be appointed as the PC's Legal Representation.  
  
DB requested that CC contact the PC's insurance company to see if legal expenses are covered as part of our policy. He said this situation comes down to an error being made historically, with the PC trying to resolve actions that have been taken following receipt of advice, which may well have been inaccurate, it should therefore be classed as a dispute.  
Nick Ashby (SRA Chair) suggested the PC also contact ACRE to see if any other PCs are in the same situation.

# SILVERSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

2. **Report from the SRA Trustees meeting held on 14th July:** JL confirmed that the PC is making good progress on the passing over of responsibility to the SRA, but it is yet to be settled. He also noted that an Ash Tree needs felling or lopping, and the lighting in the car park area is an ongoing issue. The PC need to find out whether the equipment was installed by the PC or donated to the SRA, he suggested looking back at the 2013 minutes. Nick Ashby agreed this was not an urgent matter and could be left for the time being.

9. **Allotments:** DB has written to the donator and had no response, he called and was advised that it was now being dealt with by a colleague, a response its yet to be received. He advised that the PC are unable to proceed or do anything until we hear back from them. He will continue to chase.

10. **1. The following payments of accounts were approved and ratified in line with the budget and councils' financial regulations:**

Chq No	Gross Amount (£)	VAT Value (£)	Payee	Details	Power
301074	415.00	0.00	R Wilson	Oak Play Area cutting 1 Feb -30 <sup>th</sup> April 2020	Open Spaces Act

11. **Date of Next Meeting:** Due to receipt of planning applications, one of which is for 4/5 dwellings, a Full Council meeting will be held on the 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020 @ 7:30pm.

The meeting was declared closed at 8:25pm.

*Signed as a true and accurate record by the Chair of the Council:*

**Chair:**

**Date:**