**Lea-by-Backford Parish Council**

**Minutes of Meeting held 12th July 2021**

**Venue Upton Gold Club**

**In Attendance**

Councillor John Littler

Councillor Sue Pownall

Debbie Jones (Parish clerk)

Councillor Rob Griffiths

Borough Councillor Simon Eardley

Councillor Richard Jones (Chairman)

Malcolm Sibson

Councillor Tom Jones

**Apologies**

Robin Leigh

**Declarations of interest**

RJ, JL SP and Tom Jones in the B4RN Project

**Part 1**

Malcom Sibson – Cheshire West Advertised for new ponds for Newts on his land – MS explained there is a large hole which had sand extracted from it many years ago. CWAC interested in this area as a potential for newts and to enhance the environment. The pond will not be seen from roadsides and there is no planning permission required. The biodiversity team are currently working on this area. Impact would be potential for large diggers to be going up Demage Lane for access to the area. All happy with that.

**BARN**

**Part 2**

**11/21 Minutes of the Previous Meeting - Monday 8th March 2021**

Cycle path and the cycle community needing to tidy up the route 56 as there is a lot of barbed wire and trees need to be re planted.

**Minutes were agreed as a true record.**

**12/21 Planning**

Masts along the railway – SE highlighted that the masts are short and are low level at the level of the railway as previously discussed and all agreed that there are no further comments on this.

HYNET – DJ explained that comments have been put on the interactive web site. Routes are between 50 and 100 metres wide and the planning process will be followed as per proper procedures. More detailed opportunity for concerns to be raised will be allowed at a later date. SE has good contacts for the people behind the scene. This is a national scheme and the views of local people are very important. DJ to write to SE with specific issues.

* Having large pipe yards from the back for the house
* Prime farmland route
* There were better routes not considered.
* Concern that carbon capture is not quite finalised in its entirety.

Hydrogen comes out of the Dee estuary which then goes to the existing pipe.

Stanlow needs to be green energy or it will fail to be a viable business.

SE to send the information around.

RJ explained it is much cleaner and cheaper and is running houses already.

**25/21 Reports by Representatives**

To receive reports from the following representatives:

* Backford Charities

Councillor Rob Griffiths informed the group that a new Chairman is awaited and a meeting will not organised being until November.

* War Memorial Trust

SP contacted Carl Stagg. SP stated that Carl Stagg is not doing this anymore and wants to step down. SP not been to a meeting for the last 7 years. Mr Stagg is contacting Mr Webster. Apparently the deed is written in the form of a small booklet which he showed SP – the deed explains that the trust is for all the children who were left short after the war.

**SP to sort this out with Mr Webster**

Book to be requested for the next meeting.

* Rural Sounding Board - nil of note.

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**14/21 Finance**

* Bank Balance - £8120.25
* Payments for staff - Jacqy reeves £267.30

Debbie Jones £334.08

* Audit Information - Experior Systems Accounting£210.00
* Website - Bob Hadfield 231.50

Need to look into closing down the old website domain.

**Action: Bob Hadfield**

**Village Hall DJ briefed the group.**

Councillor TJ felt that the cladding looked sub-standard and was corrugated sheeting. The grey areas were explained as dust but in fact this has not washed away with the rain. There had been two formal complaints and RG had received several lots of verbal complaints from insiders from the village.

Does not blend – none of the councillors liked the outside building. Yellow windows are going in to up lift the outside.

General consensus were negative about the external views of the hall and not in keeping with the village.

**DJ to organise walk around with JF and CD.**

**16/21 Elections**

Elections went well and with a high turnout of 57%. Welcome to Councillor Tom Jones who was successful and thanks also go to Colin Williams, the other candidate for his hard work.

**17/21 Highways**

Grove road, grass has been cut on station road and all street scene areas are done but none of the verges. Lots of growth because of the weather and there are COVID issues and staffing issues. Balance not right at present. Remains a challenge. Contract has gone back in house.

* Survey date
* Builders rubble in Demage Lane and natural lay by.
* Signage issues

**18/21 Five Villages**

DJ has previously shared the amendments done by JL with all councillors and as there were no other comments this to be submitted to Christine jones for the website to be amended.

Five Villages Newsletter DJ to include verges, Hydrogen pipe (Hynet), election results thanks for the turnout, footpath. Footpath between station road and grove road needs to be cut. Number 4 grove road – problem dumping – maybe send a letter to all of the row.

**21/21 Future Projects**

DJ to get a quote for a new noticeboard. And SE to contribute half thanks to SE for the offer.

**Any Other Business**

RG dog fouling. Footpath that goes from Demage Lane to COSTCO need a bin both end s and one in a position at the end of the footpath. Dog walkers do not always pick up after dogs. JL would not be happy with a dog fouling bin at the entrance to his farm. SE will ask about extra bins. The placement would need to be inside the entrance to the dog walk path.

SE – last meeting RL raised the issue of bridal lane gate is fairly sturdy but we need to monitor its safety.

SP playing field – stopped contributing to maintenance – school now have command over that field – SP wondered how that has happened and why has this changed. Historically there has been access to the playing field. SP to send DJ an e mail to clarify

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

**Monday 13th September 2021** **19.30hrs**

**Venue to be confirmed**