Draft Minutes of the virtual meeting of Islip Parish Council held on Tuesday 15th December 2020 at 7.15pm

**Present**

Cllr E Taylor, R Tarling-Toley, L Duval, P Fryatt, S Harris, R Horrell, B Lymn

NCC/ENCllr W Brackenbury, ENC V Carter

1. Public Participation- none present
2. Receive and approve apologies for absence- Cllr E Curbishley, Cllr Maxwell was to attend later, but was unavailable
3. Declarations of Members’ Interest on the Agenda- none
4. Approved the Minutes of the last virtual meeting 17th November 2020. Chairman to sign when practical.
5. **Planning** – The following were discussed

20/01559/TCA Remedial Tree works 12 School Lane - no objection

20/01585/TCA Remove 2 conifers 3 Toll Bar Rd -no objection

1. **Internal Control**-Cllr Tarling-Toley performed remotely prior to meeting, noting no issues except paperwork needing signing. Checklist to be sent via email. Cllr Duval volunteered to carry out the next one
2. **Governance -**nothing this month
3. **Finance**
4. Received and approved the Financial Report, Bank reconciliation & Payments Due for December 2020 (Attached) Eon Streetlight bill had been received priot to meeting. Resolved to approve all
5. Discussed quote (£240 +VAT) to enlarge events notice board, as is very popular with residents Resolved to approve.
6. **Highways** –
7. Cllr Fryatt reported that there had been a blocked drain in High St-due to something being poured down it. Northants Highways called out and attended on same day.
8. To note an issue with parking along High St- as recently a bus could not get through and cars needed to be moved. Potential issue for emergency vehicles.
9. Lowick Rd- broken fencing-this has now been reported to the local contractors- not fixed as yet
10. Jubilee Close- parking bays- this has been passed to the Local housing officer for Spire Homes
11. The Urban Highway Grass Mowing Grant is still available for 2021- resolved for Clerk to sign acceptance
12. **Recreation Ground**-Rec checks

As the state of the surface has now appeared on many reports- councillors to consider whether this should be repaired. – defer to next meeting.

A recent check brought up the surface of a stretch of path across the field. A past quote had been received for around £7,000 – councillors considered this to be too expensive for the benefit provided.

1. **Sports Field**- Cllr Maxwell absent- no report

Other councillors mentioned Golf playing on the field. Discuss at next meeting. Cleaning invoices also discussed.

1. **Community Matters-**
2. VAS signs- These proved to be too heavy just using a stepladder to be able to install on the lamppost. Clerk to seek further advice from Steve Barber and to look into the possibility of getting them professionally fitted. Cllr Harris will speak to his lighting contractor for a price.
3. Rural Housing Needs Surveys- ENC Housing Officer wishes to ascertain whether the Parish Council would like to be part of the Housing Needs Survey programme to be conducted during the New Year/Spring-. Councillors felt they were not able to commit to this at present
4. Resident request for an additional dog waste bin in the village. Discussion ensued and unfortunately this position has already been considered and was not suitable. Defer to next meeting for further discussion
5. Update on Christmas competition entries- lots of entries- really pleased with participation. Resolved to buy 10 prizes- maximum budget £50
6. National Tree Week- discussed if there is anywhere in the village that trees could be planted- this has been proposed before and unfortunately there was nowhere suitable, unless absent councillors know anywhere. Defer to next meeting.
7. 9 Arches Bridge is going to be closed for six weeks from 15th February- 31st March- for repair works. Live monitoring is ongoing to monitor the structure.
8. **To receive District & County Councillors’** Reports – For Information Only

Cllr Carter-Nene Valley surgery will be vaccinating around 900 residents who are over eighty this week. Requests for refreshment donations for the volunteers- can be dropped to surgery

Cllr Brackenbury. ENC have opened a business hub at Rushden Lakes to extend the reach of Enterprise Scheme in partnership with a number of organisations. Open Weekdays 9-5 with some evening /weekend hours.

LGR- first draft of budget for North Northants Council (NNC) has gone out for a 7-week consultations ending 29th Jan. To help protect services a draft budget will consult on a core council Tax increase of 1.99% and a social care precept of 3%. Final budget to be agreed 25th Feb. Financial settlement announcement from government expected before Christmas. Cllr Brackenbury listed all members of the Senior Leadership Team for SLT at NNC Shadow Authority who are now all in place. County Council have increased Covid marshals, to help to give advice to ensure adherence to guidelines.

1. **To receive the Clerk’s Update** and correspondence received-
2. Information received regarding Digital census March 2021 and request for support
3. Request from University of Southampton for residents to complete a survey on Covid-19 preventive behaviour- <https://pharma.unige.ch/limesurvey/index.php/326544?lang=en> can it go on Facebook
4. East Northamptonshire Residents Survey 2020 now open to give feedback on public services. <https://www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/residentssurvey>
5. KierWSP will continue as Highway’s Contractor for both Unitary Authorities until Autumn 2021, whilst a procurement process is carried out.
6. Highways newsletter circulated regarding overgrown private gardens causing safety issues and how they deal with them
7. Personal trainer form Thrapston seeks permission to provide outdoor exercise classes on the Rec playing Field- is this granted? Discussion ensued- Clerk to reply to agree to this, but ask the participants to be mindful of nearby residents, and ensure people park responsibly nearby.

1. **To receive the round the table comments**

–Cllr Taylor gave huge thanks to Rosie for organising the litter pick and to Bob for providing refreshments.

**-**Include Goal mouths in rec on next Agenda

**-**Cllr Duval put forward the idea of tidying up the Corner junction between Lowick Rd and Mill Rd. Road sign needs repainting near post box/grit bin all looking very tatty at this end. Could get same contractor who improved The Green to do this- and put a planter here as well. Cllr Duval/Cllr Taylor to look into this and bring quotes to next meeting.

**-**Cllr Lymn thanked all those who supported the Movember campaign

1. **Close of meeting-** Next meeting January 19th 7.15pm