

10. Christmas Tree

Cllr Dunwell invited two members of public from Community Illuminations Aberford (CIA) to speak, and a discussion took place between them and the councillors regarding whether to plant a living tree, to be maintained on an ongoing basis, with the following points being noted/agreed:

- Cllr Reed commented she thought it had been agreed not to proceed with this; Cllr Hogg said that was specifically for Christmas 2019.
- Cllr Oakes questioned whether it would survive given the ground underneath, and the Chairman commented the soil near the houses is deep but not in the middle of the green as it used to be a road.
- One member of CIA thanked members for providing the tree and said CIA have received lots of compliments on it. He confirmed the tree for this year was repositioned after being put in originally as it had moved following heavy rain. They also took four foot off the bottom of it.
- He confirmed CIA have taken advice from various tree surgeons. There are 21 inches of soil where the current tree is, and it would be possible to plant a Christmas tree that is 11 to 13 feet tall as the roots spread out rather than down.
- It would need planting in Jan/Feb 2020.
- CIA have enquired about prices for ongoing maintenance, and confirm they would pay for this.
- The lights were switched on early this year in error as the person responsible at LCC got the date mixed up with Scholes.
- Some lights failed on one tree so LCC replaced them.
- He commented the night of the switch on was a great event.
- Some people have commented they want a living tree as it would be more environmentally friendly.
- Cllr Reed commented it would prevent the grass underneath it from growing. CIA proposed to gravel, fake turf, or pave underneath it, to make it look more attractive where the grass won't grow. The Chairman said gravel would be the least preferred option as it scatters everywhere.
- CIA confirmed they will fund everything for a living tree in 2020, and will attend every January PC meeting to agree with the PC who will fund what, so the PC can budget accordingly.

RESOLVED: Members voted on whether to have living tree from 2020 and agreed in favour of this by majority vote (5 for; 2 against). **ACTION:** The Chairman was delegated to meet with members of CIA on behalf of the PC to agree the best position for the living tree to be planted, sometime in Jan 2020.

11. Litter Picking

Cllr Dunwell went out with a bag one day and half filled it with litter, and he has been looking at litter picking equipment. He wonders whether the community would get involved in litter picks. Cllr Oakes commented he does what he can, and said LCC will provide free litter pickers and bags on request. Cllr Dunwell suggested trying to organise a picking event when the weather gets better. Cllr Hancock suggested going out with the yellow dog spray cans at the same time. One member of the public commented the children at the school should be educated on it, and Cllr Griffiths added the parents should be as well. **ACTION:** The Clerk will contact LCC and request they send the PC x12 litter pickers and bags to be delivered to Cllr Oakes at a mutually agreed time.

12. Periodic Review of GDPR Documentation

Cllr Oakes confirmed there have been no changes to legislation since ADPC's policies were written, and proposed therefore that no changes to the PC's GDPR policies are required at this time. Cllr Griffiths seconded this, and all other members **AGREED**. The PC will have another periodic review of its policies in December 2020 unless any changes to legislation are made before then. **RESOLVED**.

13. Home Office Consultation: Strengthening Police Powers To Tackle Unauthorised Encampments

Members considered whether the PC wishes to submit a response to the above consultation and **AGREED** they will do so. **DELEGATION:** Members agreed to delegate completing the NALC questionnaire to Cllrs Oakes and Griffiths. **ACTION:** The Clerk will submit the responses on behalf of the PC on receipt, and by the deadline of 19.02.20. Members **AGREED** a response to the Home Office as well was not required.

14. Petition re Boxing Day Hunt

A discussion took place regarding the petition information received regarding banning the Boxing Day hunt in Aberford. Cllr Oakes said he is unclear on what the petition is, and said the PC has not been asked for permission for it to be held, and that it does not take place on PC land. **ACTION:** The Clerk will contact the sender of the email to say they are asking the wrong people, and that what they have stated in their petition is inaccurate as the PC can neither grant nor deny permission. The Clerk will request they retract the statement as it could be considered libel.

15. Correspondence Received

Members **noted** the correspondence item listed below and the following action was agreed:

- Email from the school bus company regarding concerns over parking and their request for a meeting with the PC.
ACTION: The Chairman and Cllr Reed will meet with the bus company as requested in Jan 2020. The Clerk will contact them for some dates and arrange the meeting.

16. Finance

- a. To note the balances in the Parish Council's accounts - **noted as per attached bank reconciliation.**
- b. To approve the bank reconciliation - **RESOLVED** (attached).
- c. To approve the Accounts for Payment - **RESOLVED** (attached).

17. Matters for Information

- Cllr Hancock said there has been a smell of gas at the junction of Lotherton Lane and Main Street; no other members have noticed it.
- Cllr Hogg said the path by the village hall has been repaired where tree roots were growing underneath it.
- Cllr Hogg is liaising with Cllr Matthew Robinson regarding the PROW signs that need fixing.
- Cllr Hogg asked about the bin for the footpath by the school – the Clerk confirmed it is due to be delivered to the Chairman tomorrow.
- Cllr Hogg suggested starting the LeedsFest applications process in February, as was done this year.
- Cllr Griffiths asked if there has been any news regarding the proposed 20mph zones? The Clerk confirmed she hasn't heard anything since returning from maternity leave.
- The Chairman informed everyone that Mrs Farman's husband passed away in November (locum clerk). Members were shocked and saddened by the news. The Chairman and Cllr Reed attended his funeral and gave condolences from the PC.
- The Chairman commented a streetlight on Parlinton Drive is out.

18. Planning Matters

- a. Members considered and commented on new planning applications/appeals as below:

Planning/ Appeal ref	Address	Details
19/07496/FU/NE	Royal Oak Inn Main Street Aberford	Fencing and gates to front and side COMMENTS: The PC has no objections, however members would like the following points to be noted and considered: 1. The PC questioned the choice of steel gates to a wooden fence. 2. The PC requests this application be looked at in tandem with the outstanding application for the adjoining plot to the south, which is for a pair of semi-detached houses. The access to the semis is through the same gateway (between the kerbside and the gateway; the subject of this application), and the site of the proposed new gateway will make access extremely tight, not just for future (if any) residents' vehicles, but more importantly for construction traffic if that application is granted. It could also impede on maneuverability. 3. The PC would like to highlight the existing stone frontage wall is protected by the recently adopted Aberford Neighbourhood Plan.

The Clerk advised a new application has been received today for a triple garage at Royal Oak Inn, and she will request an extension to the deadline for comments.

b. Members **noted** the outcome of previous planning applications/appeals:

Planning/ Appeal ref	Address	Details
19/05991/FU/NE	Royal Oak Inn Main Street Aberford	Detached Garage/Store to rear APPLICATION WITHDRAWN

c. To consider and to note planning enforcement matters – not discussed.

d. To receive an update regarding the Planning/NDP PC workshop to be run by Mr Mike Dando (NDP Consultant) – deferred until the NDP workshop has taken place.

19. Future Agenda Items (Clerk)

- 2019/20 Budget Update as at 31.12.19
- LeedsFest 2020
- Hanging baskets 2020
- Close of meeting – the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm.

Minute 15.b.

Bank Reconciliation

Aberford and District Parish Council

For the period 1 November 2019 - 30 November 2019

Prepared by Natalie Goonesinghe, Clerk to the Parish Council

Date: 06-Dec-19

Approved by the Parish Council

Date: 16-Dec-19

Balance per bank statements as at 30 November 2019

	£	£
Current Account	3,276.32	
Revenue Reserve	24,188.79	
Capital Reserve	11,500.05	
Beckside Play Area Ground Resurfacing Fund	5,000.00	
		<hr/>
		43,965.16

Less uncleared cheques at 30 November 2019:

100968	-301.20	
100975	-20.00	
100976	-355.79	
100977	-18.00	
100978	-300.00	
100982	-1,808.06	
		<hr/>
		-2,803.05

Net bank balances as at 30 November 2019

41,162.11

The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book (receipts and payments account) for the period as follows:

CASH BOOK

Opening balance as at 1 November 2019	44,866.16
Add receipts 1 November 2019 to 30 November 2019:	0.00
Less payments for 1 November 2019 to 30 November 2019	-3,704.05
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Closing balance per cash book as at 30 November 2019	41,162.11

Notes

Capital Reserve is set aside for Jubilee Field

Beckside Play Area Refurbishment Fund is set aside for resurfacing the play area (minute 8 in Jan 2019 refers)

Accounts for payment:				
Chq no.	Details			
100984	St Ricarius Church - room hire 16.12.19	20.00	-	20.00
100985	N Goonesinghe - salary Dec 19	250.09	-	250.09
100986	N Goonesinghe - expenses to 11.12.19	25.32	-	25.32
	Total payments 20.11.19 - 16.12.19	295.41	-	295.41