

WORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extra ordinary Meeting of Worth Parish Council held on Monday 6 July 2020, via Zoom, at 7.00pm

PRESENT
CLLRS
Kennett (chair)
Atkinson
Herd
Mott
Whittaker

Cricket club rep

4 members of the public

One iPad participant joined halfway through and did not unfortunately declare their identity

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Colin Clark – No internet access
Michele Parnell – work commitments

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None made

3. OPENING STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR OF WORTH PARISH COUNCIL

As the Chair of Worth Parish Council, I would like to advise all members and worth residents the purpose for this meeting.

A resident wrote to the Parish Council (PC) to request the felling of one beech tree in the cricket field. The PC as, the management trustees of the field discussed these issues with the cricket club, and came to the view that providing the applicant met the entire cost, and having ascertained with DDC that that they had no objection to this course of action the felling would be undertaken.

A detailed explanation of the decision was placed on the Worth notice board and a minute was issued in October 2019 stating this work was taking place.

This work was due to take place on Wednesday 1 July. However, due to public comment and objections, the PC asked DDC Dan Broadfield to do a site visit and appraise us of his views.

We invite you as residents of the parish to contribute your views. Apologies as we must limit this contribution to two minutes of your time. Then please mute yourselves, and you are not permitted to speak during the meeting unless invited.

At the end of our call , the Council will carefully consider all the representations with a view to reaching an amicable conclusion to this issue.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FROM THE ELECTORATES OF WORTH

Residents of Worth Parish may speak for two minutes each maximum during this period.

FM – Read a statement of objections which included her own objections to a healthy tree being taken down. FM also said that the minutes did not stipulate that there was a difference between the parish councillors’ and the King George trustees duties, so she found the position confusing. In responses, the

Chair explained that this was an oversight and the situation was explained. FM also questioned why there was no public attendance at this meeting.

VM – In response to FM’s last point, VM asked the trustees to confirm that the recreation field is private land. VM then asked whether the solution would be to pollard the tree?

Cricket club representative – Some members were unclear as to who the Parish Council had been dealing with regarding this and Cllrs Herd and Kennett stated Chris Croft had been present in discussion.

CP – Echoed FM point of view regarding the felling of a healthy tree.

GC – Stated that the reason they purchased the house was due to the agreement of the tree being removed.

VM then asked GC whether, if the tree was severely reduced (and maintained to a degree which was satisfactory to everyone), would they consider that option, which she and her partner (also present), stated they would.

5. BEECH TREE AT WORTH CRICKET CLUB

- a)** Correspondence regarding the objection to the tree felling
The Chair advised that complaints to the tree being felled had been sent to the Council.
- b)** Report from DDC Tree Officer
A visual report was carried out by D Broadfield DDC last week, and there is no criteria to put a TPO on the tree
- c)** Possible Solutions
Cllr Herd proposed that the Council obtain quotes for the reduction of the tree. This was seconded by Cllr Mott and all Cllrs voted in favour.

6. CONCLUSION AND CLOSURE OF THE MEETING FROM THE CHAIR OF WORTH PARISH COUNCIL

The chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 7.27pm

THE TRUSTEES OF THE FIELD WILL NOW DISCUSS THE ABOVE

This meeting was ended pending further discussion