

# FURNEUX PELHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes** of the virtual meeting held on Tuesday, 26 May 2020, at 8:04 pm.

**Present:** Cllr S Bratt, Cllr R Gale, Cllr T Langlois, Cllr H Smart and Cllr P Watmough.

**In attendance:** F Forth, Parish Clerk and no members of the public.

## 20/42) Apologies

None.

## 20/43) Declarations of interest

None.

## 20/44) Finance

### Grants to The Brewery Tap - playground and permanent shop

The Chair stated that The Brewery Tap had approached the Parish Council for grants in relation to two projects - a playground and a permanent shop. The Brewery Tap had provided costings for both projects and these had been circulated to all Cllrs prior to the meeting.

Both projects were discussed and the key points were:

- both projects are considered hugely valuable to the village;
- a playground in the village has been sought for a number of years. Recently, the Parish Council investigated whether it was feasible to develop a small playground in part of the Village Hall carpark but subsequently agreed to defer this;
- concerns expressed regarding continued access to the playground should the pub change hands in the future; and
- in the current circumstances, the creation of the temporary shop has been both helpful and supportive for the village and the establishment of a permanent shop would be beneficial to the village.

In terms of the funding available, the Parish Clerk made the following points:

- the Parish Council can use different powers for each project which means there is no financial cap for any playground grant (as under Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976) but a cap of £3,677.44 in respect of the shop (as under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972);

- the New Homes Bonus receipts are to be spent on community projects and the Parish Council is currently holding unspent Bonus receipts of £7,994.72 as projects of this nature do not occur often;
- if necessary, other elements of the budget could be flexed to increase the level of funds available for these projects this year;
- as the majority of the 2020/21 financial year remains, it would be prudent to not spend all the Section 137 funds at this point in time; and
- the proposed increases in the precept, detailed in the five year financial plan, may now need to be higher and this will be considered when updating the financial plan in the latter part of the year.

Following the discussion, and subject to the Parish Clerk obtaining assurances to mitigate the concerns regarding access to the playground should The Brewery Tap be sold in the future:

- RESOLVED to grant £6,000 to The Brewery Tap towards its playground project under Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 and this will be funded from New Homes Bonus receipts; and
- RESOLVED to grant £3,000 to The Brewery Tap towards its permanent shop under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 and this will be funded from New Homes Bonus receipts (£1,997.72) and the precepted capital budget (£1,005.28).

#### **20/45) Next meeting**

Confirmed that the next meeting of the Parish Council is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020 at 8pm. If restrictions are lifted, the meeting will be held in the Village Hall. If not, a virtual meeting will be held.

The meeting ended at 8:34 pm.