



**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**held on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 commencing at 18:00hrs**

Members present: Carola Brown, Barry Cooper, Dave Dawtrey, Kathryn Mackellar, Thais Robertson, Neil Ryder,  
Also attending: Nicky & Peter Campbell (part owners / sellers of Keepers Cottage), Veronica Carter, Katherine  
Entract & Jonathan Langham (buyers of Fernbank), Liz & Rob Merrick (Steddles Cottage),  
Duncan Robertson (Goldrings Farm)

1. **Apologies for absence:** None

2. **Disclosure of Interests:** None

3. **Election of a new chairman of the parish council**

There had been only one nomination, Barry Cooper, who was elected unanimously. BC thanked Darren Stiles for his excellent work as previous chairman and said he would do his best to follow in his shoes. BC reminded those present that the parish council has a duty of due diligence and neutrality in relation to any disputes between parties in the parish, and that the suggested actions in the agenda for item 5 were intended to be evidence of that due diligence and neutrality.

4. **Minutes from the council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2020.**

The minutes were approved and there were no matters arising

5. **Agree the procedure for looking into the ROW issues discussed on 9<sup>th</sup> September (track off Terwick Lane)**

Before proceeding to the suggested actions, BC confirmed that the PC had made the decision at its last meeting that it was not going to pursue an application for a public right of way, but needed to consider what level of due diligence was appropriate. He also summarised an offer he had received from the owner of Goldrings Farm to make the path between Keepers Cottage and the right of way adjacent to his farm a permissive path. This could offer a route for walkers on the Western edge of Goldrings Warren to reach Trotton Common, without going through the Keepers Cottage path. He suggested that this might satisfy the complainants, although JL made the point that, unless the Cowdrey Estate similarly allowed permissive paths through the rest of the Warren, this was unlikely to help.

NC emphasised that the uncertainty over the PC's intentions was delaying the sale of Keepers Cottage and pressed for urgency. BC moved to the suggested actions on the agenda and asked whether NR had contacted the neighbouring parish councils; NR said he had spoken informally to Rogate, and had heard that the PC had won an appeal in their case but it was now going to a public inquiry, but he had not yet been able to talk to the lady leading the case there so he had not verified this or asked about the details. Elsted had offered a large file on their (less recent) case and he had not yet spoken to Harting or Stedham. There was some disagreement over the need for the PC to obtain ownership information for parts of the track, which BC felt could be a lot of work.

After further discussion, BC suggested limiting the PCs further involvement to posting a notice informing residents that the PC had looked at the procedure complainants would need to follow, and could provide more information required. It was agreed that BC would draft a list of the requirements and members would approve this by email.

[All guests left the meeting at this point]

6. **Approve a notice and procedure to fill the casual vacancy created by the resignation of the former chairman**

The draft notice was approved and would be posted once it had been registered by the recording officer

7. **Planning application SDNP/20/03424/FUL**

- a) New Barn Farm Dumpford Lane Trotton GU31 5JN
- b) Change of use of redundant barns to dwelling and garage/workshop with associated works
- c) Recommended

8. **Date of next meeting: 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020**