

ENSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

An Emergency Meeting of the Council was held at Enstone Parish Hall on
Thursday 19th March 2020 at 6.30 pm

PRESENT: Parish Councillors P. Johnson (Chair), A. Lee, T. Gilbert, D. Robottom and C. Glendinning – note taker

APOLOGIES: Cllrs N Knott, P. Shaw, R. Parker, A Ward and Parish Clerk Mrs. Beth Sinclair
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1. The meeting was called to discuss the way forward in view of the Covid-19 virus sweeping the country and Councillors not being able to attend in person.
2. The purpose of the meeting was to decide how to operate in a situation, which may last six months or more. The way in which meetings can continue remotely.
3. Microsoft have software called Teams which allows up to 32 people to join in remotely online. Other considerations were Facetime and Skype. It was agreed that Teams would be the best option for future meetings. Several Councillors already have this on their laptops/phones. A free download of Teams is available, however if anyone requires a subscription, the Parish Council will pay for this. A subscription would be for the maximum period of one year.
4. It was agreed that payments, such as salary, loan repayments and other invoices must be paid as normal. Other items such as planning would need to be considered.
5. The Council discussed the posters sent via the Rev Mark Abrey. These set out the symptoms for the Covid-19 virus and what to do in the event of not being able to leave the house. The Council agreed that A5 versions of these should go in the Ensign, due out in early April. The Council discussed whether a poster could be distributed to each house in the village which could be put in a window of a vulnerable person. A group of volunteers would be required to walk around the village on a regular basis. This would be considered again at a later date. They also discussed using the contact lists for the WI, Golden Stones, Enstoneoil and any other local organisation to distribute copies of these posters. No decision was made.
6. The Council looked at the Emergency Plan which has telephone numbers for Cllrs Knott, Lee and the Parish Clerk. It was agreed that this was sufficient and the Councillors would share telephone numbers so they could be contacted to deal with any issues reported.
7. These remote meetings would by virtue of their being online not be public meetings.

The meeting closed at 7.20pm.