

Notes of the Communications Working Group Meeting held virtually on Wednesday 3rd February 2021 at 10:00am.

Present: Cllr C Shepherd (Chairman) and Cllr Bubb
Mr S Martyn, Mr R Smythe and Jo Halpin Jones (Editor).

In attendance: Geraldine Scanlon (Communications Officer).

182. Apologies for absence.

It was resolved to accept apologies from Cllr Wright and Cllr Noble.

183. Please indicate if there are any interests, which should be declared. A declaration of an interest should indicate the nature of the interest (if not already declared on the Register of Interests) and the agenda item to which it relates. If a disclosable pecuniary interest is declared, the member should withdraw from the room whilst the matter is discussed.

None received.

The Chairman advised as there were only two Councillors present the meeting was not quorate. She explained three Councillors were required to allow a Committee to vote on proposals made. Non-Councillors present at Committee meetings do not have the right to vote unless there are special circumstances, Management of land, Harbour functions, Tourism functions and management of a festival, none of these apply to this group. The Chairman stated the meeting could proceed as a working group however no decisions could be made. Councillor Bubb said the Borough Council have a system in place to alleviate the problem of non-quorate meetings whereby if apologies are received in time a substitute would be asked to attend.

184. Printing and Distribution of Village Voice 128.

Councillor C Shepherd advised the printing of the current edition of the Village Voice had been postponed. The Government have imposed a full lockdown due to the Covid virus and it was felt the Village Voice was a non-essential item. Discussion was had surrounding the options for the current magazine. Councillor C Shepherd had inquired with the Royal Mail regarding them making delivery for the Parish Council, however there would be a charge of £750.00 and there was no guarantee that each property in Dersingham would receive a copy as delivery would be made by post code "PE31 6" which also covers Flitcham and Bircham, it was agreed this was not a feasible option. Jo Halpin-Jones raised concerns regarding those that had paid to advertise and asked if we would refund the cost of the ads. Councillor C Shepherd said a free advert could be offered but would need to be discussed and agreed once Communications could meet as a Committee. Consensus was to refrain from printing the current edition until restrictions were eased at which point another meeting would be set for further discussion. It was felt the Parish Council had a duty of care to both those that volunteer to distribute and to Staff.

185. Correspondence.

Councillor C Shepherd reported an email had been received from Go-compare requesting an editorial be placed in the Village Voice detailing insurance options

for holidays and travel. However, she felt it was not appropriate as it was an obvious advert for Go-compare and should such an article be required the information would best be obtained from a Government based source. Mr Smythe said it would also appear the Parish Council are endorsing the company.

Councillor C Shepherd stated she had also received an email from North Coast Partnership regarding "Beach Clean Guardians". Jo Halpin-Jones said she had also received it and would happily incorporate it into the Village Voice and said there are two articles from North Coast Partnerships in the current edition.

186. Agenda items for inclusion for the next meeting.

None Received.

187. Date of next meeting.

Wednesday 3rd March 2021 to be held virtually at 10.00am.

With no further business the meeting closed at 11.40am