

GREAT NESS and LITTLE NESS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Extraordinary Council Meeting of Great Ness and Little Ness Parish Council held in Little Ness Village Hall on Friday 20th March 2020 at 1pm.

Present Cllrs. Brooks (Chairman), Bates, Diggory, Gilbert, Nunn, Peters, Turner

Absent: Cllr. Arthur & Cllr. Mullis

In attendance No public

Clerk Mrs R. Turner

125/1920 **PRESENT & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received from Cllr. Arthur.

126/1920 **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

None.

127/1920 **DISPENSATION REQUESTS**

None.

128/1920 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

None

129/1920 **SCHEME OF DELEGATION, AMENDMENT TO FINANCIAL REGULATION AND EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS**

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, it was necessary to set up emergency arrangements in the event of the council being unable to meet.

It was **RESOLVED** to agree the following arrangements, which would stay in place for as long as necessary.

- It is lawful for the clerk to spend against items agreed in the Parish Council's 2020-21 budget. In making such payments, in unforeseen circumstances, (e.g. insurance premium higher than anticipated), the budget may be exceeded by up to 15%.
- Financial Regulations to be amended so that there are delegated powers for the Clerk/Locum Clerk to spend up to £2,000 per transaction (increased from £1,000), to authorise urgent work when unforeseen circumstances occur. Examples of such work are urgent repairs to parish assets like the play equipment
- Clerk to have delegated power to transfer funds within the council's bank accounts, to ensure that no more than £85k is held in each account thereby ensuring FSCS protection is maximised.
- Clerk to have delegated power to respond to planning applications (councillors are still able to submit their own personal comments)
- Council meeting on 7th April 2020 to be cancelled & further meetings should this be required
- Clerk to have delegated authority to receive and act upon Government advice in relation to the holding of the Annual Meeting of the Parish, scheduled to meet on 17th May 2020, (noting such meetings must be held before 1 June) and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council scheduled to meet on 5th May 2020, thereby giving delegated power to the Clerk (or Locum Clerk) to make necessary re-arrangements for these meetings in consultation with the Chair.

130/1920 **COUNCIL'S BANKING** – it was **RESOLVED** that once the Nationwide account is set up, the funds be split so no deposit in excess of £85,000 is held with any one bank