

WEST DEEPING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 8 AUGUST 2022

PRESENT:

Parish Council

Cllr David Ward – Chair

Cllr Iain Gowans

Cllr Sue Latham

Cllr Steve Snell

Mr Ian Coles – Clerk

Mrs Maggie Ashcroft, Cllr Ashley Baxter, Mr Mike Hutchings, Mrs Alison Ireland, Mrs Moira Small, Mr Iain Stowe

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

2. OPEN FORUM

Mrs Alison Ireland advised that West Deeping Village Hall now has a Facebook page which will be linked to the main West Deeping Facebook group.

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

4. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16 MAY 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2022, previously circulated, were agreed unanimously as a correct record. They were proposed by Cllr Steve Snell, seconded by Cllr Iain Gowans and signed by the Chairperson.

5. ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

6. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE THE PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Ashley Baxter mentioned that the new entrance at Tallington Lakes has now been opened but has subsequently been damaged and may be temporarily closed. He also advised that there are some safety issues regarding the new filling station on the A15 to Langtoft where access is causing some traffic issues and discussions are ongoing to try and make improvements to avoid traffic collisions etc.

Mr Ian Coles advised that we receive monthly reports from Rowena Everitt, our PCSO and her latest report confirmed that the main issue that they have been focusing on is anti-social behaviour. Patrols are regularly carried out throughout the region and specific areas where problems regularly occur are prioritised. Cllr David Ward asked if we can have any input to specific matters which affect our community and Cllr Ashley Baxter confirmed that there are police forums available for us to attend if we wish to raise any issues of concern to us.

7. MINERAL EXTRACTION

Mr Ian Coles advised that we had received a letter from Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) with a proposal for an updated 'Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan'. Details have been sent to councillors but a link to this will now be posted on our Facebook page if anyone wishes to look at this in more detail and make any comments directly to LCC.

Cllr David Ward expressed concern that our link with Breedons for regular meetings to discuss their plans and the impact on our village appears to have broken, with no meetings held over the last year. Mr Ian Coles agreed to contact them to see if a meeting can be organised for later in the year with a representative of the Parish Council attending future meetings with them.

8. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

Cllr Iain Gowans is liaising with Highways at Lincolnshire County Council to see if it is possible to erect a 'Give Way' sign at the bottom of the bridge at the southern end of the village to try and minimise accidents there in the future following a request from a resident, as discussed at the last meeting.

A resident has asked us about the potholes in The Boaty and wondered if the Parish Council has any plans to repair these. Cllr David Ward has looked at them and whilst he did not consider them to be too much of an issue, he will contact Keith Garfoot at Anglian Water, who regularly use this as access and are primarily responsible for the damage, to see if they can provide gravel to fill them in and help to resolve the problem.

Western Power Distribution have advised us that they no longer need to undertake work on the Boaty in connection with the overhead line rebuild at Tallington. Mr Ian Coles has posted a note on our Facebook page to confirm this to residents.

Mr Andrew Pickering had contacted us to say that he requires a new supply of bin bags for the dog litter bin which he very kindly empties for us and for which councillors expressed their gratitude. Previously, we had purchased these from Glasdon, who supplied the bin, but they are very expensive and slightly too large anyway. Cllr Iain Gowans advised that he can obtain a suitable supply for us and will organise this as soon as possible.

Mr Ian Coles advised that we had received an e-mail from a resident in The Lane asking if anything could be done to prevent residents from parking close to their property as this restricts their access. They also expressed concern that many people park on the pavement there and that this can also cause a problem of access for pedestrians who often have to walk into the road to get past certain vehicles. This has been investigated with Highways at LCC, our local PCSO and also with Cllr Ashley Baxter. Mr Ian Coles has been advised that action can be taken by the authorities if a driveway, highway or footpath is blocked by a vehicle but this does not include difficulty in accessing driveways. Whilst we could apply to Highways for certain areas to be designated 'no parking zones', it was thought by councillors that it would be impossible to identify all the relevant areas in the village. Consequently, it was agreed that the best course of action would be to promote considerate parking through our usual publication channels – Facebook / website / Towers & Spires / newsletter etc. Mr Ian Coles will arrange for a notice to be prepared in this respect.

9. CEMETERIES

Cllr Sue Latham mentioned that we are currently liaising with the daughter of David Dawkins, who died recently, regarding the plots in the cemetery for him and his late wife. Originally, two plots were purchased but, due to issues with tree roots, only one plot is available and the family are agreeable that this can be used for both. It was agreed that the cost of the additional plot should be refunded less any additional costs now payable and Mr Ian Coles and Cllr Sue Latham will liaise regarding this.

Gary's Gardens contacted us earlier in the year about the dead hedge in the cemetery and asked if we had any thoughts on the best way to deal with this. It was agreed that we will ask them for a quote to deal with this and Mr Ian Coles will arrange this.

We are still waiting for Cllr Ish Kamran to erect a sign to let visitors know that a water butt is available in the cemetery to use to water graves and will contact him to see if this can be put up in the near future.

10. BUS SHELTER

Mr Ian Coles had prepared a summary for all councillors of the current position prior to the meeting which included all the quotations that we had received for both demolishing the existing shelter and erecting a new one. The only viable option for us financially at the present time is to accept the quote provided by Cllr Ish Kamran. Cllr Steve Snell proposed that we accept this quotation if we are able to obtain a grant of up to £3,000 for the cost of it through LCC. This was seconded by Cllr Iain Gowans and agreed by all. Mr Ian Coles advised that he had spoken to LCC recently and they had confirmed that they would process our grant application form if we submitted it during August. He will therefore contact Cllr Ish Kamran and confirm the position to him. If, for any reason, we are unable to proceed with erecting the new shelter, Cllr Iain Gowans suggested that we should give thought to whether or not we demolish the existing shelter on health and safety grounds. If this situation arises, it may be necessary for an Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting to be organised prior to our next scheduled meeting in November 2022.

11. CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND

An independent meeting to discuss this further was held at the Red Lion public house on Tuesday 24th May 2022. We do not currently have an update on the latest position following this meeting, coordinated by Cllr Ish Kamran, but we will try and progress this as soon as possible. It was agreed that, whilst an independent committee was dealing with this, it will ultimately need to be approved by the Parish Council.

12. BULB PLANTING

Mrs Alison Ireland confirmed that we had received a response from LCC via Cllr Ashley Baxter confirming that we will need an accredited operative and supervisor in order to receive a permit and proceed with the planting of spring bulbs. However, on closer inspection, their decision seems to be based on an incorrect application form attached to their e-mail. Cllr Ashley Baxter, Mr Ian Coles and Mrs Alison Ireland will all liaise to query this and see if the situation can be resolved as soon as possible.

13. BEST KEPT VILLAGE SIGN

We have been investigating the brambles and foliage which have grown near our West Deeping 'Best Kept Village Sign' and Mr Ian Coles confirmed that he had been contacted by a resident whose garden borders this. They are aware that plants from their garden have grown quite large this year and have confirmed that they will cut them back significantly in the Autumn when they have stopped flowering.

It was also agreed that this sign, also known as 'The Shrievalty Trophy' sign should be added to our Asset Register, with the usual nominal value of £1 and Mr Ian Coles will arrange this.

14. PLANNING

Mr Ian Coles confirmed that there has been only one application since the last meeting:-

S22/1564 – Mill Spinney, Church Lane – Full details are awaited from SKDC for circulation to councillors but this is in respect of work to ash trees at the property.

15. FINANCE / INSURANCE

Mr Ian Coles confirmed that the usual Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) requirements have been met, with appropriate details sent off to the external auditor and all accounting statements and relevant forms published on our website. The Notice of Public Rights has also been published but no requests were received for inspection. However, any resident can request to see any of the Parish Council's financial records at any time.

The bank balances in our current and deposit accounts are £835.54 and £5,601.05 respectively. Since the last meeting, we have received £0.53 in bank interest, £130.00 in respect of the annual levies from Anglian Water and Tinsley's for use of the Boaty and £435.00 from West Deeping Parish Charity as reimbursement for work done by Gary's Gardens in the Tinsley Field. We have paid £619.00 to Gary's Gardens (of which £290.00 relates to the Tinsley Field and has been reimbursed), £1,409.53 for gross salary payments to the clerk, our annual insurance premium of £381.40, a voucher for our internal auditor of £25.00 and administration expenses of £92.00,

14. CORRESPONDENCE

We have been asked to complete a survey by the Chief Inspector of Lincolnshire Police regarding Neighbourhood Policing. This has recently been circulated to councillors for their comments and Mr Ian Coles will summarise these and submit details back in due course.

Delaine have contacted us regarding a revised bus timetable which will apply from 1st August 2022.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held in the village hall on Tuesday 15th November 2022 at 7 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____

Initials:

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