

WEST DEEPING PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 1 APRIL 2019

PRESENT: **Parish Council** Cllr Iain Stowe - Chair
 Cllr Maggie Ashcroft
 Cllr Colin Blagrove
 Cllr Sue Latham
 Cllr Stephen Snell

Mr Ian Coles – Clerk

Cllr Ashley Baxter, Cllr Rosemary Trollope-Bellew, Mr P Bragg, Mr J Mooney, Mr D Ward

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11 FEBRUARY 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2019, previously circulated, were agreed unanimously as a correct record. They were proposed by Cllr Colin Blagrove, seconded by Cllr Maggie Ashcroft and signed by the Chairman.

4. ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA

There have been several comments made by residents in respect of debris which has been left on one of the footpaths to Tallington from the village after recent trees and bushes had been trimmed on nearby private land. Cllr Sue Latham confirmed that SKDC's Footpath Officer had inspected this and is satisfied that the footpath has been cleared although it is still not completely satisfactory. It was agreed that Mr Ian Coles will contact Robert Woodfield at Tinsley Estates, who own the land from where the debris came, to make him aware of the position.

There is inadequate signage and access to part of the public footpath between West Deeping and Tallington, where some years ago the path was diverted to pass through a field. In order to cross a barbed wire fence, there is only a breeze block step and the area is overgrown with brambles. There is no protection from the barbed wire and there is no footpath sign. As part of this land is under the jurisdiction of Tallington Parish Council, Mr Ian Coles contacted the Parish Clerk there but she was unable to provide us with any assistance. He then contacted Andrea Philpotts at LCC who advised that she has inspected the route but confirmed that it cannot be diverted at present as it is subject to an outstanding objection. This issue is currently being reviewed by their Definitive Map Team and we await a response from them in due course.

Following a West Deeping Quarries Liaison Meeting on Wednesday 21st November 2018 at Breedon's local offices, Cllr Iain Stowe asked SKDC to comment on the issue of additional access to Tallington Lakes by residents and visitors from King Street which we felt was dangerous. Cllr Ashley Baxter also took this matter up on our behalf. We have now been advised by Jonathan Short, Senior Planning Enforcement Officer at SKDC, that no planning permission is required for such access and that the Highways Department at LCC have no concerns about the safety of its use.

Following comments by West Deeping Parish Charity that the bench in the Tinsley Field is in need of repair, Mr Ian Coles contacted Melanie James as this may be something that the Jubilee Fund would be prepared to consider undertaking on behalf of the village. She has confirmed this will be raised at the next meeting that they are due to hold shortly although initial investigations have suggested that it will be too expensive to repair and is likely to need replacing. The possibility of purchasing a new bench was discussed which we may be prepared to consider as part of our Parish Council Centenary in July 2019. Further thought will be given to this once we have a response from the Jubilee Fund.

5. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE THE PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Ashley Baxter and Cllr Rosemary Trollope-Bellew provided verbal reports and updates on several matters covered under other agenda items at this Meeting.

6. CEMETERIES

Cllr Maggie Ashcroft and Cllr Sue Latham have had discussions with relatives of burial plots regarding maintenance in the cemetery and particular attention needs to be made to tree branches and hedges which Gary's Gardens could deal with for us. It was also suggested that hedging could be planted on the Back Lane side of the cemetery fence to deter possible intruders and improve the appearance. Cllr Iain Stowe agreed to mention this to Jean Stowe and the Conservation team and we will review this at the next Meeting.

Cllr Colin Blagrove commented that we have previously considered the repair of a wall in the churchyard and it may be appropriate to review this as the 5 year inspection of the area is due in July 2019. It was agreed that, following this, we will obtain a quotation for the repair for further consideration.

Cllr Sue Latham and Mr Ian Coles confirmed receipt of application forms and a cheque from Mr & Mrs Barker in respect of two burial plots which we had previously agreed to. Certificates in respect of these will be issued to them shortly.

7. POTHOLES

Mr David Ward pointed out that there are still various potholes in the village which have been reported previously but have not yet been attended to by the Highways Department of LCC. Cllr Colin Blagrove advised that we regularly report these and that he continues to pursue them when they have not been repaired. We will check the previous reference numbers of those which have previously been reported and ask them for an update. Lincolnshire County Council offer a 'Fix My Street' facility which can be used by all residents to report problems and everyone is encouraged to use this.

8. SEWAGE PROBLEMS

Anglian Water have been undertaking an investigation to ascertain where excess ingress may be entering the sewage network and to establish if there are any 'misconnections' which can cause flooding by allowing surface water to enter the network. Caitlin Docker of AW has been liaising with Cllr Ashley Baxter regarding this and has confirmed that they have found no current problems. However, if any residents have specific problems, they are encouraged to contact Anglian Water directly on their helpline number - 03457 145145 so that these can be investigated directly.

9. PLANNING

There have been no new planning applications since the last Meeting.

10. FINANCE

10.1 : BALANCES / INCOME & EXPENDITURE

The bank balances in our current and deposit accounts are £384 and £4,935 respectively. Since the last meeting, we have received deposit account interest of £2.66, burial fees of £200.00 and £45.00 from WD Charities as reimbursement of expenditure that we have incurred in maintaining the Tinsley Field. We have paid £200.00 to the clerk, plus expenses of £18.64 and £79.41 to the Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils for our annual membership.

10.2 : ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR) 2018/19

Mr Ian Coles confirmed that he had received details of the requirements to complete and return the AGAR for 2018/19 from the external auditors, PKF Littlejohn. The information needs to be inspected by our internal auditor and it was agreed that we would ask Andrew Ricketts, who has undertaken this role for us previously, if he would be happy to do so again this year.

10.3 : BANK ACCOUNT AUTHORISATIONS

At present, Cllr Iain Stowe, Cllr Maggie Ashcroft and Cllr Colin Blagrove can authorise payments from our bank account. After Cllr Iain Stowe steps down from the Parish Council next month he will be removed as an authorised person and we will then consider if it is necessary to appoint a replacement or not.

11. CORRESPONDENCE TO BE NOTED

None received this month.

12. PARISH COUNCIL CENTENARY 2019

Following on from previous meetings, further discussions took place on possible events that we could consider for our centenary, which is on 30th July 2019, including a coffee morning, afternoon tea or an evening function to be held in the Village Hall. A new bench, as referred to earlier in the minutes, is also being considered. It was agreed that this will be reviewed at the next Parish Council Meeting.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Ian Coles confirmed that, along with Cllr Colin Blagrove, he had attended an election briefing in Bourne in respect of the May 2019 elections. At present, four of the existing councillors have applied to be re-elected and no new nominations received although applications can be made up to 4pm on Wednesday 3rd April 2019. He will arrange for all nomination forms received to be delivered to SKDC's offices in Grantham at a previously arranged meeting tomorrow on behalf of all nominees. As we can elect up to five parish councillors, we can co-opt an additional councillor in due course if we receive no further nominations and wish to do so.

Cllr Colin Blagrove provided an update on the data that he had extracted from our speed indicating device which is monitored to provide us with regular reports. The latest report shows that the average speed for the period in question was 28mph which compares favourably with 32mph when the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership carried out weekly checks in both June 2017 and June 2018.

Cllr Maggie Ashcroft reported that metal detectorists have been seen in the area and have claimed to have been given permission to do this on land owned by Tinsley Estates. However, the land in question is 'heritage protected' and they are therefore trespassing and should be reported if they are seen in the area again.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at The Village Hall on Monday 13 May 2019 at 7:30pm. This will be preceded by our Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm. The dates were agreed for subsequent meetings to be held in 2019 as follows:-

Monday 15th July
Monday 16th September
Monday 18th November

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.48 pm.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____