

The Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday the 13th day of DECEMBER 2021 at the Royal British Legion, Long Lane – commencing 7.30 pm

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Messrs Rayner (Chair), Cock, Cole, Fenn, Lambert and Storey, Mrs Arnold, Mrs Bane, Mrs Peckham, Mrs McGeeney and Mrs Wilson. Also present 5 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Squadron Leader Geary.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None declared.

MINUTES: Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held Monday 8th November 2021 were approved. Mrs Bane proposed, Mr Cole seconded, all in favour.

PUBLIC SPEAKING: The meeting was suspended for 4 minutes to allow members of the public to speak.

MATTERS ARISING

RAF Feltwell – Chair read out Sqn Leader's report forwarded in his absence. The F35A arrival is planned for this week but is subject to change depending on weather conditions here and in the US, sea conditions etc. He has been working with Suffolk Police, MOD Police, West Suffolk Council, Suffolk Highways and the LRF to mitigate the risk of congestion and road traffic accidents during this time. The 494th Fighter Squadron have returned from overseas operations and there is currently a detachment from the 336th Fighter Squadron operating from RAF Lakenheath; hence the increase in aircraft sorties over the last couple of weeks.

2. **SNT** – Police Connect emails circulated, no incidents relating to Feltwell.

3. **Risk Assessment** – **Inspections:** Handyman is carrying out weekly inspections, no issues reported. Prices still to be obtained for a new wheelie bin. **Bylaw:** Clerk said general response from other clerks was that bylaws still stood until rescinded by the council and that PSPO's do not replace bylaws, they are just different. Mrs Peckham said she had heard nothing from DEFRA but would agree with the comments and proposed the bylaw still stands and No Dog signs should be displayed, Mrs Bane seconded, all in favour. Clerk said the National Playing Fields Association could not help with bylaws but regard dogs on playing fields as a local management issue and would support the council if there were any complaints. **Litter Bin:** Playing Field Group to get prices. **Teen Shelter:** Playing Field Group to discuss resident's request to reinstate the perspex panel and revert at the next meeting.

4. **Balance Sheet** – No queries.

5. **Allotment Pest Control** – Reports received for September, October and November.

6. **NALC** – NALC bulletins circulated as received. Chair said the plaque presentation evening on 15/11/21 was a success despite having been let down by the caterers that morning. A letter of thanks had been received by Lady Georgina Roberts and Mr Storey thanked the Chair, Clerk, Mrs Arnold and Mrs McGeeney for organising what he thought was a very successful event. Costs associated with displaying the plaque in the Memorial Garden to be investigated.

7. **Ranger Visit** – Clerk said Streetscene inspectors are due to visit in January if there is work identified for their attention. Mrs Wilson said the junction at the top of Lodge Road needed clearing of silt etc again. Clerk to advise Highways.

8. **Parish Partnership Scheme 2021/22** – Clerk said work has been postponed until w/c 10/1/22.

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

9. Locality Budget – Mr Storey said he is hoping to meet with Andy Wallace before Christmas to prioritise various requests from all parishes. Highways are still catching up with work delayed due to flooding and the budget has now been increased since further money has been allocated by central government. As Parish Councils are not eligible to apply for the Community Grant Scheme, Mr Storey said he would consider Mrs Bane's request for two new picnic benches under his Locality Budget which can also be spent on community projects or services.

10. Cllr Martin Storey Report – Mr Storey asked the Clerk to obtain details of all available grants and what they can be spent on.

11. Fence – Chair said there had been a hold up with the installation and that he still did not have a definite date for the work to commence.

12. Online Banking – Ongoing. Mr Lambert will look into this.

13. Operation 'London Bridge' – Chair said Hockwold PC are going to direct parishioners to the online book of condolences and Methwold PC are going to post condolence cards to every parishioner and set up a central collection point where they will be dealt with when all cards have been received. Mr Lambert felt it was only right and proper to have a Condolence Book and asked if a more cost-effective method could be sought. Chair said an official photograph must be purchased anyway as NALC are not supplying one. Mr Storey was in favour of this, stating that it was a small price to pay in comparison to the service given to the country by HM The Queen. Mrs Bane agreed. Mr Cock asked what the procedure was with the signed Condolence Book and Chair said it is sent off to be bound at an additional charge and returned for display in the village, i.e. the Museum. Mr Cole proposed purchasing an official photograph and investigating costs of a Condolence Book at a later date, Mrs Bane seconded, all in favour. Chair to purchase official photograph.

14. Bus Shelter & Play Equipment Cleaning – Clerk said both Lodge Road and Wilton Road bus shelters had been cleaned 23/11/21.

15. Oak Garden – Mrs Peckham believed Oak Garden had been passed to Highways in its entirety but Mr Lambert insisted this was only the upkeep of it. Clerk to review deeds which Mrs Peckham thought were with Mr Paul Garland. Clerk to contact Mr Garland.

17. Invitation to Bid for Parish Partnership Scheme 2022/23 – Clerk has submitted bid for SAM2.

18. The Armed Forces Covenant & Pledge – Chair said presentation will be held virtually in January.

19. NCC 1 Million Trees Project – Extraordinary Meeting to be held in January to discuss further.

20. Village Christmas Tree 2021 – Chair thanked Mr Storey and Mr Lambert for collecting the tree and setting it in place. Mrs Bane thanked the Chair and his family members for their assistance with this and for putting up the lights and garland which were all beautiful. She also thanked Mrs Arnold for decorating the tree and setting up the tree inside the church for the Festival of Light.

21. Moat Side – Mr Lambert met with the Handyman who has since trimmed back all greenery from the paths.

22. Playing Field Plans – Mrs Peckham circulated a breakdown and allocation of all grants received prior to the meeting. The remaining monies total £5615 which she suggested carrying forward to the next financial year and putting towards future projects which is always looked favourably upon

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

when applying for funding. Chair proposed carrying the remaining amount over to the next financial year, all in favour. **See-saw:** Mrs Peckham said the price for the new seesaw is £3411 + VAT but a saving could be made if the existing concrete base is removed by a local contractor. Mr Lambert offered to collect and dispose of the existing see-saw and concrete once removed which is a further saving of £450 and Mrs Peckham thanked him for this kind gesture. Chair also thanked Mr Lambert and proposed purchasing a new see-saw at £2211 + VAT, Mr Lambert seconded, all in favour. Playing Field Group will look into prices for removing the see-saw and concrete.

23. Trees on the Playing Field – Mrs Peckham believed various tree work needed undertaking; the tree that is hugging the streetlight on the corner of Paynes Lane needs cutting back, a couple of trees on the car park need lower branches removing and other trees on the park need attention. Mrs Peckham proposed obtaining quotations for the next meeting, Mrs Bane seconded, all in favour. Clerk will work with Mrs Peckham to get prices.

24. Playing Field Boundary Wall – No update. Orange fencing and signs are still in situ and will continue to be monitored. Regular removal of shoots from tree stump to be added to Handyman's schedule.

25. Budget 2022/23 – Clerk said the interior walls of the Changing Rooms need attention and completely redecorating. Mr Cole felt this work should be funded by grants obtained from the closure of the Changing Rooms but Mrs Bane argued that the Changing Rooms are an asset and as such this work should fall under the Precept. She felt grant monies should be spent on new items. Chair said the iron railings neighbouring the Memorial Garden need restoring and the wall pointing up. He will try and get prices for the next meeting. He would also like to purchase a WW2 Memorial Bench to sit beside the existing WW1 bench. Mrs Peckham said the CIL money of approx. £10K needed to be spent and suggested the WW2 bench be funded by this, and the wall and railings paid via the Precept. She said further benches and possibly bins could be purchased for other grassed areas, i.e. Long Lane and Wilton Road with the CIL money. Mr Lambert said the bench near Mulberry Close needs shotblasting and painting. He also felt support should be given to the Feltwell in Bloom project if a large number of residents are taking part.

26. Queens Platinum Jubilee – Chair would like to organise a village event to mark this occasion which takes place 2nd – 5th June 2022. He suggested coinciding the event with the annual fete and parade and members of the Community Group who were present felt this was a good idea. He was in favour of purchasing a gas-fuelled beacon at £490 + VAT which he said could be put at the top of St Mary's Church. Mrs Peckham questioned whether this was a necessary purchase since the fete was already marking the occasion and asked what happened to the beacon afterwards. The Chair said reusable beacons could be purchased with no date on them. To be discussed further.

27. EV Charging Points for Residents with no Off-Street Parking in West Norfolk – Ongoing.

28. Memorial Garden Water Supply – Chair said the tap was no longer required.

29. Hall Drive Wall – Clerk had been advised to contact Freebridge by Mark Sharman since they had removed the overgrown tree from the front of a property along here a while ago. Mrs Peckham said all the properties were privately owned and several were rented. Clerk to request CNC Building Control inspect wall again before proceeding.

30. Oakfields – Clerk said UKPN had reinstated the grass shortly after requested.

31. Anglia in Bloom – Chair had attended two meetings with the Feltwell in Bloom organisers and read out a number of ideas they had in mind, amounting to around £2860. Mrs Peckham suggested the organisers submit a formal written proposal to the Parish Council. Chair to contact organisers.

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

32. Community Donations – Mr Lambert said this was a nice idea but as there is currently no policy in place, donations cannot be made. Mrs Peckham proposed refusing the request on this basis, Mr Cock seconded, 8 in favour, Mr Storey against. Mr Storey said he had also been approached for funding and it was something he was looking into under his Community Grant Scheme pot.

33. Litter Picking Request – A resident had questioned why the Litter Picker did not cover all the village. Mrs Peckham said the areas covered regularly were hotspots for rubbish but if another area is requested, the Litter Picker would willingly do it. She did not feel it necessary to put additional areas on her rota. Mr Lambert agreed and Mrs McGeeney suggested asking the resident if there was a specific area he had in mind. Clerk to contact resident.

34. Allotment Committee Update – **Hedging:** The Allotment Committee asked if a section of hedging at the garden allotments could be replaced. Chair read out three quotations for 100 x mixed hawthorn and blackthorn, 100 spiral guards and 100 x bamboo canes: £177 + VAT, £122 + VAT and £85 + VAT. Mrs Peckham asked if these could be funded via the NCC tree scheme but Chair said more established plants were required. Mrs Bane proposed purchasing 100 x mixed hawthorn and blackthorn, 100 spiral guards and 100 x bamboo canes from AMC Felthorpe at £85 + VAT, Mrs Peckham seconded, 8 in favour, Mr Cole declared an interest and abstained. **Vacancy:** Following Mr Cock's resignation from the Allotment Management Committee (AMC), Chair asked if anyone was interested in this position. Mr Fenn expressed an interest and Mrs McGeeney proposed Mr Fenn as an AMC member, Mrs Peckham seconded, all in favour. Mr Storey then presented Mr Cock with a gift donated by the AMC and thanked him for all his dedication and hard work, always undertaken voluntarily, and said he was a credit to the parish.

35. Changing Rooms – Clerk said the heating system was not working properly and earlier in the week had called out Carl Cox Electrical as a matter of urgency to investigate. Four timers needed replacing which she had ordered. Whilst there with Mrs Peckham, they had noticed the main external door handle was broken and was hard to lock. Clerk to order replacement.

36. Development Long Lane Farm, 30 Long Lane - Street Lighting: Clerk read out enquiry from NCC asking for confirmation that street lighting was not required. As the developers had agreed to look into low level/footpath lighting earlier in the year, Mrs Peckham proposed writing to them, asking them to confirm this, Chair seconded, all in favour. Clerk to write to developers. **Street Name:** Clerk read out email from Westgate Construction who are undertaking the construction work proposing either Pryer's Yard or Pryer's Close as possible street names. Mr Lambert said the Pryer's family was one of the oldest families in the village, dating back several hundred years and it was felt by all that the street name should have some connection to them. Mrs McGeeney proposed Pryer's Close, Mr Cole seconded, all in favour. Clerk to respond to email and thank Westgate Construction for considering the Parish Council's input.

37. CIL Infrastructure Funding 2022-23 – Clerk said funding was open again as of 1/1/22 with a short deadline of end Feb. Chair said the Church clockface needed revamping so will obtain prices for the next meeting. Clerk read out email from Feltwell Bowls Club asking for support in their application for repairs or replacement lawnmower and other equipment to maintain their outdoor facility. Mrs Bane proposed supporting their application, Mr Lambert seconded, all in favour.

CORRESPONDENCE

38. BCKLWN – Emails – Parish Update Sessions

39. NCC – Emails – Temporary Traffic Order for closure of High Street due to UKPN overhead work on 6/12/21, 8.30 am – 11.59 pm; News release re Winter rain; Revocation of temporary closure and traffic restriction of High Street 6/12/21

40. Breckland Council – Email - Statement of Community Involvement Consultation

CORRESPONDENCE (CONT)

41. RAF Lakenheath – Emails – Notification of 7 explosions on 24/11/21, 9 am – 2 pm and 4 demolition shots on 7/12/21, 9 am – 3 pm
42. Zurich – Emails – Building Valuation; Winter weather
43. Anglian Water - Working in partnership to help vulnerable parishioners
44. Vattenfall – Email - Norfolk Projects' Community Benefit Fund
45. Rural Services Network – Emails - Bulletins
46. Brochures - Parish Magazine

47. **CHEQUES** – Mrs Bane proposed approving the Payments List, Mr Lambert seconded, all in favour. Cheques signed for the following:- J Martin £39.60, S Sargent £117.85, T George £143.24, R H Landscapes £270.00, K&M Lighting £100.21, Fenland Leisure Products £156.00, Norfolk Tractors £508.20, Breckland Industrial £186.00, RBL Poppy Appeal £50.00, I Rayner £153.50, S Arnold £47.00, J Rolph £150.00, Royal British Legion £110.00. Direct debits to URM £41.40, Npower £571.18, Biffa £175.27, and BT £61.44. Standing Order to J Martin £897.58.

48. **PLANNING**

There were no planning applications.

Sir Edmund de Moundeford Trust - Outline planning application for the construction of two dwellings on land south of 4–8 Munsons Lane: No further news from Cllr Lawrence re a planning meeting date.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

49. Parking – Mrs McGeeney asked for Mr Storey's advice regarding people parking in front of private driveways on The Beck during school drop off/pick up times as this was becoming a regular occurrence. She had spoken to the Governors and requested people refrain from doing this via the school newsletter. Mr Storey said this was a Police matter but Mrs McGeeney had been told this was not so and nor was it Highways as it was not illegal to park in front of private driveways. She had been informed about an option of having an 'H' bar painted in front of her driveway which would then make it illegal to park here and asked Mr Storey for assistance with this.

Next meeting to be held on Monday 10th January 2022 at 7.30 pm at the British Legion.
Meeting declared closed 9.55 pm.

Chair wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
