

An Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday the 24th day of JANUARY 2022 at the Royal British Legion, Long Lane, commencing 7.32 pm, to discuss CIL Infrastructure Funding Applications and Norfolk County Council 1 Million Trees Project

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

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies were received from Mr Cock.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC SPEAKING: The meeting was suspended for 3 minutes to allow members of the public to speak.

1. **CIL Infrastructure Funding Applications – Renovation of St Mary’s Church Clockface:** The Chair said he had been asked by the PCC if the Parish Council would consider submitting an application to renovate the clock face since it already paid for the regular winding of the clock. He said the clockface was in extremely poor condition and had therefore obtained a quotation of £8604.00 from Smith of Derby Clockmakers who were highly recommended by the Diocese of Ely. Mr Fenn asked if the clock was in good working order and the Chair said the PCC had advised it was mechanically sound, having been serviced at the end of last year. Mrs Peckham proposed supporting the application and putting an amount of £604.00 towards the project if the funding was awarded, Mrs McGeeney seconded, all in favour. Chair said he would submit the application and thanked everyone for their support. **Feltwell in Bloom (FiB):** Councillors had been furnished with project details prior to the meeting. During Public Speaking, a member of the FiB group gave further insight and said the Parish Council’s support would reflect well in their application to take part in ‘Anglia in Bloom’ this year. The Chair, together with Mr Wilkinson (a member of FiB), recently met Andy Wallace, Highways Officer to discuss situating planters around the village. Mr Wallace had agreed all 11 locations and said only one street licence needed to be submitted for all which he would automatically authorise. The Chair asked if the Parish Council would consider purchasing the planters at £308.47 each and applying to the CIL Infrastructure Fund to pay for them, stating they would then be Parish Council property and listed as an asset. He said for a cost of £26.50 each, the planters could be branded ‘Feltwell Parish Council’ but Mr Storey was not in favour of this since FiB is a community project involving non-Parish Councillors, and Mr Lambert agreed. Mr Fenn asked what plans were in place for Autumn/Winter planting and a member of FiB said the idea was to have seasonal plants that promoted all-year-round interest, using bulbs that did not have to be renewed. Mrs Peckham proposed the Parish Council apply for funding for 11 planters at a cost of £308.47 each, with no branding, plus £142.50 delivery, and only purchasing the planters if the funding is awarded, Mr Fenn seconded, all in favour. Chair will take this application forward. Following this, a member of FiB advised future plans included a length of wildflowers on the grassed area around the Oakfields estate, about 10ft in from the highway, and asked for the Parish Council’s support before approaching the Borough Council. The Chair raised concern about the number of complaints received a few years ago when the grass around Oakfields was not cut often enough and added that the Highways Officer was not particularly in favour of wildflowers either since Norfolk County Council had been sued in the past for not cutting verges. Mrs Peckham thought the point of the meeting was to discuss CIL funding applications and didn’t see the necessity in discussing future plans unless and until the application for planters was successful. Mrs Wilson disagreed and said it would be a good opportunity for FiB to gauge the Parish Council’s thoughts so that if the application was successful, they could continue with their plans without the need for another Parish Council meeting. The Chair agreed and asked each councillor their opinion regarding wildflowers, and the majority said they agreed in principle. If the application were to be successful, Mr Lambert asked for the Parish Council to be kept fully informed before each new stage of the project commenced, particularly since money will have been invested in the project. FiB said they would be happy to do this.

1. CIL Infrastructure Funding Applications (continued) – **Defibrillator:** The Chair felt one defibrillator in the village was insufficient for a village as largely inhabited as Feltwell and asked if an application could be submitted for another. Mr Storey believed three defibrillators would be more realistic and the Chair said the Community Heartbeat Trust had recommended having at least three when the first one was purchased. Mr Storey proposed applying for two defibrillators, Mr Cole seconded, all in favour. Chair to submit application. Suggested locations were The Social Club, Doctor's Surgery and R H Lindsays who could be approached if the application was successful. **CIL Funding:** Chair said numerous projects can be funded via the CIL Infrastructure Fund and proposed setting up a Working Party to consider future applications. Mrs McGeeney and Mr Storey both volunteered to join the Chair on the Working Party.

2. Norfolk County Council 1 Million Trees Project – Chair said he is going to register the new allotment hedging being planted Sunday 30th January under the Queen's Green Canopy 2022. Mrs Peckham said she had been giving some thought to areas suitable for planting trees and suggested having a village orchard on part of the farm allotment land behind the substation on Old Brandon Road. Mr Fenn thought this was an excellent idea, stating the land was also far enough away not to cause problems. Mrs Bane agreed and felt an orchard would give something back to the village. Mr Cole warned fruit trees required pruning and said this should be taken into consideration. Mr Storey said the Allotment Management Committee could look into this further. Mrs McGeeney asked if blossom trees could be planted around the Oakfields estate. Chair said the Highways Officer thought planting trees here would be perfectly acceptable but further advice should be sought from Norfolk County Council. Mrs McGeeney proposed planting blossom trees around Oakfields, Mrs Wilson seconded but Mrs Peckham asked how many she was proposing and for locations. Mr Storey suggested postponing this suggestion until the next Parish Council meeting by which time all Councillors could have look at this area.

3. PLANNING

There were no planning applications

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

4. Pedestrian Gate Near Almshouses – Mr Cole asked if something could be done about this gate which is leaning on the wall. Chair advised him to speak to the Chairman of the Sir Edmund de Moundeford Trust since this belonged to them.

Meeting closed at 8.34 pm.