

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday the 17th day of APRIL 2023 at the Royal British Legion, Long Lane – commencing 7.00 pm

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Messrs Cock, Cole, Fenn, Lambert, Rayner and Storey (arrived 8.12 pm), Mrs Arnold, Mrs Bane, Mrs McGeeney, Mrs Peckham and Mrs Wilson. Also present 4 members of the public

APOLOGIES: None.

The Chair asked if anyone was recording the meeting and Mr Cole replied that he was. All members of the public gave their consent to be recorded.

Following several comments on local village Facebook groups, the Chair advised members of the public that Parish Councillors do not have to introduce themselves at Parish Council meetings. He also said members of the public are only permitted to speak at Parish Council meetings during the Public Speaking session and at no other time unless invited to by a Parish Councillor.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Mrs Wilson declared an interest in Item 28.

MINUTES: Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting were approved. Mr Lambert proposed, Mr Cole seconded, 7 in favour, Mrs Bane and McGeeney abstained having not been present.

PUBLIC SPEAKING: No issues were raised by the members of the public.

MATTERS ARISING

1. **RAF Feltwell** – The RAF Commander was not present therefore no report was given. Chair said the flypast was cancelled due to poor weather conditions.
2. **Risk Assessment** – **Weekly:** No issues reported by Handyman however Mrs Peckham said one section of orange fencing had been down for at least three weeks. Clerk to ask Handyman to put back up. Clerk said items raised in the recent inspection report were in hand. Chair queried if it was worth replacing the broken chains on the Multiplay stepping stones and suggested replacing the whole unit as parts had to be shipped from the USA last time making them expensive. Mrs Peckham felt the unit should stay as when the Playing Field Group had looked at replacing it a while ago, a supplier had commented that it was one of the most robust pieces on the market. She felt newer pieces such as those installed at Lakenheath were not as good. Mrs Bane and Mrs McGeeney agreed and said the Multiplay unit was also extremely well used. All agreed for Clerk to ask Handyman to replace broken chains. It was agreed not to reseed areas of the skate park at present. **Benches:** Clerk had ordered the picnic bench.
3. **Balance Sheet** – No queries.
4. **Allotment Pest Control** – No report for April yet.
5. **NALC** – Newsletters circulated. Chair proposed renewing annual subscription at £453.36, Mrs McGeeney seconded, all in favour. Chair proposed renewing annual website hosting at £70, Mr Lambert seconded, all in favour. Clerk to renew both subscriptions. Chair said he would advise the price and details of the cost for NALC to manage websites at the next meeting.
6. **Cllr Martin Storey Report** – Mr Storey could not report on Borough Council matters during purdah but gave a brief NCC report. Most items had been received via Press Releases which had been displayed on the Council's Facebook page and noted under Correspondence. Mrs Peckham had met with Andy Wallace who said the roundels were scheduled to be done when white lining is carried in April therefore money was spent elsewhere. Clerk to chase Andy re Old Methwold Road.

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

7. Playing Field Boundary Wall – Clerk said the council’s insurers had instructed a surveyor to meet with Councillors on site on Monday 24/4/23 at 1.00 pm. Mrs Peckham and Mr Cole could both attend, Chair and Mr Lambert hoped to be able to and other Councillors would advise their availability nearer the time. Clerk had also chased and received report from CNC Building Control’s visit in March 2022 which stated that although the wall had been fenced off and was considered safe at that time, the force from swaying trees would transfer to the wall which could have a negative effect in the long term.

8. Changing Rooms – Mrs Peckham said Feltwell United FC’s last home game was next Saturday so heat and hot water could be turned off after this. It would need to be turned on for the Community Group’s Coronation event on 7/5/23 and the village fete on 17/6/23. All agreed that the Cleaner should be asked to spring clean in time for these events.

9. Highways – Path at 2 Oak Street scheduled to be sided out in April had not been done yet. Clerk had contacted Highways again about the dangerous condition of the B1112 from Feltwell to Weeting and was directed to South Norfolk Highways who said work had been carried out to make this area safe and further works for large scale patching was planned. An area technician had viewed the temporary works carried out earlier that day and Clerk was awaiting a response. Mrs Wilson said this road needed urgent attention and totally resurfacing. Andy Wallace had informed Mrs Peckham that timescale for repairs to white lined areas was up to a year depending on what code had been allocated and Chair said once an area had been white-lined, Highways were fully liable for it.

10. Doctor’s Surgery Car Park – Practice Manager had emailed the Clerk stating they were happy to meet on a Tuesday night at 6 pm at the surgery but could only accommodate two Councillors. Mr Lambert felt the meeting should be held at the British Legion as if any decisions had to be made then a quorum of at least four Councillors was required. Clerk to contact Practice Manager.

11. Parking on Grass – Mrs Bane said the verge was being churned up by a driver dropping off/picking up children every day, not buses. Chair said it was not illegal to park on a verge and Mrs Peckham said other vehicles regularly park on the grass nearby. Chair suggested a few handfuls of grass seed could be scattered here when the skate park is reseeded.

12. Overhanging Greenery – Mrs Peckham said she had met with Andy Wallace who agreed the hedge at 50 Wilton Road was way over the boundary. He will write to the owners again, stating that Highways would undertake this work if they did not simply because the hedge is at a junction. Mrs Wilson said potholes were now forming on the opposite side of the road. Clerk to report. Mrs McGeeney will speak to the owner of 53 High Street about overgrowing greenery.

13. Feltwell in Bloom Monthly Update – Mrs Bane had been informed of FiB’s intentions to plant a 1m wide strip of wildflowers all the way along the grassed area outside Oakfields estate. Mr Lambert said he had only given FiB enough seed for the agreed, smaller trial strip. Mrs Bane said FiB should confirm in writing that three of the four new planters to be donated would replace the skirting-board flowerbeds in situ at Bell Street and Mulberry Close entrance before they are purchased. Mrs Wilson said FiB should also confirm their wildflower plans. Clerk to write to FiB. Mrs McGeeney said the flowerbed on Bell Street was covered in grass cuttings and Chair wondered if there was some confusion with FiB’s licence as some grassed areas of the village had been cut whilst others had been left. Clerk to obtain clarification from Borough.

14. CIL Project Funding – Ongoing. Chair to obtain prices for war memorial work and church clockface for July funding application.

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

15. Memorial Bench High Street – Clerk had had no response from her enquiry on the village Facebook for someone to paint the gold lettering so Mrs Peckham suggested contacting a local man, Chris McCreath. Clerk to contact Mr McCreath.
16. Feltwell Community Group – Defibrillator, Outdoor Gym Equipment & Donation Request – Defibrillator: Clerk said this had been installed and suggested sending a letter of thanks to the Social Club. All agreed for Clerk to send letter. Chair had submitted grant application to BCKLWN and should hear outcome within 10 days.
17. Grass Maintenance Contract Quotations – Mrs Peckham said contractors had not cut around the car park entrances or strimmed the field edges but had carried out this work the next day at the Clerk's request. Mrs Peckham will monitor this at the next cut.
18. Request for a Memorial Bench on Chequers Green – Nothing further at present.
19. Warren Energy Community Fund 2023 – Clerk has submitted application for picnic bench.
20. Consider Year 6 Prom Committee Request – Clerk had been advised by the Committee that this was taking place Saturday 7th May, the same day as the Coronation 'Picnic in the Park' planned by Feltwell Community Group. Clerk to ensure Prom Committee were aware of this.
21. Consider Date Amendment of April Parish Council Meeting – Mrs Peckham asked for clarification of the commencement time of the Annual Parish Meeting to which the Chair responded was 7.00 pm (accounts viewed from 6.45 pm).
22. Stuart Samuels – Mrs Peckham asked who was organising the Car Show and Chair said Mr Samuels was one of three organisers. Chair asked for the hot water to be turned on for this event and Mrs Peckham queried whether a fee should be charged for the Changing Rooms toilets to cover cleaning costs. Mr Lambert felt that as posters stipulated all entrance fees would be donated to 'playing field funds', no charge should be made. Mrs Wilson asked if Mr Samuels had applied for a Temporary Events Licence since alcohol was being sold and Mrs Peckham said a copy of his insurance needed to be obtained. Mr Cock proposed permitting use of the playing field for the Annual Anglo-American Car Show including the Changing Room toilets free of charge, Mrs Storey seconded, all in favour. Clerk to advise Mr Samuels and request a copy of the insurance.
23. Elections – Chair congratulated all Councillors on an uncontested election but said he was sorry to be losing Mr Cock who had decided not to stand again. Chair thanked him for his service which extended over 10 years and Mr Storey thanked him for the sterling work he had carried out whilst on the Allotment Committee which was always at no cost to the Parish Council. There was then a round of applause for Mr Cock who said he had enjoyed his time on the Parish Council.
24. Barclays Bank Mildenhall Closure – Mrs Peckham to investigate card for depositing cash at Post Office.
25. Oak Garden Wall – Mr Lambert thought a qualified builder needed to assess the cracks. Clerk to contact builder and obtain quotations for any work recommended.
26. Rangers – Mr Lambert said Hill Street was still a mess and Mrs Peckham said the path outside 9 Hill Street needed siding out and clearing. Chair said the verges along Hythe Road near the allotments also needed siding out. Alleyway from Paynes Lane to High Street needed weeding.

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

27. **Streetlight Contract Renewal** – Current contract expires 30th April and Clerk read out three estimated prices for annual supply based on usage of 22,752 kWh; NPower £14,195.03, Green Energy UK £11,063.53 and SSE at £8091.78. Mr Lambert proposed accepting SSE's quotation at £8091.78 (3 x MPans ranging from 0.32 – 0.38p/kWh, £4.30-£5.42 monthly standing charge and 0.81p feed in tariff), Mrs Bane seconded, all in favour. Clerk to contact SSE. Clerk said she was continuing to pursue the ERBS Discount claim from NPower which is effective from October 2022.

28. **Feltwell Community Group (FCG) – Premises Licence Application:** Mrs Wilson as Chair of FCG said the group had applied for a Premises Licence for the village fete event on 17/6/23 having been advised by the Borough Council to do so as there could be over 499 people attend. She explained a rolling licence, which cost £276, would only be £70 to renew each year and as FCG hoped to hold this event annually, she had not foreseen any problems and due to time-constraints had proceeded with this. However, the Chair had then informed her that as the licence was open-ended, this prevented others from obtaining a licence which would be an issue for the Anglo-American Car Show, so she had reverted it back to a single-day licence for 17/6/23. She had then been advised by Borough Council that this was not the case. Mrs McGeeney asked whether a rolling licence could be abused and Mrs Wilson said it couldn't as she would have to be present.

Request for Use of Changing Rooms: Mrs Wilson asked if the group could use the Changing Room facilities for the fete and the Coronation 'Picnic in the Park' on 7/5/23. Mrs Bane proposed FCG have full use of the Changing Rooms for both events at no charge, Mrs McGeeney seconded, 7 in favour, Mrs Wilson abstained. Clerk as Secretary of FCG, read out an email from Norfolk Sound Systems who are providing light and sound at the fete which stated a temporary connection would be made to the power in the Changing Rooms and detailed how this would be done. Mr Cole expressed concern and asked who would be responsible for any damages. Mrs Peckham said it would be FCG's responsibility and Mrs Wilson confirmed FCG had adequate insurance in place.

Request for Donation: Chair invited Mrs Gray (Vice-Chair of FCG) to speak at this point who put forward a request for financial assistance towards the fete and picnic since FCG hoped to achieve a similar yet smaller event to the Jubilee celebrations due to funds available. She stressed both were free events and provided huge fund-raising opportunities for village groups, organisations and businesses. Mrs Wilson said the group did have monies to cover costs such as insurance, extra toilets, security, first aid, entertainment, sound and lighting but their funds would be depleted leaving no contingency. Mrs Peckham thought the most beneficial way to do this for the group would be to pay for a VAT-able item and proposed the council pay for the sound and light at £850 + VAT, Mrs Bane seconded, 6 in favour, Mrs Wilson abstained, Mr Cole objected due to concerns regarding the electricity. FCG members present thanked the Parish Council for this.

Other issues: Mr Fenn asked if traffic control measures would be in place. Mrs Gray replied that parking would be available in the car park with an area cordoned off for disabled parking. All routes would be clear for emergency vehicle access and some areas would be coned off if necessary. Mrs Peckham said the Social Club would be closed that day so their car park could be used as in previous years. Mrs Wilson said letters would be delivered to all residents within the vicinity of Paynes Lane later that week providing full details of the event. Mrs Peckham asked if it could also be stressed that no dogs would be permitted onto the field and Mrs Gray said this had been stated on all advertisements. Mrs Wilson said an email had been received from a resident following his anonymous post on the village Facebook page featuring the licence notice. Although Mrs Wilson had replied to the email, she had also forwarded it to the Parish Council as it was addressed to them. The sender was a past complainant of music at the skate park and the email stated he would oppose the licence if the council continued to ignore his complaints. Clerk said the Police had still not carried out the Crime Prevention Survey as per their email of 4/3/22 following his complaint logged in February 2022. The Chair suggested councillors patrol the field as they had done in 2018 as advised by BCKLWN Environmental Health after the resident had first logged a complaint about loud music. Mrs Peckham felt this was not necessary as there had been no complaints received last year. Mr Lambert agreed and Mr Cock stated the resident was the only person to have ever logged a complaint. It was agreed to monitor the situation as the summer progressed.

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

29. Lodge Road Bus Shelter Location Plan – Chair had been approached by developers requesting permission to revert the location of the bus shelter to Lodge Road which was agreed by all to be a better location. Mrs McGeeney proposed granting the developers permission to revert the location as per their request, Mrs Wilson seconded, all in favour. Chair will contact developers.

30. Bus Shelters – **Posters:** Chair expressed concerned about posters being displayed on the bus shelters which leave behind a sticky residue that is difficult to remove. Mrs Peckham said the Litter Picker used to remove posters on her route. Mrs Arnold was sure there was a law against putting up posters on private property and would forward the information to the Clerk. **Cleaning:** Clerk said all bus shelters needed a good clean and Mr Cock proposed obtaining prices for this work, Mrs Bane seconded, all in favour. Clerk to obtain prices.

CORRESPONDENCE

31. Police Connect – Emails – No issues relating to Feltwell

32. NCC – Emails – **Press Releases:** Joint Statement on Anniversary of ‘Homes For Ukraine’; **Traffic Orders:** Temp closure of Anchor Drove, Anglian Water site access construction works 27/3/23–14/4/23; Emergency closure of Southery Road, UKPN repair works 11–21/4/23; **Other:** Notification of resurfacing works on Bell Street 8/5/23–3/6/23 and resurfacing & footway construction works on Long Lane 22/5/23–17/6/23; S.Norfolk Flexibus Passenger Consultation

33. BCKLWN – Emails - **Press Release:** Parish Council - Statement of Persons Nominated/ Uncontested elections; **Other:** Temporary Event Notices – Fun Day, Feltwell Playing Field, 7/5/23 and Charity Event, Royal British Legion, 15/4/23; Master Composter training; UKSPF W.Norfolk Grant Scheme open; National launch of public emergency alerts & date of test message

34. RAF Lakenheath – Email – **Notification of operations:** 23/3/23, 6 detonations from 0700 hrs; 13/4/23, 2 detonations 0930–1300 hrs; 18/4/23, 10-20 small explosions 0900–1500 hrs; **Other:** USAF Military Flypast 6/4/23; 14/4/23 Exercise by 48th Fighter Wing, approx 20 military vehicles transiting between RAF Lakenheath and RAF Feltwell 0730-0900 hrs, returning 1400-1500 hrs

35. TWR Accountants – Email – March & April Newsletters & Tax Tips

36. Norfolk & Waveney Health & Care Partnership – Email – Updates

37. Rural Services Network – Email – Bulletins

38. British Legion – Email – Coronation promotional material

39. Defib World – Email – Promotion of defibs

40. King's Lynn Town Guides – Email – Guided Walks

41. Civil Society Consulting – Email - Free loneliness training for grassroots organisations

42. Flagmakers – Email – Coronation promotional material

43. Brave Futures – Email - Request for donation

44. Voluntary Norfolk – Email – King's Coronation “The Big Help Out”

45. Brochures - Parish Magazine

46. **CHEQUES** – Mrs Bane proposed approving the March payments, Mr Fenn seconded, all in favour. Cheques signed for the following:- J Martin £65.00, S Sargent £111.45, T George £65.60, K&M Lighting £100.21, NALC £523.36, HMRC £226.12, J Gooch Electrical £198.23. Direct Debits to Biffa £238.10, EDF Energy £169.73, Environment Agency £43.29, NPower £1195.94, Vodafone £20.34. Standing Order to J Martin £955.50. Clerk is still chasing NPower for EBRs credit. Clerk's standing order to be amended to reflect her pay rise last year and standing order to be set up to K&M Lighting for £100.21.

47. PLANNING

23/00339/F Retrospective Application: Removal of timber garages/store from side of building and extension to side of Chinese Takeaway, C/W display of "Menu" and "Open" signage at

PLANNING (CONT)

Feltwell Chinese Takeaway, 32 Long Lane – 10 Councillors no comment, Mr Storey abstained.
NO COMMENT.

23/00374/A Retrospective Application: Consent to Display Advertisement: Removal of timber garages/store from side of building and extension to side of Chinese Takeaway, C/W display of "Menu" and "Open" signage at Feltwell Chinese Takeaway, 32 Long Lane - 10 Councillors
No comment, Mr Storey abstained. NO COMMENT.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

48. Highways – Roadside outside 48 Paynes Lane is breaking away again, loose drain along Long Lane opposite entrance to Western Close, pothole near Chequers Green junction, road is breaking up along Short Beck near Central Garage. Clerk to report all. Mrs Peckham asked if one of the SAM2's could be moved to the new location on Wilton Road and the other to Paynes Lane. Chair said Tarmac had done a great job resurfacing Wilton Road footpath and requested Clerk write to Highways to thank them. Clerk to write to Highways.

49. Road Closure – Bell Street Footpath Repairs – 8th May–2nd June – Mrs McGeeney asked if Bell Street could operate a one-way system from Wilton Road or if one side could remain open and operated via traffic lights to allow traffic to flow through the village as drivers will use Paynes Lane as a diversion route which is wholly unsuitable and dangerous for this amount of traffic, HGV's etc. Clerk to write to Highways Engineer.

50. Tennis Court – Mrs Peckham asked the Clerk to check the maintenance requirements for the tennis court in line with warranty conditions.

51. Float for Parade – Mrs Bane said she would organise the float for the fete and asked for other Councillors to partake in this event.

52. Coronation – Chair asked if the Coronation Flag could be flown as per national guidelines and said there would be a Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Flypast on Saturday 6/5/22 afternoon which would make three trips around the village centring on Lodge Road.

53. Second Memorial Bench – Chair would like to discuss this at the next meeting.

54. Recycling Claim – Clerk said she had submitted claim for recycling credits.

Next meeting to be held on Monday 15th May 2023 at the British Legion. Annual Parish Meeting will start at 7.00 pm followed by the Annual Meeting of Parish Council.

Meeting declared closed 9.15 pm.
