

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday the 15th day of MAY 2023 at the Royal British Legion, Long Lane – commencing 7.55 pm

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

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON: The Chair asked for nominations for the position of Chairperson. Mrs Bane nominated Mr Rayner, seconded Mr Lambert, there were no further nominations, all agreed. Mr Rayner was duly re-elected to position of Chairperson. Mr Rayner signed his Declaration of Acceptance to Office and took the chair.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON: The Chair asked for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson. Mr Storey nominated Mr Lambert, seconded Mrs McGeeney, there were no further nominations, all agreed. Mr Lambert was duly re-elected to the position of Vice-Chairperson and signed his Declaration of Acceptance to Office.

APOLOGIES: Received from RAF Commander Geary.

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.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

MINUTES: Chair said the statement he made at the beginning of the last meeting should be amended to “...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 the Chair”. Mrs Peckham said in Item 22, “Mrs Storey” should be amended to “Mr Storey”. All agreed. Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting were amended accordingly and then approved. Mrs Wilson proposed, Mrs Bane seconded, all in favour.

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

MATTERS ARISING

1. RAF Feltwell – The RAF Commander was not present therefore no report was given.
2. Risk Assessment – **Weekly:** Clerk said Handyman had reported vandalism of one of the new litter bins which he had since removed. She had contacted Glasdon for replacement parts and was awaiting a response. No other issues. **Benches:** Wheelchair access picnic bench has been put up.
3. Balance Sheet – No queries.
4. Allotment Pest Control – Reports received for April and May.
5. NALC – Newsletters circulated. Chair said he and the Clerk had agreed it was more cost effective for her to operate the website therefore NALC management was not necessary. All agreed.
6. Cllr Martin Storey Report – Mr Storey said both himself and Cllr Adrian Lawrence had been re-elected as Borough Councillors and would continue to serve the parish to the best of their ability at all times. A full council meeting will take place 18/5/23 when all councillors would know who was sitting on each committee. Kay Mason-Billig was elected as new leader of NCC.
7. Playing Field Boundary Wall – Mr Lambert said a meeting had taken place with the loss adjusters on 24/4/23 attended by himself, the Chair, the Clerk, Mr Cole, Mrs McGeeney, Mrs Peckham and Mrs Wilson. No report received as yet.

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

8. Changing Rooms – Clerk said the electric meter door had been ripped off again and the Handyman had taped it up but said the whole unit may need replacing. Mr Lambert said an electrician ought to look at it, Clerk will organize.

9. Highways – Clerk received email from Andy Wallace apologising that the work to side out the hedge at 2 Oak Street had not been issued but was now scheduled for completion within six weeks.

10. Doctor's Surgery Car Park – Clerk said the Practice Manager felt a meeting was not necessary as there were no issues or concerns. Mr Storey said the village was lucky to have the surgery and if extra land was required for expansion then he was in favour of it. Chair said one of the intentions of the meeting was to ask this question. Mr Storey thought that as a Borough and County Councillor, it would be advantageous for him to contact them about their future plans as he did not want to lose the surgery, all agreed. Clerk will furnish Mr Storey with the Practice Manager's contact details. Mrs Peckham asked if they had cut the hedge and Mrs Bane said she would take a look.

11. Overhanging Greenery – Clerk had not heard from Andy Wallace regarding overgrowing hedge at 50 Wilton Road. Mrs McGeeney apologised for not contacting the owner of 53 High Street about overgrowing greenery but would do so asap.

12. Feltwell in Bloom Monthly Update – Clerk said FiB had confirmed in writing that three of the four new planters would replace the skirting-board flowerbeds currently in situ at Bell Street and Mulberry Close therefore Chair had placed order for delivery end May. Clerk had not had a response from Andy Wallace regarding the three wildflower strips dug out of the grassed area around Oakfields Estate. It was agreed to monitor this.

13. CIL Project Funding – Ongoing. Chair to obtain prices for war memorial work and church clockface for July round of funding.

14. Memorial Bench High Street – Clerk had had no response from Mr McCreath. Mr Lambert said he had been recommended to use stove enamel to paint the gold lettering and that his daughter-in-law could undertake this work and Mr Storey then offered to pay her for this. All agreed for Mr Lambert and Mr Storey to take this forward.

15. Defibrillator – Chair said grant application had been successful so he had ordered the new defibrillator. Clerk will obtain prices for installation.

16. Grass Maintenance Contract Quotations – Mrs Peckham said contractors had not cut around two playing field entrances at the last visit but she would contact the Clerk when they were on site this week. Chair said Borough Council were cutting this week weather-dependent and verges should be cut in the next four weeks. Clerk said verges around the playing field would be cut this week following two near-miss accidents on the corner of Paynes Lane.

17. Request for a Memorial Bench on Chequers Green – Nothing further.

18. Warren Energy Community Fund 2023 – No news.

19. Consider Year 6 Prom Committee Request – Clerk circulated photographs of the Year 6 litter pick which had been carried out 17/6/23 and Mrs McGeeney said they had done a great job.

20. Anglo-American Car Show (Stuart Samuels) – Clerk said she was in receipt of the insurance certificate in the name of Brandon & District Classic Vehicle Club and would meet Mr Samuels on site this Friday to give him the keys.

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

21. Barclays Bank Mildenhall Closure – Mrs Peckham said a deposit card could be obtained from Barclays which would allow the Clerk to deposit cash at the Post Office. Clerk to contact Barclays.

22. Oak Garden Wall – Clerk said Mr Martin of MWM (Anglia) had inspected the wall and reported the cracks were structural, caused by pressure from the tree roots not from impact by a vehicle. He said the walls were still very strong and not dangerous or likely to collapse any time soon. He recommended cleaning out the cracks and repointing, then monitoring every six months. He quoted the Clerk £50 + VAT to carry out this work. Chair proposed accepting MWM (Anglia) quote of £50 + VAT for this work, Mr Storey seconded, all in favour. Clerk to arrange.

23. Rangers – Clerk awaiting report for April visit.

24. Streetlight Contract Renewal – Clerk is continuing to pursue the ERBS Discount claim.

25. Feltwell Community Group (FCG) – Mrs Wilson said the Coronation Picnic in the Park had gone very well and lots of positive comments had been received. A request for the Temporary Events Licence reference number had been received afterwards from someone concerned about children being present around alcohol and they had been furnished with the details.

26. Bus Shelters – Clerk read out three prices for cleaning the bus shelters on Bell St, Wilton Road and High St; Mr Sparkle £80, Breckland Industrial £210 + VAT and Locus Cleaning £360 + VAT. Mrs Peckham felt clarification was required on methods used so a comparison could be made. Clerk to obtain. Clerk to contact those displaying posters, requesting they be removed to allow cleaning.

27. Tennis Court – Clerk read out maintenance requirements. Mrs Peckham felt the court needed sweeping only when required. Clerk to add to Handyman's risk assessment.

28. Float for Parade – Mrs Arnold, Mrs Bane and Mrs McGeeney have this in hand.

29. Second Memorial Bench – Chair said he would like the new WW2 bench to be situated beside the WW1 bench at the entrance to Newcombe Drive. He said costs had risen since he last enquired and the bench was now £1395 + VAT, bolt-down fixing kit £15 + VAT and delivery £105 + VAT totalling £1515 + VAT which he suggested funding with CIL monies. Mrs Peckham proposed purchasing the bench for £1515 + VAT and funding this and associated costs with CIL money, Mrs Bane seconded, all in favour. Chair to purchase bench, Clerk to obtain prices for a concrete base.

30. Recycling Claim – No credits received as yet.

31. Audit – Approve Accounts – Clerk said the accountants had encountered telephone and internet issues and been unable to audit the books in time for the meeting therefore these would have to be approved at the June Parish Council meeting which was before the deadline date for submission.

32. Review Committees – Mrs Wilson nominated Mrs Arnold for the vacant position on the Fuel Allotment Committee, Mrs Bane seconded, all in favour. All committee members were happy to remain on their specific committees therefore Mr Rayner proposed these committees remain the same, all in favour.

32. Record of Attendance – Clerk read out figures for attendance at Parish Council meetings from 1st May 2022 – 30th April 2023. There was no August meeting scheduled and the September meeting was cancelled due to HM The Queen's passing however there was an Extraordinary Meeting held 23rd January 2023 (12 meetings in total). Attendance was as follows:- Mrs Arnold 11/12, Mrs Bane 10/12, Mr Cole 12/12, Mr Cock 10/12, Mr Fenn 11/12, Mr Lambert 10/12, Mrs McGeeney 7/12, Mrs Peckham 11/12, Mr Rayner 12/12, Mr Storey 9/12, Mrs Wilson 8/12.

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

33. List of Parish Council Meeting Dates & No August Meeting Proposal – Clerk requested the meeting scheduled for Monday 11th December 2023 be moved to Tuesday 12th December 2023 as it coincided with her birthday. Mrs Bane proposed no August meeting to be scheduled, Mrs Wilson seconded all in favour. Mrs Bane proposed December meeting takes place 12th December 2023, Mr Fenn seconded, all in favour. 2023/2024 meeting dates are as follows: 12th June, 10th July, 11th September, 9th October, 13th November, 12th December, 8th January, 12th February, 11th March, 8th April and 13th May.

34. Casual Vacancy & Appointment of Internal Drainage Board Representative – Clerk will advertise the vacancy for co-option. Mr Fenn said he would be happy to be the IDB representative therefore Chair nominated Mr Fenn for this position, Mrs McGeeney seconded, all in favour. Clerk to advise Borough Council.

35. Helping Older People Who Fall in the Community Initiative – Clerk read out email regarding this matter and whilst everyone agreed it was a wonderful idea, the Parish Council could not take this forward since it could not accommodate the equipment required. Mrs Bane suggested the sender contact the Parish Magazine with her request, all agreed. Clerk to contact sender.

CORRESPONDENCE

36. Police Connect – Emails – PCC Time to Talk Online Session 12/5/23

37. NCC – Emails – Traffic Orders: Temp closure of Lynn Road, Weeting 30m south of its junction with Hereward Way for 100m south-eastwards for Openreach excavation & ducting works 20-23/5/23 (8am–6pm); Temp closure of Paynes Lane from 160m west of its junction with Wilton Road for 20m westwards for Anglian Water new connection works 22-26/5/23; Other - South Norfolk Flexibuses: Passenger Consultation Update; Writing Workshop

38. BCKLWN – Emails – TENS: 6/5/23, 12pm–12am, ‘Live Music’ at Porters Barn, Old Methwold Road; 20/6/23, 10am–12am, ‘Other’ at Feltwell Playing Field; 5/8/23, 11am–12am, ‘Wedding’ at 22 Long Lane; 20/5/23, 10am–12 am, ‘Other’ at Feltwell Playing Field; Adult Learning Courses

39. RAF Lakenheath – Email – Notification of operations: 18/4/23, 6 detonations, 9am-3pm

40. Norfolk & Waveney Health & Care Partnership – Email – ICS Updates

41. Rural Services Network – Email – Bulletins

42. CPRE Norfolk – Email - Invitation to our Annual Lecture 2023

43. Brochures - Parish Magazine, Clerks & Councillors

44. **CHEQUES** – Mrs Bane proposed approving the payments, Mrs Arnold seconded, all in favour. Cheques signed for the following:- J Martin £65.00, S Sargent £121.25, T George £254.08, K&M Lighting £100.21, E Lambert £5.00, J Rolph £100.00, Anglian Water £94.47, London Hearts £1251.00, NBB Co £547.20, Fenland Leisure Products £137.64, S Cox £100.00, Amberol £1052.04. Direct Debits to Biffa £208.64, EDF Energy £73.61, NPower £1010.10, Vodafone £20.34. Standing Order to J Martin £955.50.

45. PLANNING

23/00429/FM Agricultural Development: New Grain Storage Building at G C Field & Sons, Southery Road Farm, Ploughmans Drove – Mrs Arnold said the BCKLWN planning portal stated paperwork pending therefore it was agreed a decision could not be made.

23/00615/F Single Storey Rear Infill Extension at 16 Munsons Place – Mrs Arnold said this was not a full application and as the deadline for comment was 27/5/23, it was agreed to decide via email when further information became available and ratify this decision at the next meeting.

PLANNING (CONT)

At this point, the Chair urged parishioners present to check the Borough Council website for any future planning applications. Mr Cole pointed out that planning applications were also advertised in the weekly newspaper.

ANY OTHER BUSINESSES

46. Highways – Mr Storey confirmed weeds would only be sprayed once this season. Hedge belonging to 19 Wilton Road needs cutting back to boundary, Clerk to contact resident.

47. Road Closures – **Paynes Lane – 22-26/5/23**: Mr Storey said the owner of 50 Paynes Lane had kindly agreed for UKPN works to be postponed so as not to coincide with the Bell Street closure. **Long Lane 22/5/23-17/6/23**: Mrs Peckham questioned why one side of the road could not remain open stating that the large grass verge here surely eliminated any health and safety risk to contractors. Mr Storey will make some enquiries.

Next meeting to be held on Monday 12th June 2023 at the British Legion at 7.30 pm.

Meeting declared closed 9.45 pm.
