

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday the 8th day of APRIL 2024 at the Royal British Legion, Long Lane – commencing 7.30 pm

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Messrs Cole, Fenn, Lambert (Vice-Chair) and Rayner (Chair), Mrs Arnold, Mrs McGeeney, Mrs Peacock and Mrs Peckham. Also present, 2 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Mrs Edwards, Mr Storey and Mrs Wilson.

The Chair asked if anyone was recording the meeting and Mr Cole replied that he was. All present consented to being recorded.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were no declarations of interest.

MINUTES: Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting were approved. Mr Cole proposed, Mr Lambert seconded, 4 in favour, Mrs Arnold and Mrs McGeeney abstained having not been present. Minutes were duly signed by the Chair.

PUBLIC SPEAKING: No member of the public wished to speak.

MATTERS ARISING

1. **RAF Feltwell** – There was no representation from the Base therefore a report was not given.

2. **Risk Assessment** – **Weekly:** Handyman had temporarily fixed a loose pedestrian gate which needed permanent repair. Mrs Peckham said the large access gate onto the car park did not hold in place when opened following soil erosion. Mr Lambert had purchased the iron sulphate but said it should not be applied until the weather warms up a bit and the moss, more like lichen, is active. Clerk said the zip wire needed attention and was obtaining prices for this work. She will also contact Canvas Spaces regarding the deep cracks in the skate park as it was still well within its 20 year warranty. Mrs Peckham said the alleyway to Falcon Road needed sweeping before the grass contractors apply herbicide in May. **Meeting:** Mr Cole, Mrs Edwards, Mr Lambert, Mrs Peacock, Mr Rayner and the Clerk met at the playing field on 6/4/24 and areas identified for resurfacing were the zip wire, viper swing, junior swings and multiplay slides. Clerk will now obtain quotes for resurfacing in mulch bond and wetpour. Clerk will also obtain prices for replacement junior swing seats. It was also queried whether the seesaw could be replaced with the old one since it was hardly used due to the hard landing pods. Clerk will enquire if the pods can be replaced in the first instance. **Gates:** Handyman had moved some muck but Mr Lambert felt more needed to be shifted. It was agreed to wait until the new entrance had been completed but Mr Lambert suggested the Handyman move some of it to the access gate to remedy the problem mentioned earlier by Mrs Peckham. Clerk said new entrance gate had been made and was hopefully being painted this week.

3. **Balance Sheet** – No queries. Chair thought some monies should be transferred to the Business Saver Account. Mr Lambert proposed transferring £40,000, Mr Fenn seconded, all in favour.

4. **Allotment Pest Control** – No report yet for March or April.

5. **NALC** – Mrs McGeeney proposed renewing the annual subscription at £476.48 plus £70 for hosting the website and gov.uk email addresses, Mr Lambert seconded, all in favour. Chair had enquired about the free tree packs mentioned in a recent newsletter and thought a pack of five urban trees would be suitable for locations along Wilton Road and Bell Street. Permission would need to be sought from Highways and the BCKLWN Arboriculture Officer. It was agreed for the Chair to take this forward.

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

6. Cllr Martin Storey Report – Mr Storey was not present to give his report nor an update on the roundels which had still not been painted. Clerk emailed Jay Moore on 13/3/24 and 3/4/24 but had no reply. She had also logged a complaint with the NCC Passenger & Transport Team regarding the authoritarian way the bus stops had been installed with no regard to the residents directly affected but again had had no response.
7. Playing Field Boundary Wall – V-Mesh fencing had been installed. Mr Cole felt the grass within the fenced off area should be strimmed and sprayed, and then offered to spray it as he was suitably qualified. Clerk to ask Handyman to strim and Mr Lambert said he would provide the weedkiller.
8. Highways – Path had been sided out around 2 Oak Street but Mr Lambert felt it was still not wide enough. Clerk to write to Andrew Wallace advising him of this and requesting the scheme mentioned by Martin Storey at an earlier meeting could be taken forward.
9. Overhanging Greenery – No update. Mr Storey to advise if he had visited 50 Wilton Road.
10. Rangers – Mrs Peckham said 1a Hill Street had now been cleared. 41 High Street had not but the front of The Fish Piper was more concerning although Chair said this was in hand.
11. To Consider Resident's Enquiry re SAM2 Data – Chair gave data collected from two SAM2's in one month; the SAM2 on Wilton Road near the Base recorded 52,063 vehicles approaching the village with an average speed of 36.1 mph. Over 50% of vehicles were travelling over 30mph and the maximum speed recorded was 70mph. The SAM2 situated further along Wilton Road, near the Oakfields Estate, recorded 66,757 vehicles approaching the village with an average speed of 33.3 mph. 15% of vehicles were speeding and the maximum speed recorded was 60mph which must have been the same vehicle speeding at 70mph as this reading was taken at the same time, on the same day. Councillors were shocked at these statistics which also meant that approx. 14,000 of 66,757 vehicles must have exited from Paynes Lane. Mr Lambert asked whether the road works were in place along Bell Street during that timeframe but they were not. A discussion then took place about whether two SAM2's could be situated along Paynes Lane to obtain a more accurate account of the number of vehicles travelling along this road and at what speed. Chair will give this some thought. Mrs Peckham suggested Highways conduct a traffic survey so Clerk will contact Andrew Wallace.
12. Iron Bridge & Track – Anchor Ward – Ongoing.
13. Long Lane Development – Clerk said Flagship had finished the tender process for a new contractor and are working through the new appointment.
14. Spar, High Street – Clerk had written to Highways but Dan Jordan still had not been out to view the situation. Chair had spoken to the shop staff about this matter but was told there was nowhere else for rubbish or pallets to be stored. Clerk to write to Spar Head Office.
15. 9 Oak Street, Collapsing Gable End – Clerk had written to the RAF Community Relations Advisor on 12/3/24 who replied that she would liaise with the Housing Officer. Clerk had written to the property owners via Shires who finally responded on 3/4/24 to confirm the letter had been sent and work would start week commencing 15/4/24, taking approx. four weeks.
16. Budget & Precept 2024/25 – Solar Street Light: Clerk said permission had been granted from the Edmund de Moundeford Trust for a street light to be installed in the front grounds of the Almshouses so she was trying to arrange an on-site meeting with Barry Hawkins and K&M Lighting to ascertain a suitable location so that quotations could be obtained. **Defibrillator**: Chair had met three electricians at the Doctors' Surgery and British Legion and emailed Councillors

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

their quotations. Councillors had responded in favour of CTE Electrical installing the defib at the British Legion at £70 + VAT and S Walker Electrical installing the defib at the Surgery for £92 + VAT therefore Chair had instructed both contractors to proceed. Mrs McGeeney proposed ratifying this decision, Mrs Peacock seconded, all in favour. Clerk had written to R H Lindsay, the Social Club and Londis asking if they would like to receive the annual £30 payment that the Surgery was being paid; R H Lindsays had declined and even offered to supplement the £30 yearly payment to the Surgery for the life span of the defib. Councillors discussed this offer and although extremely kind, felt this would not be fair on Lindsays and that the Parish Council should absorb the payment. Chair said the British Legion Head Office had also declined the offer but suggested a donation could be made instead to the Poppy Appeal. The Clerk had not heard back from the Londis and Mrs Peckham said the Social Club were meeting that evening. Chair said the new defibs did not have carry cases which were so useful in an emergency as they also contain a rescue kit therefore Mr Cole proposed purchasing two carry cases at £46 + VAT each plus delivery, Mrs Arnold seconded, all in favour. Chair to purchase two carry cases. Clerk said the Parish Council had not been eligible for the Councillor Community Grants but Debbie Ess at the Borough Council advised the Feltwell Community Group (FCG) could apply and transfer the grant to the Parish Council. The FCG had been successful in their application and had transferred the £1000 payment.

17. Year 6 Prom “Litter Pick” Donation Request – Mrs Peckham said the playing field might need litter picking if the weather is nice on Friday, the day before the litter pick, as the litter picker comes Mondays and Thursdays. Clerk to inform Prom Committee.

18. Request from Feltwell Community Group to use Playing Field and Changing Rooms for the Village Fete on Saturday 15th June 2024 – Chair said Mrs Peckham had kindly agreed to accept the Designated Supervisor role required for the alcohol licence and that she could delegate this to someone else if required. He said there were lots of hoops to jump through as this was a new licence including conducting a full fire risk assessment for which he was trying to employ Fenland Fire Appliance who service the fire extinguishers in the Changing Room's. There would be a cost for this and a fireboard may also have to be made for any event that does not require use of the Changing Rooms. Although the Borough Council had no concerns, the Neighbourhood Noise Nuisance Department had several stipulations but the application was progressing and should be in place in time for the Car Show.

19. Feltwell Community Group Donation – Clerk had received the £400 donation so had ordered the bench from Earth Anchors at £595 + VAT, a soft ground fixing kit at £52 + VAT plus delivery.

20. Anglo-American Car Show – 18th May 2024 – Clerk had not had confirmation from Mr Samuels regarding the hire terms but would send a Hire Agreement to him for signing and ensure this was received before the event together with the insurance certificate. Mrs Peckham asked the Clerk to remind him that dogs were not permitted on the playing field except assistance dogs.

CORRESPONDENCE

21. BCKLWN - Emails - Clean Up Team: Bulk Tipped Dog Waste Bins

22. NCC - Emails – Nominations open for Norfolk Community Biodiversity Awards; Norwich Western Link Project Updates

23. RAF Lakenheath - Emails - **Notification of operations at RAF Feltwell: 20/3/24** – Emergency operation, 1 detonation 12 noon-2 pm; 28/3/24 – Explosive operation, 5 detonations 9am-4pm;

Other: Invitation to Joan Mann Special Sports Day 9/5/24

24. PCC of St Mary's Church – Email - Invitation to the opening of The Aisle 16/4/24

25. Biffa – Email – Transfer Note

26. NHS Norfolk & Waveney Health & Care Partnership - Email - Updates

27. Rural Services Network - Email – Bulletins

CORRESPONDENCE (CONT)

- 28. PFK Littlejohn – Email - 2023/24 AGAR external auditor instructions
- 29. Transport East – Emails - Rural Connections Launch; Travel Behaviour Survey for the East live
- 30. Caloo – Email - Visit to discuss Outdoor Play and Sports Projects
- 31. Norfolk Community Foundation – Email - NCF Funding & Support News - March 2024
- 32. Queen Elizabeth Hospital – Email – Modernising Update
- 33. Brochures - Parish Magazine

34. CHEQUES/PAYMENTS – Mrs Arnold proposed approving the payments, Mrs McGeeney seconded, all in favour – Cheques were signed for J Martin £117.33, S Sargent £77.62, D Wilkinson £44.00, I Rayner £411.64, HMRC £280.48, Environment Agency £43.83, BCKLWN £1027.73, Chase Timber Products £4442.87, Norfolk ALC £546.48. Direct Debits to Biffa £270.35, British Gas £121.34, Vodafone £21.94. Standing Orders to K&M Lighting £100.21, J Martin £1075.95.

35. PLANNING

24/00548/F: Single storey rear extension to existing bungalow at 8 St John's Way, Feltwell – 8
in favour - SUPPORT.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 36. Highways – Clerk to report potholes near Glebe Farm, Hythe Road and chase repair of the sunken manhole opposite Portal Close. Highways said the potholes on St Mary's Street were not dangerous but would be monitored for repair. Weeds are encroaching the pavements on Bell Street and Hall Drive. Clerk to write to Hill House requesting the trim back of a tree overhanging the pavement on Short Beck.
- 37. Parking – Cars parking opposite Old Methwold Road junction are causing a hazard for vehicles exiting this junction and those approaching the village from Lodge Road. Clerk to write to residents of 8 Lodge Road, requesting that they are mindful of this and to park away from this junction.
- 38. Recycling Claim – Clerk said she had submitted a claim equating to £361.39 for 2023/24.
- 39. **CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS** – Chair proposed that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, that pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as applied by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting at this point as the matter next being discussed was a confidential issue relating to pay reviews for the Litter Collector and Handyman.

Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Monday 13th May 2024 at the British Legion at 7.00 pm (accounts on view from 6.45 pm) followed by the Annual Meeting of Parish Council.

Meeting declared closed 9.53 pm.