

## MINUTES

**Parish Council Meeting held at 7.00pm on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023 at Foulden Village Hall.**

Present: Richard Cooper, Joseph Green, Stephen Parker, Billy Pye

In attendance: District Councillor Mike Nairn; Clerk Judith Taylor; one member of the public

1	<p><b>To receive apologies (LGA1972, s85(1)(2))</b> Cllr McMahon (unwell); Cllr Parnham (family commitment). Informal apologies received from County Cllr Eagle.</p>
2	<p><b>To receive declarations of interest in any items to be discussed and grant any dispensation requests</b> None.</p>
3	<p><b>Public Participation</b> A resident informed the council about a newly-formed group of residents wishing to work with the Parochial Parish Council to help preserve the church. It was noted that while contributions from the parish council could not be provided for the fabric of the church, it would be possible to help fund other services, such as mowing of the burial ground. Cllr Pye undertook to get a quote from the grounds maintenance provider to include this.</p>
4	<p><b>To co-opt a councillor</b> Following the resignation of Cllr Marianne Christian, a vacancy was available. No nominations had been received. The Chairman thanked Cllr Christian for her service and valuable contribution to the council.</p>
5	<p><b>To receive communications as the person presiding wishes to lay before the Council</b> None.</p>
6	<p><b>To receive reports for information only</b> <b>Breckland District Council</b> Cllr Nairn confirmed that the planning application for change of use for the White Hart pub had been refused. He also confirmed that the village hall had been awarded a £500 grant to help fund the King's Coronation celebration. A resident had previously asked about the Breckland DC mobile food shop and whether it could visit Foulden. Cllr Nairn informed the meeting that at present technical problems meant the van was off the road, and it was still in the trial period. As soon as the van was back up and running, he would investigate whether it could visit not only Foulden, but Oxborough and Gooderstone as well. Mindful training for villages. If a community can find five volunteers, free training is available to support residents who may experience loneliness. Training is provided in conjunction with Norfolk Mind. Swanton Morley is an example of a 'mindful village'. The district council would pay to get volunteers DBS-checked. Cllr Nairn left the meeting at 7.25pm. <b>Parish Council Clerk</b> The Clerk reported on complaints regarding bird scarers acting outside NFU guidelines. Clerk to write to landowner. <b>SAM2</b> It was noted that the unit was at Vicarage Road during January and White Hart Lane during February – both areas seemed to have reduced speeding. Thanks were expressed to the resident who supervises and moves the unit. A query was raised</p>

	<p>around the SAM2 location on Tallon End – could it be moved further out to account for the national speed limit? Clerk to consult with NCC Highways. If this were possible, could the planned white gates also be moved?</p> <p><b>Reports from councillors</b></p> <p>Cllr Pye confirmed that he had been able to source an additional container for the village hall grounds.</p> <p>Cllr Pye had followed up on a request for a marquee for the village hall, to be used by groups at either the village hall or recreation ground, for the benefit of the community.</p> <p>Cllr Pye reported that the trees which had been causing a nuisance at the rear of the recreation ground had been dealt with, at no cost to the charity or to the parish council.</p> <p>Cllr Cooper reported that the recreation ground fence was in better condition than previously thought; it was confirmed that a hedge would still be planted, as previously agreed, specifically a mixed English species hedge.</p> <p>Cllr Green confirmed that the new website domain and .gov.uk emails had been set up.</p>
7	<p><b>To approve minutes of the Ordinary meetings held on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023</b></p> <p>Agreed.</p>
8	<p><b>Planning Applications</b></p> <p>White Hart previously noted by Cllr Nairn. Cllr Green reported no further information from owner’s agents.</p>
9	<p><b>To note election of parish councillors May 2023</b></p> <p>Noted. Forms were made available and the deadline for submission of nominations noted.</p>
10	<p><b>Update of policies – to include Safeguarding Policy</b></p> <p>It was noted that former councillor Marianne Christian had kindly reviewed the new policy and approved it; also that she had volunteered to be the nominated safeguard contact for the Coronation weekend events. It was noted that currently it was assumed in the policy that the village hall manager would be the safeguarding contact. To be discussed and confirmed with the current village hall manager.</p>
11	<p><b>To discuss and decide upon actions and funding re new website</b></p> <p>Cllr Green proposed that the website be upgraded to ‘premium’ which could include a logo, both with a modest cost. Agreed.</p>
12	<p><b>To consider grounds maintenance quotes for 2023 season</b></p> <p>It was AGREED to engage Fendicks for the season. It was AGREED to ask Fendicks for a quote to include the burial ground.</p>
13	<p><b>To consider professional support service for 2023/24</b></p> <p>It was AGREED to engage Norfolk Parish Training and Support, at a cost of £90.65, for the financial year 2023/24.</p>
14	<p><b>Funding: to review available grants and decide upon applications</b></p> <p>Updated list provided and reviewed. No applications required at this time.</p>
15	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>To agree financial statements and bank reconciliation. AGREED.</p> <p>Payments since last meeting and outstanding payments. AGREED.</p> <p>To consider and decide whether to exempt FPC from External Audit, 2022/23. As payments and receipts exceeded £25,000 during the 2022/23 year, external audit is compulsory.</p> <p>To consider and appoint Internal Auditor, 2022/23. It was AGREED to re-engage the previous year’s auditor, Jan Roomes.</p>

16	<p><b>Public Participation</b></p> <p>A resident suggested that an updated village review would be useful, along the lines of a Village Design Statement, which focused on how villagers wished their community to develop, in particular the built environment. It was suggested that teams of people be brought together to focus on different area. The resident volunteered to co-ordinate. The lack of availability of the council’s accounts was mentioned; the clerk explained that the previous website had been taken over and all the information lost. A new website was being constructed and up to date accounts would become available. It was agreed that a Facebook page for the council be set up.</p>
17	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>Annual Parish Meeting: 6.30pm Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May. Annual Parish Council Meeting: 7.00pm Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May.</p>

**Meeting closed at 8.20pm.**

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**Chairman**

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**Date**