

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held on Tuesday
18th June 2024
in the Village Hall, High St.

Present: Councillors; G Kirt (Chairman), H. Aylesbury, D Batty, C Bysse, S Jackson, R. Joshi-Boparai, L. Rossouw, R. Randall, S. Singh, A. Staines & the Clerk, Mr J Haste. nineteen members of the public and three representatives from National Gas were also present.

MINUTES OF MEETING

950. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr. Batty had indicated that he may be late and Cllr. Lane had apologised in advance for his absence

951. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – None.

952. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

- a) The majority of the public present wished to speak on a planning matter and the chairman indicated that they would be able to speak on that matter at the appropriate time on the agenda.
- b) Cllr. Kirt informed the parish council that the primary school had taken physical possession of the old Village sign and would be undertaking refurbishment in due course

953. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS – We unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21st May 2024. These were duly signed by the Chairman.

Proposed Cllr. R Joshi-Boparai Seconded Cllr. C Bysse

954. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (information only) – None

955. PLANNING

a) **Status of current planning applications** – The Clerk reported that in addition to the new applications on this agenda, there were two changes to report considered at the previous meeting. The proposed Car Port at 2 Peakirk Road had been refused and that the felling of a tree at 8 High Street had been permitted. The Chairman reported a further delay in resolving the change of use application for 14 Rectory lane and we unanimously asked the Clerk to write to the planning department requesting that the matter be expedited and the application determined.

b) **Planning Applications** –

- i **24/00704/CTR** – Brook Farmhouse, 3 North Fen Road – T1 Prunus – Fell. We have no Objections to make to this work.
- ii **24/00703/CTR** – 23 High Street – T1 T2 T4 T5 and G1 (Hawthorn, Grey Alder, Alders and Sycamore Saplings) to be felled and T3. Willow to be removed. We have no Objections to make to this work.

Cllr. Batty having previously indicated he would be late (or to accept his apologies), arrived during discussion of the following item.

- iii **24/00711/FUL** – 1705 Lincoln Road - Change of use of land to use as residential caravan site for 4 gypsy/traveller families, each with two caravans including no more than one static caravan/mobile home, including laying of hardstanding, erection of 2 amenity buildings and improvement of existing access. - Residents present reported multiple incidents of intimidation and aggravated menacing tactics, several of which had already been reported to the police.

It was also noted that a considerable amount of work had already been done on site and we felt that this application should be dealt with as a retrospective planning application. We also expressed our concern that retrospective applications, especially for change of use, seemed to be used as a tactic to play the planning system. Given the level of intimidation being used by the applicant, and recorded, we asked the Clerk to seek clarification from planning department as to whether names and addresses of objectors could be withheld from the public domain. For our part we instructed the Clerk to register our vehement opposition to this planning application and noted that: -

- the site and neighbouring properties are subject to Flooding,
- work already done has resulted in the loss of a significant natural habitat
- the application is contrary to LP2 development in the open country side
- the application is contrary to LP10
- is seriously to the detriment, even loss of, the amenity of neighbours
- is detrimental to the street scene.

c) **Neighbourhood Plan (NP)**

- i. The Chairman reported that the results of the recent questionnaire supported the current NP and the next stage is for the NP group to meet and draft revisions for discussion with the city council.

956. COMMUNITY MATTERS

- a) **Anglian Water Pipeline** – Cllr. Randall reported that the 24-hour directional drilling is now complete and that there was now no more noise or lighting at nights
- b) **National Gas – report back from Noise testing.** – NG reported that the noise testing conducted over 17th & 18th April had shown that in normal running conditions the station complied with noise restrictions. However, at peak load times more insulation work is required and this work will be completed in the summer months to enable a noise re-test before the compressors come live in time for the winter peak. NG also advised the parish council of a “phase 2 MCPD project” to bring on line, a third compressor This phase is likely to take a further three years and delay returning the eastern part of the site to agricultural land.
- c) **GlintonFest24 incorporating D-Day 80 Commemoration** The chairman reported that the event was a great success and turned out to be the biggest event to date. The chairman thanked all those councillors and residents that had stepped up to the plate and contributed to the success of the event. There are a very small number of bills to be settled and the full financial statement for the event should be available to be reported to the next meeting of the parish council
- d) **Ashburn Close Play Area** – The Clerk reported that Christian Firmin had provided an update and that the transfer is more complicated in that the play area is part of a larger parcel of land registered with the Land registry and requires splitting into two separate registrations. Cllr. Aylesbury reported that, in conjunction with the chairman, a grant application had been submitted for funding towards the cost of re-equipping the play area.
- e) **Anti-social behaviour** – The chairman reported that the police had responded to the incident in which he and another councillor had been involved and a formal warning placed on record. However, the rural policing team had abandoned parish surgeries and would hold Ward based surgeries, the next of which is to be held in Marholm Village hall in October. We asked the Clerk to write to the chief constable requesting a presence at the next parish council meeting as the catalogue of anti-social behaviour has been well documented and residents are feeling incredibly vulnerable
- f) **Biodiversity issues** – Cllr. Staines reported that the signage is in our possession and needs to be installed. The Clerk was asked to contact the Spalding contractor to put the work in hand.

- g) **Climate Change** – The chairman had previously circulated the notes of the most recent meeting of this action group and these were noted
- h) **Engagement with Peakirk Parish Council** – Cllr. Staines reported no progress since the last meeting.
- i) **Deepings Practice** – The clerk had circulated the response from the practice manager and we acknowledged the accuracy of the statements in that reply, however, that did not address the experience of residents in that it is extremely difficult to get a face to face appointment with a doctor at the Glinton surgery. We asked the Clerk to respond to the practice manager as it is understood that the practice is at full strength and that there has been little change in the population served pre Covid but there has been no perceived return to the previous level of service.
- j) **Community Engagement** – Cllr. Jackson reported on the continued growth of both the parish council page and events page, possibly as a result of the successful GlintonFest event and the unwanted planning application for land to the East and to the South of the village
- k) **Village Hall working Group** – The Chairman reported on a meeting with Sue lane of GCA where a proposition regarding overhead projection and screen had been supported. The chairman also referred to the possibility of a further grant application. Cllr Jackson asked that “Community Cinema” be added to the agenda of the next meeting.

957. **REPORTS** - Standing item – None at this meeting

958. GOVERNANCE MATTERS

a) **Financial Accounts and Annual Return for 2023/24**

- i) **Annual Governance Statement** - (section 1 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR). The Clerk informed us that it is for the parish council to respond to each of the points in this document and we went through each individual point in turn and we **RESOLVED** to instruct the Clerk on our responses, to be a positive response in each case noting that we do not hold any trust funds nor act as trustee.

Proposed Cllr. R. Randall Seconded Cllr. C Byshe

- ii) **Internal Audit** – We noted the very thorough examination of our financial records and processes and thanked Mr Davies for his work. We noted that his report was complimentary and had no matters to bring to our attention. We **RESOLVED** to accept the report and to approve payment of the fee of £175 and also to ask Mr Davies to continue as our internal auditor for the current financial year.

Proposed Cllr. G Kirt Seconded Cllr. S Jackson

- iii) **Annual Accounts (traditional format)** – We received the financial accounts for 2023/24 in the traditional format and the detailed comparison with the previous financial year and **RESOLVED** to accept these accounts for publication.

Proposed Cllr. G Kirt Seconded Cllr. R Joshi-Boparai

- iv) **Accounting Statement** (section 2 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR). We noted the contents of the return as completed by the Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer and that the contents accorded with the figures in the Accounts presented in the previous item. We **RESOLVED** to accept the statement in full for submission to PKF Littlejohn as external auditors.

Proposed Cllr. R Randall Seconded Cllr. L Rossouw

- v) **Public Rights of Inspection** – We noted that the Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer had determined that the dates applicable to these rights of inspection are to be Monday 24th June to Friday 2nd August and that the official Notice would be published following this meeting and by no later than Friday 21st June.

- 959. OFFICIAL NOTICES AND CORRESPONDENCE** – None, other than those matters dealt with elsewhere on the agenda
- 960. HIGHWAYS & other issues within the village** –
- a) Willows footpath Welmore road end overgrown and needing to be cut back.
 - b) We asked the Clerk to seek another Village walkabout with James Collingridge in his capacity as head of highways.
- 961. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** –
- a) Grant funding – recruiting a fund raiser
 - b) Village signage and heritage plaques / information boards
 - c) Community Cinema
- 962. Date of Next Meeting** – The next scheduled meeting of the parish council is to be held on Tuesday 16th July.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.47pm.



Clerk/Proper Officer,
21st June 2024

Chairman
Dated:

16th July 2024