

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held online on 5 May 2021

Present: F Bradford (Chair), S Bunn, C Druce, C Farnham, C Hewson, M Steward. In attendance: N Hartley (Parish Clerk) Cllr W Richmond (Norfolk County Council). One member of the public.

1 Election of Chairperson

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Bradford as Chairperson.

2 Election of Vice Chairman

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Bunn as Vice Chairman.

3 Resignation of Ian Semmons

The Council noted the resignation of Ian Semmons.

4 Public Participation

It was noted in relation to item 26 re Fen Road that this is a dangerous piece of road, particularly near the junction with the Broadway. It was suggested that a sign warning of a bend in the road would be useful and preferably barriers. It was noted that the road is 15 feet wide between the kerbs. Cllr Richmond said he is meeting the new Highways Engineer regarding Fen Road.

5 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Abel, and Cllrs P Hewett (Breckland Council) and Cllr L Turner (Breckland Council).

6 Report from Norfolk County Councillor

Cllr Richmond noted a new patrol crossing lady has been appointed for the school. Re planting trees, it was suggested that up to twenty trees could be planted in the area near Chestnut Road where the Parish Council is responsible for a row of trees. Further information is awaited on Norfolk County Council's 1 Million Trees initiative.

7 Planting Trees

It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council will write to the utility companies re the piece of land on Dereham Road near Chestnut Road in order to gauge the amount of land that might be available to plant trees.

8 Declarations of Interest

None.

9 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign as soon as practicable the minutes of the meeting held on 19 April 2021 as a true and accurate record.

10 Matters Arising

It was noted that Norfolk County Council is taking action to restrict vehicular access to Green Lane and then to restore the path.

The Council has returned the forms to Barclays for online banking.

11 Cheque Signatory

It was **RESOLVED** to add Steve Bunn as a signatory to the Council's bank account.

12 Planning

12.1 Breckland Council decisions

Foresters Lodge, Bradenham Lane	3PL/2021/0373/F
Retention of existing 88kw boiler, flue & kiln housing plus an additional proposed kiln housing (part retrospective)	Approved

13 Finance

13.1 It was **RESOLVED** to make the following payments in accordance with the Budget:-

Chq 102265 Walton Associates, annual church clock service, £85
102266 N Hartley, clerk's salary, £729.65
102267 T T Jones Electrical, repairs to street lights, £112.30
102268 Earth Anchors Ltd, new dog bin Ted Ellis Walk, £254.34
102269 TOP Garden Services, cutting grass in Scarning churchyard, £90
(Section 137)
102270 TOP Garden Services, grass cutting verges and Blackthorn Drive

- playing field, £265.50
102271 N Hartley, reimbursement for new staple gun for Council noticeboards, £11.85
102272 Mansfield Fencing, install concrete base for table tennis table, repairs to Trod, installation of signs (play area) installation of dog bin, £1,245
102273 TOP Garden Services, cutting grass in Scarning churchyard, £180 (Section 137)
102274 TOP Garden Services, grass cutting verges and Blackthorn Drive playing field, £531

14 Clerk's Report

The Council received a copy of the clerk's report.

15 Scarning Fuel Allotment Charity

All councillors are trustees of the Fuel Allotment charity. The charity's balances as at 31 March 2021 were as follows:

Deposit account: £1,360.91

Current account: £110.69

There were no grant applications over the course of the year. The income to the charity was £50 from rents and £0.62 interest on the deposit account.

16 Internal Control Officer

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Farnham as the Council's Internal Control Officer.

17 Representatives to Scarning Playing Field Committee

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllrs Abel and Farnham as representatives to Scarning Playing Field Committee.

18 Representative to Scarning United Charities

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Abel as a representative to Scarning United Charities.

19 Representative to the Seckar Trust

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint the parish clerk as a representative to the Seckar Trust

20 Staff Committee

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllrs Bradford and Bunn as members of the Staff Committee.

21 Budget Sub Committee

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllrs Bradford, Bunn and Druce as members of the Budget sub committee.

22 Insurance

The Council considered three quotes for its insurance policy renewal. It was **RESOLVED** to appoint BHIB as the Council's insurer for the next three years.

23 Flower Boxes

It was **RESOLVED** to agree up to £25 per flower box for planting the Council's three flower boxes, total £75.

24 Village Appraisal

It was **RESOLVED** to advertise for volunteers for a committee to carry out a Village Appraisal on the website and in the Beacon.

25 Bark Chippings at Blackthorn Drive Play Area

It was **RESOLVED** that it was not necessary to add bark chippings to help with the drainage, as it is both more expensive and more messy.

26 Blackthorn Drive play area

Former Cllr Semmons had raised an issue of abusive language and behaviour on the playing field. It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council cannot police the behaviour of individuals. It was noted that following the recent incidence of graffitiing, the Parish Council had asked for an officer to visit the area on his rounds.

27 Speed Watch Group

Cllr Hewson noted that he was waiting for all the forms from volunteers to be returned to him.

28 Request to extend the 30mph speed limit from Fen Road to the Draytonhall Lane junction

Cllr Bunn raised the issue of safety on Fen Road. It was noted that this is a dangerous piece of road, particularly near the junction with the Broadway. It was further noted there has been an increased number of pedestrians on the road. Cllr Farnham noted that the speed limit is 30mph on the other side of the Draytonhall Lane junction.

Cllr Richmond suggested the Council ask the Highways Engineer if he will review the condition and speed limit on the road. It was **RESOLVED** to make this request.

29 Items for inclusion in the next agenda

Update on a Village Appraisal.

30 Next Parish Council meeting

The next meeting will be on June 21 at 7.30pm, venue to be established.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.30pm.