

COLKIRK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8 MARCH 2022 AT 6.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors Charles Joice (Chairman), Steve Mulford, Jeanette Paul, Michael Stamford, Bernard Smith
District Councillor Robert Hambridge
Maxine Hayes, Parish Clerk
0 members of the public.

22/012 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors C Barron, N Loades & M Kiddle-Morris.

22/013 Declarations of Interest

None.

22/014 To approve minutes of last meeting

It was PROPOSED (JP) SECONDED (MS) and unanimously agreed to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11 January 2022 as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

22/015 To receive reports

Councillor Hambridge reported on the bin collection day changes. All residents would be notified. He explained the details of the District Council Hardship Fund which had been set up to try and offset the increase in Council tax.

22/016 Public Participation

No questions.

22/017 Finance

22/017/1 The Clerk had circulated details of payments made under delegated powers in February 2022 and invoices and expenses for payment March 2022.

February 2022

Clerks salary and office expenses £237.58

CGM Grounds maintenance final invoices £634.64

Public Works Loan Board half year payment £271.39

Wensum Net annual subscription for website £60.00

March 2022

Clerks Salary and office expenses £255.20

To be paid in April 2022

Community Heartbeat replacement defibrillator battery

Norfolk PTS annual subscription £110

Bank balances at 25.2.2022

Community Account £3547.29

Business Savings Account £4447.79

Total £7995.08

It was PROPOSED (BS) SECONDED (SM) and unanimously agreed to approve payments.

22/017/2 Financial Report - The Clerk had circulated the financial statement to 25.2.2022, bank balances and reconciliation. It was PROPOSED (BS) SECONDED (SM) and unanimously agreed to approve the financial statement.

22/018 Correspondence and Clerks Report

Correspondence had been circulated and actioned.

Football Club

The Clerk had circulated details following a conversation with the football club about the lack of volunteers and the likelihood that the football club may not continue as there is only one person running the club and doing everything. A plea for volunteers had been included in newsletter and the Clerk would report back if she received any further news.

Allotments update

The Clerk reported that all the rents had been collected and there were 2 vacant plots.

Notices have been put up on the gates about avian flu and recommendations to keep chickens and cockerels under cover and reminding plot holders who kept cockerels to put them in at night and not let them out until 8am.

Internal Auditor – Approval to appoint auditor

The Parish Council were required to appoint an internal auditor for the financial year The Clerk had received 3 quotes and it was PROPOSED (CJ) and SECONDED (SM) and unanimously approved to appoint N Smith as the internal auditor.

Defibrillator

Approval given to purchase replacement battery (in budget).

Correspondence

All correspondence had been circulated and noted.

- Email from Able Community Care – Details of stickers for older people to deter unwanted callers – The Clerk had ordered a supply of the stickers which could be made available for residents
- Boundary Commission - Notice of Eastern BCE Consultation Portal with regard to proposals for new constituencies in this area. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council did not think the changes would make a lot of difference and they would therefore not comment.
- Details of Norfolk Resilience Forum - Noted
- Request from resident for a dog waste bin near school- It was agreed that there were enough bins in the area and unfortunately there was no money in the budget for a new bin in this financial year.
- Emails from resident about safety concerns, cars parking outside school, suggestion of speed limit – The Clerk had referred her to the Police and also suggested speaking to the school as this was a highways and Police issue

22/019 Planning

22/019/1 Applications

3PL/2022/0132/VAR Variation of condition no 22 planning permission (3PL/2021/1265/VAR) to vary wording to enable works to continue up to slab level across all plots, in advance of this condition being discharged. Land off Whisonsett Road.

The Parish Council had submitted the following objections:

Colkirk Parish Council strongly object to this variation of condition No 22.

This just makes a mockery of the whole planning process and raises concerns about the real motive behind this application.

The Parish Council have strong concerns that the powers of the Highways Authority will be undermined if this application is given approval and a precedent will be set for future developments that require Highways approval.

The Parish Council also object to the cutting down of more trees before the Highways Authority make their final decision.

The Clerk confirmed that she had had confirmation in writing from Breckland Bridge that all vehicles connected to the site and development would be parked on site and no vehicles would park in the allotment car park.

22/020 Items for Discussion

22/020/1 Queens Platinum Jubilee

Councillor Paul reported that the Gala Committee were planning to hold Big Jubilee lunch event on the Campyngland over the Jubilee weekend and villagers would be invited to bring their own picnic and drinks. It was hope to provide gazebos just in case of inclement weather. It would also include a cake competition and villagers would be encouraged to dress "Royally" on the day. In addition, villagers would be encouraged to decorate their houses with bunting and there would be a Best Bunting competition. The Committee would require a PA system and a TEN licence. It was PROPOSED SECONDED and unanimously agreed to make a donation of £111 to cover the costs of both.

The Clerk was asked to chase Councillor Kiddle-Smith about the free trees from the County Council. As there was no more room for any large trees such as Oak a smaller variety to mark the occasion would be better.

22/020/2 Request for permission to site clothing bin in Parish Hall carpark

The Parish Council had no objection.

22/020/3 To discuss track leading to Parish Hall and request for Parish Council to request that Norfolk County Highways to adopt and upkeep the track

The request had been made from the Parish Hall Management Committee. They had asked that the Parish Council get the joint support of the church and it was agreed to:

Contact the church through the PCC to ask for their joint support in making this request. Then contact the County Highways department making a request for them to adopt the road.

In the meantime, Councillor Joice would see if he could get a short-term solution to the problem and get the potholes temporarily filled.

22/020/4 This was discussed under agenda item 7.

22/020/5 New Grounds Maintenance Contract – the meeting had gone well and the church were very happy with the agreements made over the cutting of the churchyard and hedge which would now be cut twice a year.

The Clerk would arrange to get a playing field key to the new contractors.

22/020/6 To approach developers to ask for donations towards village projects – It was agreed that this would be a good idea. Councillor Hambridge said he would look into this.

22/020/7 Allotments – this had been discussed under Agenda item 7.

22/020/8 Date of next meeting Tuesday 10th May. Annual Parish Meeting 6.30pm followed by Parish Council Annual Meeting.

22/021 RESOLUTION: At this point in the meeting the press and public will be asked to leave. Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960 the public and press to be excluded due to consideration of the following items due to their confidential nature.

Discussion took place over quotes for the tree work required on Campyngland following the tree survey.

It was PROPOSED (CJ) SECONDED (SM) and unanimously approved to ask Tim Braybrook to schedule the tree work required. The cost of the work would be £1995 excluding the Picus test which was also required. Agreed to ask him to phase the work so that the cost could be spread. The budget would be short of approx. £800 to have all the work completed including the Picus test. It might be possible to re allocate some of the budget from other areas to this work if there was an underspent in other areas and also to allocate some other income towards this later in the year.

He would be asked to schedule the work to ensure it had all been completed before the Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June.

Signed.....Dated.....