

**MINUTES OF THE GRESSENHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021 AT 7:00PM IN THE READING ROOM**

10135 Present: Councillor Beazley Councillor Bunning  
Councillor Keidan Councillor Crisp  
Councillor Melton Councillor Reader  
Councillor Harris District Councillor Atterwill  
County Councillor Kiddle-Morris

3 members of the public.

10136 Apologies: District Councillor Duffield

10137 Declarations of interest – All councillors (except Councillor Bunning) declared an interest in The Swan Public House. Councillor Crisp declared an interest in Mr and Mrs Crisp planning application.

10138 To approve and sign minutes of the meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 – The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

10139 Progress on items not on the agenda from previous meetings – None

The meeting was opened to the public for their comments at 7:05pm.

10140 Barbara Strutt had proposed planting a tree on The Green for the upcoming Jubilee. Due to her sad passing, a resident asked whether a tree could be planted in Barbara's memory instead. Councillors agreed to discuss with Nick Saunders the type of tree which would be suitable. Concerns were raised regarding a horse chestnut on The Green, near the layby. Nick Saunders has been asked to take a look at it.

10141 A resident informed the meeting they had a 6-hour power cut and asked the parish council who best to contact so that UK Power Network would check the facilities. Councillor Kiddle-Morris has a contact and will discuss the issues. The resident urged other residents to sign up for the text updates if they have a power cut. You will be asked about the service you receive. If the service is not good, someone will give you a call to discuss.

10142 A resident informed the meeting that Bittering Street is flooding near the entrance to Panhard Drive. This problem started after work was undertaken altering the kerb. Clerk to report.

10143 A resident thanked the parish council for arranging the filling of pot holes in the village.

That being all the parish council meeting resumed at 7:10pm.

**Matters Arising from the Minutes**

10144 Update on COVID-19 – No update.

10145 Reporting of Highway Matters – Although a lot of pot holes have been filled in the village, more were reported near the old Highways Depot, Church Lane and Stoney Lane. Clerk to report. It is thought that NCC will be using the app 'What three words' to more precisely report pot holes. Councillors reported to Councillor Kiddle-Morris that the layby outside Bunning's still had not been resurfaced and pot holes repaired and the hedging near the scout hut turning onto the B1146 still has not been cut and is dangerous. Councillor Kiddle-Morris is chasing as to whether the parish council can take on verge cutting funded by NCC.

10146 Update on Affordable Housing Scheme – Progress is being made with a recent meeting with Hastoe. Breckland still have issues which need resolving. It is hoped to bring the community into the loop

soon. Councillor Atterwill asked whether Hastoe/Breckland will manage the rentals or a Community Land Trust. Contact details for a representation of Community Action Norfolk will be sent.

- 10147 Community Car Scheme Update – An average month with 559 miles on 26 journeys. Ann and her drivers were thanked for their continued support.
- 10148 Update on The Swan Community Group – Work is moving at a good pace although the windows are late being delivered which is holding up other work. It is hoped that a short opening period over Christmas may be possible with a full opening Easter 2022.
- 10149 Update of the Parish Partnership Funding for 2020/21 – Councillor Kiddle-Morris is pursuing this with the highway engineer. The resident who owns the hedge near the second gateway is happy for it to be cut back. Concerns were raised by the Highways engineer about damaging roots of the hedge but the resident is fine with the installation of the gateway.
- 10150 Update of the Parish Partnership Funding for 2021/22 – Posts have been selected (2'6" around the layby and 2' around The Green. Thanks were given to Councillor Bunning and a resident for helping source Norfolk oak. All current posts will be replaced, although fewer wooden posts will be used to replace the concrete posts.
- 10151 To discuss Parish Partnership Funding 2022/23 requirements – Parish Partnership Funding bids for 2022/23 need to be submitted by 10<sup>th</sup> December. No ideas were put forward following the article in the News and Views.
- 10152 To provide an update on internet banking – Clerk has received mandate papers so that she can access Internet Banking to arrange payments. A councillor will then log on to authorise the payments. Once the mandate has been updated, two councillors will need to call Barclays to set up internet banking.
- 10153 Update on the Longwater Planning Application – Nothing to report.
- 10154 To update on obtaining views of younger residents – Clerk to put a note in the News and Views asking for input from younger residents.
- 10155 To discuss the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacon - The Fete Committee are meeting later this week.
- 10156 Update on the hedge at the bottom of the allotments – Added to the work list for Norfolk Woods and Hedges.
- 10157 Update on the missing barrier at The Drift – Added to the work list for Norfolk Woods and Hedges.
- 10158 Update on doctors' consultation – The Patient Participation Group should be meeting in October. A representative from the parish council will be invited.
- 10159 To discuss the PCC and Highways webinar – Not much to report. The webinar mainly gave parish councils the opportunity to report any issues their parish was having.
- 10160 To discuss the caravan parked in the Social Club – The caravan has now been moved.
- 10161 To review the allotment rent – All councillors present agreed not to increase the rent from £10 this year.
- 10162 To discuss vandalism at the playing field – It was agreed for the clerk to put a piece in the News and Views asking for views from younger residents of what they would like to see in the village. It is hoped that the vandalism and anti-social behaviour will cease. Clerk to write to the resident who brought the anti-social behaviour to the parish councils' attention.

- 10163 To discuss reports of dog fouling at St Nicholas Court – An email was received raising concerns of constant dog fouling around Rougholme Close, St Nicholas Court and Dodson Drive. It was proposed and agreed to put an article in the News and Views reminding residents that it is an offence not to clear up after your dog. Clerk to contact Breckland to see if a bin was installed, whether they would empty it.
- 10164 To discuss The Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill – Although a very important topic, councillors agreed that the parish council should not get drawn into political issues. Any resident wishing to find out more or support the Bill can contact their Local MP. Councillor Reader asked whether the household recycling bins are properly recycled? Councillor Kiddle-Morris replied that the market changes as to who takes what and that there are no exact figures. Councillor Atterwill added that Breckland need to do more to educate people as to what can be recycled. Councillor Keidan suggested putting something in the News and Views when material was available.
- 10165 To discuss the playing field now that Gressenhall no longer has a football team – Councillor Crisp proposed removing the scaffold poles and net which are behind the goal. As they are not required at this time, it will make grass cutting easier. The poles can be stored in case they are needed again. Councillors will take a look before the next meeting.
- 10166 To discuss NALC’s Memorial Token – NALC have offered each parish council a memorial token to mark what has been a unique and remarkable year which brought many people together in so many ways. All councillors agreed to receive a token. Clerk to arrange a time and date for the presentation.
- 10167 To discuss planning applications:
- Mr and Mrs Crisp, Woodhill Cottage, Longham Road – Proposed single storey extension to provide enlarged kitchen and flat roof rear extension to shower room.
  - Norfolk Vanguard Application – Gressenhall have joined with other parish councils.
- 10168 Report from District Councillor Atterwill – Councillor Atterwill reported Breckland confirmed they have their 5-year housing stock. Planning policies are in place although there is a downside considering the timeplan for the local plan review. There is concern the existing policies in place from 2020-2024 will have less weight as the new plan is not due until 2027. There is a risk an aggressive developer will tip the planning balance. Councillor Atterwill has asked Breckland to review and the Overview and Scrutiny panel on 28<sup>th</sup> October. The Community Grant Scheme has closed and will reopen in April 2022. If funding required, contact Councillor Atterwill who will provide a letter of support.
- Report from County Councillor Kiddle-Morris – Councillor Kiddle-Morris’ report to be forwarded after the meeting. The budget prepared on 6<sup>th</sup> October is due to go to cabinet although the Community Spending Review takes place on 26<sup>th</sup> October. There should be a budget consultation around December/January. One million tree campaign is underway in Norfolk. If interested, Councillor Kiddle-Morris may have coppice, fruit and hedge trees available. There is free advice available on which tree to plant.
- 10170 To Approve September payments - Clerk salary and expenses - £337.02, HMR&C - £72.00, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme PC - £63.87, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme BC - £69.88.
- 10171 Melton proposed payment of the above. This was seconded by Councillor Harris and all councillors present agreed.
- 10172 Reports from councillors –

10173 Councillor Crisp acknowledged the Buns and Lemonade production team for a fantastic performance. Around £1,881 plus gift aid was raised for the church.

10174 Councillor Reader asked if there were any objections if he positioned 'Tommy' on The Green ready for Remembrance Sunday. All councillors agreed to this.

10175 Correspondence – An email was received from a resident of Swan Lane with concerns of large oak trees overshadowing her garden. The email to be circulated to councillors. Clerk to find out if trees hold a TPO.

In the absence of any further business, the meeting closed at 8:25pm. The next meeting of Gressenhall Parish Council will be held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021 @ 7:00pm.

Signed: Councillor Melton

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021