

10211
MINUTES OF THE GRESSENHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6TH
DECEMBER 2021 AT 7:00PM IN THE READING ROOM

10212 Present: Councillor Beazley Councillor Melton
 Councillor Crisp Councillor Bunning
 Councillor Reader Councillor Harris
 Councillor Keidan District Councillor Atterwill
 County Councillor Kiddle-Morris

6 members of the public.

10213 Apologies: Councillor Duffield

10214 Declarations of interest – All councillors (except Councillor Bunning) declared an interest in The Swan Public House.

10215 To approve and sign minutes of the meeting held 1ST November 2021 – The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 1st November 2021 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Vice-Chairman.

10216 Progress on items not on the agenda from previous meetings – An application to install a dog mess bin has been made to Breckland Council.

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

10217 A resident thanked the Fete Committee and everyone involved in the festive Christmas Light Switch On. All attending agreed.

10218 A resident enquired about concerns raised at the last meeting regarding vehicles driving on the bend of Bittering Street near Common Drift. A double decker bus was stuck in the verge this week after swerving to miss a Waitrose van coming round the bend in the opposite direction. Clerk to report to Highways.

10219 A resident reported the flooding on Bittering Street just past Panhard Drive entrance. Clerk has reported this to Highways.

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

Matters Arising from the Minutes

10220 Update on COVID-19 – Dereham Hospital is now open for walk-in vaccinations. It is best to check the NHS website for times and types of vaccination available.

10221 Reporting of Highway Matters – Some pot holes were reported to have been filled in Church Lane near Hall Farm Cottages. The layby opposite Bunnings has also been filled. Thanks were given to Councillor Kiddle-Morris for arranging this. It is possible to make an application through the Highways Engineer to obtain details of the rural and urban cuts within the parish. The parish council will then be informed of what price is paid and this could be passed on so the parish council deals with its own verge/grass cutting. It was agreed for the clerk to contact the Highways Engineer for this information. A second gateway can be installed if the landowner can cut the hedge back. Clerk to ask this and then inform Councillor Kiddle-Morris when completed.

10222 Update on Affordable Housing Scheme – A meeting with Breckland Council should take place later this week.

10223 Community Car Scheme Update – It has been a fairly quiet month with 489 miles covered. All

drivers had DBS checks completed this month by the clerk. A new driver is currently undergoing checks.

- 10224 Update on The Swan Community Group – The plastering is nearly finished. It is hoped that the pub will open in March. Interviews are currently taking place for the Manager position.
- 10225 Update of the Parish Partnership Funding for 2020/21 – Covered in the Highways Matters section.
- 10226 Update of the Parish Partnership Funding for 2021/22 – No update.
- 10227 To discuss Parish Partnership Funding 2022/23 requirements – No response received from the News and Views. Remove from the agenda.
- 10228 To provide an update on internet banking – Another mandate has been received to confirm Councillor Crisp's signature.
- 10229 To update on obtaining views of younger residents – No response has been received from the article in the News and Views. It was agreed to keep the article in for the next month.
- 10230 Update on doctors' consultation – Thanks were given to Councillor Keidan for the article in the News and Views. Councillor Keidan spoke with the new practice manager and discussed the two outstanding items which the parish council would like information on. These are 1) the lack of guidance on the different ways of contacting the surgery, as the telephones are engaged and appointments have been given out by the time contact is made and, 2) the lack of elective not-same-day appointments. The new telephone system was installed Friday.
- 10231 To discuss vandalism at the playing field and quotes for new picnic bench – The base of the existing bench has been measured. Two picnic benches were looked at. It was agreed to purchase the more-sturdier bench from Glasdon priced at £826.88. Clerk to order and deliver to Councillor Reader.
- 10232 To agree the 2022/23 Precept requirement – The precept documents were circulated to all councillors. It was agreed to ring-fence some of the carry forward for proposed items including assisting with upgrading the social club car park, a goal mouth with rebound area situated away from the houses and possibly make funds available to improve the front of the pub by way of planters of similar. These items will be discussed in the new year. It was agreed by all councillors present, not to raise the precept for the forthcoming financial year. Clerk to complete the paperwork and send to Breckland Council requesting £12,000.
- 10233 To discuss the Norfolk Pond Project – Councillor Keidan has not received any further information and will chase.
- 10234 To discuss Breckland's Mental Health and Wellbeing Training – The clerk has booked onto the Wellbeing training in February. It was agreed to advertise the training in the News and Views.
- 10235 To discuss the SAM2 data – The SAM2 data showed a reduction in all areas with the highest speed recorded at 55 miles per hour.
- 10236 To discuss the 2022 Maui Wau Festival – The date for the next Festival is being advertised 25th-28th August 2022. Clerk to inform Scarning and Wendling parish councils.
- 10237 To discuss the County Councillors Free Tree Scheme – Councillors agreed to plant trees around the playing field. Councillor Kiddle-Morris will forward available trees to Clerk. These can then be ordered online.
- 10238 To discuss planning applications – No applications to discuss.

- 10239 Report from District Councillor Atterwill – Councillor Atterwill raised concerns about the Breckland Statement of Community Involvement, especially not consulting town and parish councils during August and December. Breckland have decided to continue with its current time frame in relation to the Local Plan. This decision was made on financial grounds.
- 10240 Report from County Councillor Kiddle-Morris – The budget proposals are out for consultation until 30th December. The budget will be presented and council tax decided at a meeting on 21st February. It is proposed to raise the general council tax levy by 1.99% and raise the adult social care precept by 1%. There is pressure on the demand led services of adult social care and children’s services. This is due to an increasing age of the Norfolk population and increasing costs of home to school transport. Councillor Kiddle-Morris still has some tree packs available free of charge. He will email a list of trees available to the clerk.
- 10241 To approve November payments - Clerk salary and expenses - £311.00, HMR&C - £72.00, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme PC - £56.00, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme BC - £62.00, TTSR Limited - £971.94, Community Heartbeat Trust (Solutions) Limited - £223.20.
- 10242 Councillor Crisp proposed payment of the above. This was seconded by Councillor Reader and all councillors present agreed.
- 10243 To approve payments for January 2022 – As the parish council do not meet in January, Councillor Melton proposed payment of clerk’s salary, HMRC and Community Car due in January. This was seconded by Councillor Harris and all councillors present agreed.
- 10243 Reports from councillors – None.
- 10244 Correspondence – None.

The Chairman thanked councillors and residents for their attendance over the year and wished all a Merry Christmas.

In the absence of any further business, the meeting closed at 8:15pm. The next meeting of Gressenhall Parish Council will be held on Monday 7th February 2021 @ 7:00pm.

Signed: Roly Beazley

Date: 7th February 2022