

MINUTES OF THE GRESSENHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 7TH MARCH
2022 AT 7:00PM IN THE READING ROOM

10283 Present: Councillor Beazley Councillor Keidan
 Councillor Crisp Councillor Bunning
 Councillor Reader District Councillor Duffield

6 members of the public.

10284 Accepted Apologies: Councillors Harris and Melton, District Councillor Atterwill, County Councillor Kiddle-Morris

10285 Declarations of interest – All councillors (except Councillor Bunning) declared an interest in The Swan Public House.

10286 To approve and sign minutes of the meeting held 7th February 2022 – The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 7th March 2022 were confirmed as a correct record.

10287 Progress on items not on the agenda from previous meetings – None.

The meeting was opened to the public for their comments at 7:02pm.

10288 A resident asked if there had been any developments regarding the flooding at Bittering Street/Panhard Drive. Clerk to contact Councillor Kiddle-Morris for an update.

10289 Following recent power cuts, a resident enquired whether there would be any help for elderly people in the village who would not have access to a phone. It was thought that neighbours normally check on vulnerable neighbours but it would be worth putting a note in the News and Views for residents to keep an old-style telephone which could be used in the event of a power cut.

That being all the parish council meeting resumed at 7:05pm.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

10290 Update on COVID-19 – Nothing to report.

10291 Reporting of Highway Matters – Clerk to contact Councillor Kiddle-Morris re the pot hole in the passing place along Dereham Road. Councillor Crisp has requested a quote from the current grounds company re the urban and rural cuts. Clerk to contact Councillor Kiddle-Morris to see if a rebate could be claimed from Breckland and Norfolk County Council. District Councillor Duffield suggested reviewing the next 12 months to see how the new cutting program goes.

10292 Update on Affordable Housing Scheme – Nothing significant to report.

10293 Community Car Scheme Update – It has been a fairly quiet month. The co-ordinator and her drivers were thanked by the Chairman.

10294 Update on The Swan Community Group – The AGM was held this evening where a committee were voted in for the forthcoming year. Information of the manager position will be shared following successful negotiations. Cash has been managed well considering the rampant rise of prices. They have been very fortunate with grants and support. The Parish Council thanked Mr Begg and the many volunteers for doing an amazing job for the village.

10295 Update of the Parish Partnership Funding for 2020/21 – Clerk to contact Councillor Kiddle-Morris for an update.

- 10296 Update of the Parish Partnership Funding for 2021/22 – Work is hoped to be completed by the end of March 2022. Clerk to contact Norfolk County Council to see if an extension is possible.
- 10297 To provide an update on internet banking – Awaiting documents to apply for internet banking.
- 10298 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.
- 10298 Update on doctors' consultation – Councillor Keidan confirmed that an article from Elmham Surgery was placed in the March News and Views. The next Patient Participation Group meeting will take place at Bawdeswell Village Hall on 23rd March. Councillor Harris to be informed of the date so he can attend if Councillor Keidan is away.
- 10299 To discuss Breckland's Mental Health and Wellbeing Training – The Clerk attended the training and slides were circulated to all councillors. Details of Breckland's social events will be displayed in the noticeboard and on the parish website.
- 10300 To discuss the County Councillors Free Tree Scheme – Clerk to contact Councillor Kiddle-Morris to see if any trees are available.
- 10301 To discuss the work list for Norfolk Woods and Hedges – The hedges on the playing field near Soken Drive were not cut and it is now too late. Councillor Crisp proposed removing the poles so that a tractor and hedge cutter can be used. It was agreed that councillors would take a look at the site and decide at the next meeting whether to remove the poles.
- 10302 To discuss defibrillator training – Details of defibrillator training were circulated to councillors. Training for up to 50 attendees cost £175. It was agreed by all councillors for a session to be booked in May. Clerk to arrange and advertise details. A question was raised if the defibrillator had instructions to use on it. Clerk to check and if not, make a sign to call 999. It was also agreed to put basic instructions to use the unit in the News and Views.
- 10303 To discuss the Platinum Jubilee celebrations / commemorative mugs – The fete committee are leading the celebration arrangements. A request has been received asking if the parish council could contribute £350 towards purchasing a commemorative mug for all children under 12 living in the village. All councillors agreed to this. Clerk to inform the fete committee.
- 10304 To discuss the upgrading of the social club car park – Councillor Crips met with Tim Abel to discuss the upgrade. It was suggested 4/5 tonnes of road planning would be required. A guide price will be sent soon, although prices are due to increase dramatically from 1st April. The social club landlord agreed to the works. A mole infestation was also discussed which is quite a trip hazard. It was agreed for the clerk to contact a local mole man to deal with this.
- 10305 To discuss ideas for external front of house at The Swan – Ideas were discussed including oak posts to protect the verge and indicate parking, provision of cycle parking, a display of walking/cycling maps. It was agreed for The Swan to provide the parish council with full details and costs for a specific item. Clerk to chase Councillor Kiddle-Morris re a date for a meeting with the highway engineer to discuss the verge beside the pub.
- 10306 To discuss quotes and funding opportunities for goal/rebound area on the playing field – Following complaints of footballs in the play area and balls being kicked against residents' fences, the parish council discussed the possibility of a ball game area on the playing field. It was proposed to put a picture in the News and Views to try and obtain resident's opinion.
- 10307 To discuss the annual play inspection report – The report was circulated to all councillors. There were no urgent items in the report. Councillor Reader will review the report fully and discuss at the next meeting.

10308 To discuss the village speed limits and SAM2 data – A discussion took place regarding speed limits along Dereham Road. Councillor Keidan proposed asking highways to put in a 40mph limit from Threeways to the 30mph sign at the small bridge on Bridge Street. There have been a number of near misses due to speeding cars along the narrow road. It was agreed to refer the request to Councillor Kiddle-Morris. The SAM2 data will be circulated to all councillors for discussion at the next meeting.

To discuss planning applications –.

10309 Threeways Bungalow – Erection of steel framed building for storage – This application has been referred to the Chairman’s panel.

10310 Report from District Councillors – Councillor Duffield informed the meeting that Breckland are calling for sites for the development framework. The reduced urban and rural cutting was explained as a cost cutting exercise. Councillor Duffield suggested writing to main employers within the area asking if they could ask their staff not to speed in the village.

10311 To approve January payments - Clerk salary and expenses - £311.00, HMR&C - £72.00, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme PC - £55.38, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme BC - £59.38, David Bracey - £108.00, CBR Business Solutions - £129.60.

10312 Councillor Bunning proposed payment of the above. This was seconded by Councillor Crisp and all councillors present agreed.

10313 Reports from councillors – Councillor Crisp informed the meeting that a group who remove Himalayan Balsam have received funding this year. It was agreed for the clerk to see if they could visit Gressenhall and remove the balsam from the playing field.

10314 Correspondence – A letter was received from St Mary’s PPC thanking the parish council for the donation. Various emails were received during the month regarding a bird scarer going off in the middle of the night. This seems to have been sorted. .

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 4th April 2022@ 7:00pm.

Signed: Councillor Melton

Date: 4.4.22