

**MINUTES OF THE GRESSENHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2022**  
**AT 7:35PM IN THE READING ROOM**

10349 Present: Councillor Beazley Councillor Bunning  
Councillor Melton Councillor Harris  
Councillor Keidan Councillor Crisp  
District Councillor Atterwill

6 members of the public.

10350 Thanks were given to the Chairman for his time and work over the past 12 months. Acknowledgement and thanks to the time the Chairman spent in between meetings was given. To elect the Chairman –The clerk invited nominations for the office of Chairman. Councillor Beazley was nominated by Councillor Melton and seconded by Councillor Crisp. With no further nominations, all agreed to elect Councillor Beazley to serve as Chairman for the coming twelve months. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office book was signed.

10351 To elect the Vice-Chairman – Councillor Beazley invited nominations for the office of Vice-Chairman. Councillor Melton was nominated by Councillor Crisp and seconded by Councillor Harris. With no further nominations, all agreed to elect Councillor Melton to serve as Vice-Chairman for the coming twelve months. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office book was signed.

Accepted Apologies: Councillor Reader, County Councillor Kiddle-Morris, District Councillor Duffield

10352 Declarations of interest – All councillors (except Councillor Bunning) declared an interest in The Swan Public House.

10353 To approve and sign minutes of the meeting held 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022 – The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the vice-chairman.

10354 Progress on items not on the agenda from previous meetings – The mole man will visit the playing field after the next rain. J S Asphalt will look at the pot holes and get back to the clerk. The Himalayan Balsam group is looking at dates to organise a ‘Balsam Bash’ where residents can come along and help. It was proposed to put a photo of the balsam in the News and Views so residents are aware of what it looks like.

The meeting was opened to the public for their comments at 7:40pm.

10355 A resident asked why the clerk’s telephone number was not in the News and Views. The clerk will contact the News and Views and ask it to be entered.

10356 A resident expressed concerns that Elmham Surgery is ‘not fit for purpose’. They explained that they were not able to get an appointment, long telephone calls on hold and prescriptions being left for 5 weeks. Councillor Harris explained that the parish council has been in contact with the surgery highlighting concerns and attended the Patient Participation Group. It was hoped the new telephone system installed in March would improve things, but this does not seem to have done so. Councillor Keidan informed the meeting that residents can contact Healthwatch Norfolk or their local MP to raise any concerns. Clerk to put the Healthwatch Norfolk details in the News and Views. Councillor Atterwill also had experienced issues. He is due to meet with George Freeman MP and will see if he can expand their conversation to include this.

10357 A resident enquired who is responsible for clearing the stream at the playing field as it is all silted up and there are lots of twigs. Councillor Crisp usually does this but needs to wait until the ground is a drier.

10358 A resident reported that the pond is in a sorry state and asked if any maintenance work would be done before the Jubilee celebrations. Councillors agreed that this is not the best time for pond work due to the habitats and will be maintained after the fete.

That being all the parish council meeting resumed at 7:50pm.

### **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

10359 Update on COVID-19 – It was agreed to report from the agenda.

10360 Reporting of Highway Matters – Councillor Crisp met with County Councillor Kiddle-Morris and the highways engineer. It was agreed highways would install the curb alongside The Swan over the coming weeks. It was also discussed about extending the pavement to the cart shed. This could be considered for the next Parish Partnership Funding. They visited the site of the gateway and agreed the area which will need to be removed. As soon as this is done, the gateway can be installed. Clerk to contact Councillor Kiddle-Morris for an update on the flooding near Panhard Drive, pot holes in the pullover on Dereham Road and speeding and the possible de-limit along Bridge Street/Dereham Road. Councillor Keidan has received concerns from two residents re the speeding.

10361 Update on Affordable Housing Scheme – Nothing significant to report. It is hoped a consultation can take place soon.

10362 Community Car Scheme Update – 671 miles were covered this month. Councillor Atterwill reported that Breckland are not able to increase the 12 ½p per mile contribution but the parish council may if they wish.

10363 Update on The Swan Community Group and to discuss the grant request received – The grant application was circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. It was considered that there were a number of items which would benefit the wider village. Councillor Atterwill informed the meeting that Breckland's match funding opened tomorrow and that Awards for All funding is available. It was proposed that The Swan committee are informed of the funding and that the parish council would contribute £1,625 towards this.

10364 Update of the Parish Partnership Funding for 2020/21 – As reported in Highway Matters.

10365 Update of the Parish Partnership Funding for 2021/22 – The posts should be installed soon.

10366 To provide an update on internet banking – Clerk to forward signatories details of where we currently in the internet banking process to see if they can move forward quicker.

10367 To update on obtaining views of younger residents – A number of responses have been received for various items. It was agreed to invite the families who responded, and all residents, to meet at the playing field to discuss options, so they are included in the project.

10368 Update on doctors' consultation – As discussed in the public participation.

10369 To discuss the work list for Norfolk Woods and Hedges – It was agreed to include an annual tree survey to the list. Clerk to them resend the list

10370 To discuss defibrillator training – The training is arranged for Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 6:30pm at the Reading Room.

10371 To discuss the Platinum Jubilee celebrations – The insurance company have confirmed cover for this event as long as all risk assessments are in place and that a barrier is erected around the beacon.

- 10372 To discuss the upgrading of the social club car park – Councillor Crips is awaiting a quote. To be discussed at the next meeting.
- 10373 To discuss quotes and funding opportunities for goal/rebound area on the playing field – Discussed at minute 10367.
- 10374 To discuss the annual play inspection report – Councillors met at the play area to go through the medium risk items on the report. This mainly related to the safety flooring. A quote has been requested. Councillor Harris asked whether the parish council needed to close the play area until repairs had been made. It was agreed that the medium risk items were advisory items and that the play area did not need to close.

To discuss planning applications –.

- 10375 The parish council decided that they would not submit any land to Breckland’s Call for Sites. It was agreed by all councillors present to submit The Green, the playing field and the bowling green as protected Local Green Space. These areas have previously been submitted but will be submitted again.
- 10376 Report from District Councillor Atterwill – Councillor Atterwill enquired about the local bus service as funding is available to improve rural services. Clerk to ask for opinions via the News and Views. Councillor Atterwill has received an agreement to take on his own parish’s urban and rural cuts. This was based on a map and linear mileage. No decisions on planning applications are being given at the moment due to the Nutrient Neutrality Information. This could take up to two years to sort out for the affected areas.
- 10377 Financial Matters – The AGAR, income and expenditure accounts, Certificate of Exemption were circulated to all councillor prior to the meeting. No questions were received and all councillors present approved all documents.
- 10378 To approve April payments - Clerk salary and expenses - £295.70, HMR&C - £72.00, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme PC - £80.57, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme BC - £83.80, The Community Heartbeat Trust – £210.00, Glasdon UK Limited - £1,162.05, The Reading Room - £8.00, Gressenhall Fete Committee - £350.00, TTSR Limited - £981.66, Zurich Municipal - £441.66.
- 10379 Councillor Crisp proposed payment of the above. This was seconded by Councillor Melton and all councillors present agreed.
- 10380 Reports from councillors – Councillor Crisp informed the meeting that the bench at Dodson Drive is rotten and that he is happy to remove it. This was agreed and the clerk was asked to get a quote for a new recycled plastic bench for the next meeting.
- 10381 Correspondence – Emails re views of younger residents.

In the absence of any further business, the meeting closed at 8:35pm. The next Ordinary Parish meeting will be held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022@ 7:00pm.

Signed: Roly Beazley

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022