

**MINUTES OF THE GRESSENHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 6TH
SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 7:00PM IN THE READING ROOM**

10479 Present: Councillor Beazley Councillor Bunning
Councillor Harris Councillor Reader
Councillor Keidan Councillor Melton
District Councillor Duffield District Councillor Atterwill
County Councillor Kiddle-Morris

7 members of the public.

10480 Accepted Apologies: Councillor Crisp

10482 Declarations of interest – All councillors (except Councillor Bunning) declared an interest in The Swan Public House, Councillor Reader declared an interest in matters relating to the play area.

10483 To approve and sign minutes of the meeting held 2nd August 2022 – The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2nd August 2022 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

10484 Progress on items not on the agenda from previous meetings – The 30mph sign on Litcham Road has now been replaced.

The meeting was opened to the public for their comments at 7:01pm.

10485 A resident expressed concerns regarding the effects of the cost-of-living crisis on struggling members of the community. This will be discussed later in the meeting.

10486 A resident followed up her correspondence to the parish council regarding three large oak trees on the playing field which overhang her garden, and one tree overhanging her neighbours. The trees are subject to TPO's and an application to Breckland is required before any work can be undertaken. Clerk to contact Norfolk Woods and Hedges.

That being all the parish council meeting resumed at 7:08pm.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

10487 Reporting of Highway Matters – Councillor Kiddle-Morris visited Bittering Street with the Highways engineer to look at the flooding near Panhard Drive. The Clerk forwarded photos following the rain which showed more than half the road had flooded. It is thought a third gully may be needed. This will be chased up.

Councillor Kiddle-Morris is still looking into whether a Traffic Regulator Order is needed to move the 30mph sign at the Bridge Street/Dereham Road corner.

10488 Update on Affordable Housing Scheme – A public consultation is being held in the Reading Room on Tuesday 4th October, 3:30pm-7:00pm. A representative from Hastoe and Breckland will be available to answer any questions.

10489 Community Car Scheme Update – The car scheme had a busy month with 617 miles covered. Drivers are keen to hold a stall at the Christmas Light Switch On being held on Saturday 3rd December, to raise funds for the scheme.

10490 To provide an update on internet banking – Councillor Beazley is in contact with Barclays.

10491 Update on the work list for Norfolk Woods and Hedges - Clerk to circulate the list.

- 10492 To discuss upgrading the social club carpark – Councillor Crisp to update at next meeting.
- 10493 Update on the playing field funding project – Danny has gathered some residents who are happy to join the playing field funding committee and also arrange various fundraising events. A starter quote has been prepared to be shared with councillors and then to the fundraising committee for their opinion. This will be discussed further next month.
- 10494 To discuss the annual play inspection report – Actions being addressed. Remove from agenda.
- 10495 To discuss the Defibrillator training and V.E.T.S – It was agreed to put a simpler request for volunteers in the News and Views as the previous leaflet was a bit confusing. Volunteers are required to join a list so that if a resident needs the defibrillator, one of the volunteers will be called and asked to take the defib to the resident in need.
- 10496 Update on Elmham Surgery – Councillor Keidan met with the practice manager to update on developments. More bookable non-urgent appointments have been made available. Urgent appointments are available by calling from 8:30am and non-urgent appointments by calling from 2pm each day. The surgery will be starting to explore the feasibility of email access to clinical advice. Recruitment plans are in place for both more medical and nursing staff. It was agreed by all to keep the request for surgery experiences, good or bad, in the News and Views.
- 10497 To discuss request for fundraising event on The Green – The parish council insurance would not cover the fundraising event. The cost of the resident obtaining insurance totalled £67.94. It was agreed the parish council would make a donation to the event for this amount. Clerk to contact resident for payment details.
- 10498 To discuss invitation to bid for Parish Partnership Funding 2023/24 – An email and two telephone calls were received in favour of another gateway on Litcham Road, the museum end. Clerk to contact Highways for a quote.
- 10499 To discuss maintenance of the village pond – Councillor Melton has been in contact with Norfolk Biodiversity Information Services regarding the pond. He advised the pond is in good order with healthy plants. He will visit the pond during the Autumn.
- 10500 To discuss the annual allotment rent review – It was agreed to keep the annual rent at £10. Clerk to write to allotment holders.
- 10501 To discuss the letter received re the cost-of-living crisis – A letter was received from a resident regarding the cost-of-living crisis which raised a concern for those residents who are suffering in silence. This was forwarded to the Gressenhall Charity. A discussion took place on how to raise awareness and signpost residents to obtain advice and support. It was agreed to ask Gressenhall Charity to put a piece in the News and Views stating how residents can make contact and details on how to apply for help. It was also discussed to display details for any resident wishing to donate the electricity rebate to the charity. Breckland's Food Bus which provides discounted food, visits Beetley. Councillor Atterwill requested that following the 6-month review of the service, Gressenhall be considered for adding to the route. Items considered included restarting pensioners' lunch, opening a community space on a weekly basis offering warmth and hot drinks or a pop-up lunch club and a community. Pensioners can also, either online at Gov.UK or via the Citizen Advice Bureau, check to see they are claiming all the benefits they are entitled to. Councillors asked that residents continue looking out for each other.
- 10502 To discuss the option to opt out of the SAA central external audit appointment arrangements – All councillors agreed not to opt out.
- 10503 To discuss speeding in the village – Emails were received this month from a Bilney Road and Litcham Road resident with concerns over speeding. Following a discussion, it was agreed to speak

to the Highways engineer to ask if more posts could be sited in the village to use for the SAM sign. It was also agreed to face the SAM sign in the opposite direction (cars entering the village from the museum end) to obtain data. Clerk to also obtain a quote for a second gateway.

10504 To report on Maui Wau feedback – The weekend went well. One report of fly-tipping which was then used as signposting to the festival was reported. This was reported to Breckland and the organiser has picked up the furniture.

10505 To discuss the pub and car parking – An email was received from a resident of The Green with regard to parking which impedes residents' drives. It was agreed that wooden parking signs would be made and three would be sited in the first instance. Councillors will speak with the pub management committee and suggest parking information is made available on the website and on fliers suggesting parking along Bittering Street.

10506 To discuss planning applications –

- Land at Bushey Common - Variation of Condition 2 on 3PL/2021/0643/D - To allow for the proposed house-type revisions – All councillors present had no objections to this application.
- Beetley: Land south of Rawhall Lane, Beetley, Dereham, Norfolk NR20: Planning Application for a new sand and gravel quarry on agricultural land south of Rawhall Lane – A meeting was held with Beetley Parish Council to discuss this application. The following objections were agreed:
 1. Largely due to the substantial increase in lorry movements that will result whereas if this land was worked for gravel from the existing site vehicle movements would remain at current levels.
 2. The road traffic survey was completed in September 2020 when lockdowns were in place, which does not give a true reflection.
 3. The greatest impact of vehicle movements will be felt in both East Bilney and Beetley depending on whether head north from the site or south through Dereham.
 4. There are already 3 gravel companies in the immediate local area and we do not believe there are grounds to increase this to 4 companies.
 5. We also consider the application is premature until the Minerals local plan is completed.
- Norfolk Rural Life Museum – Replacement/repair of 6no. windows to Village Row and 4no. windows on first floor library – All councillors present had no objections to this application.

10507 Report from District Councillor Duffield – Councillor Duffield referred to the previous Longwater application where he reported there was already sufficient land being worked. Less materials are being used for building. He suggested deferring the application until the Local Plan is out.

10508 Report from District Councillor Atterwill – Councillor Atterwill contact Anglian Water regarding the leak near Common Drift. Anglian Water arrived on Friday to repair the leak. Following on from the cost-of-living crisis, Councillor Atterwill advised he may be able to help residents requiring assistance. He is able to refer residents to access Breckland's Hardship Funding or the Norfolk Assistance Scheme. Referrals are made to the Social Prescribing Team who can check the relevant benefits are being claimed and help with one-off payments. Details of how people can be put forward will be put in the News and Views. Councillor Atterwill also referred to the 'Blessing Box' Swanton Morley have installed where residents are able to put foods and essential items available for people in to take.

10509 Report from County Councillor Kiddle-Morris – Councillor Kiddle-Morris updated regarding the flooding near Panhard Drive and the TRO as detailed above. With regard to the Longwater Application, Councillor Kiddle-Morris advised councillors to read the appraisal of Pre-Examination Document. Councillor Kiddle-Morris to circulate details of the invitation to take part in a devolution deal to be circulated to Councillors.

10510 To approve August payments - Clerk salary and expenses - £308.70, HMR&C - £77.20, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme PC - £70.02, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme BC - £77.13.

10511 Councillor Harris proposed payment of the above. This was seconded by Councillor Melton and all councillors present agreed.

10512 Reports from councillors – Two water leaks were reported on The Green. Clerk to report.

10513 Correspondence – Bank statement to circulate.

In the absence of any further business, the meeting closed at 8:40pm. The next Ordinary Parish meeting will be held on Tuesday 4th October 2022@ 7:00pm.

Signed: Roly Beazley

Date: 4th October 2022