

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

10571 Present: Councillor Beazley Councillor Bunning
Councillor Reader Councillor Kiedan
Councillor Crisp Councillor

3 members of the public

10572 Accepted Apologies: Councillor Melton, Councillor Harris, District Councillor Atterwill and County Councillor Kiddle-Morris

10573 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, Councillor Bunning in relation to the Affordable Housing Scheme.

10574 To approve and sign minutes of the meeting held 1st November 2022 – The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 1st November 2022 were confirmed as a correct record. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

10575 Progress on items not on the agenda from previous meetings – None

The meeting was opened to the public at 7:02pm

10576 A resident informed the meeting that the mud on Litcham Road which was previously reported was not cleared. Councillor Reader will speak with the farmer.

10577 A resident asked whether the parish council had considered a Christmas tree with roots which could be used each Christmas which would be more eco-friendly. The Chairman said this suggestion would be passed on to the Fete Committee.

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

Matters Arising from the Minutes

10578 Reporting of Highway Matters – The pot hole in the layby along Dereham Road still has not been repaired. Clerk to inform County Councillor Kiddle-Morris. A letter was received from TTSR Limited regarding the grounds maintenance. They, regrettably, will be raising their annual cost for both the original grass cutting and the additional NCC cuts by just under £200. Councillors were very understanding and all agreed to accept this increase. Clerk to chase Highways with regard to the funding of £736 for the additional grass cutting. Clerk to inform Councillor Kiddle-Morris that the gullies have not been installed yet near Panhard Drive.

10579 Update on Affordable Housing Scheme – A meeting will be held next week with the landowners to discuss the new footpath. A councillor will attend the meeting and then visit a resident who emailed their concerns.

10580 Community Car Scheme Update – November was a very busy month with 1136 miles travelled. The stall at the Christmas Light Switch on raised just over £100. Thanks were given to Anne Maskell for looking after the scheme. Councillors sent their best wishes to Ann Haverson.

10581 To provide an update on internet banking – Councillor Beazley is in contact with Barclays.

10582 Update on the work list for Norfolk Woods and Hedges – The work list was updated and resent to Norfolk Woods and Hedges. The posts around The Green can be removed from the list as this work is complete.

- 10583 Update on the playing field funding project – The committee met to discuss the equipment required for the play area. It was proposed that the climbing frame, which is almost 15 years old be replaced with a similar climber and the addition of a special needs swing. A list of equipment was confirmed and circulated to councillors for their agreement. Once agreed three quotes will be obtained ready for preparing funding applications. Ideas for funding possibilities included National Lottery, NPFA, Norfolk Community Funding (Breckland) Vattenfall, Tesco and holding fundraising events. All councillors were happy in principle to proceed. The parish council are looking to ringfence £5,000 towards the project.
- 10584 Update on Elmham Surgery – Councillor Kiedan met with the practice manager taking some specific issues raised by residents. The practice manager was not able to deal with specific cases with Councillor Kiedan but contact details can be given and residents can contact the practice manager to discuss. The practice manager is looking into the mix up of surgeries experienced by the community car drivers and will contact the coordinator with a reply. The piloting of pre-bookable appointments went well and it is hoped that this service will roll out soon. A plan is in place to pilot an email service. PPG meetings are intended to be held 4 times a year and a service update report will be provided for these meetings. The parish council are very grateful for the article in this month's News and Views giving details on how to access services.
- 10585 To discuss invitation to bid for Parish Partnership Funding 2023/24 – Councillors agreed to submit the Parish Partnership Funding bid for the new gateways. Clerk to arrange.
- 10586 To discuss the pub and car parking – The Chairman drafted a polite letter (copy at the end of the minutes) which can be placed on cars which park around The Green. If residents who live on The Green would like copies of the letter to use, these can be requested from the clerk. The letter will also be put in the next edition of News and Views.
- 10587 To discuss Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Pre-Submission: Invitation to make representations – Representation to be made by 19th December.
- 10588 To discuss offering a hot spot for residents this winter – The Charity has had one resident contact this month with the Trustees contacting 5 previous residents who have received support in the past.
- 10589 To discuss planning applications –
- 8 Gresley Close - Change of use of garage to beauty salon (retrospective) – Councillors agreed no objections to this application but to make a suggestion that permission is granted only for as long as the current applicant is resident at the property.
 - The shrublands, Gressenhall Road – Variation of Conditions 2 & 5 on 3PL/2022/1159/VAR – update the planning approval to include minor amendments to plot 1 and 2 access – Councillors had no objection to this application.
- 10590 Report from District Councillors – No report.
- 10591 Report from County Councillor – Report circulated to all councillors.
- 10592 To confirm the 2023/24 precept requirement – The 2023/24 budget figures were circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. Expenditure for the next financial year has increased by nearly £4,000 - £1,100 additional grass cutting (although £736 of this can be claimed back from NCC), £1,500 to be budgeted for in case of an election, £2,000 village gateway (although £1,000 is recoverable from NCC) are the bulk of the increase. Taking into account these increased councillors all agreed to raise the precept by £2,000 to £14,000 to help cover these costs. Clerk to submit the precept requirement forms.

- 10592 To approve December payments - Clerk salary and expenses - £315.70, HMR&C - £77.20, Gressenhall Community Car scheme (parish council) - £136.00, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme (Breckland) - £142.00.
- 10593 To approve January payments - Clerk salary and expenses - £315.70, HMR&C - £77.20, Gressenhall Community Car scheme (parish council) - tbc, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme (Breckland) - tbc.
- 10594 Councillor Crisp proposed payment of the above. This was seconded by Councillor Reader and all councillors present agreed.
- 10595 Reports from councillors – Councillor Bunning reported that an additional post is required opposite the pub between the end of the layby and the give way sign. Cars try and park there but stick out on the road.
- 10596 The Clerk reported that the parish noticeboard is wonky and needs banging down on one side. Councillor Reader to look at.
- 10597 The Clerk attended NALC’s Help in a crisis webinar which gave lots of information of assistance available. Details to be added into the News and Views.
- 10596 Correspondence – Discussed in the meeting.

In the absence of any further business, the meeting closed at 8:20pm. The next Ordinary Parish meeting will be held on Tuesday 7th February 2022 @ 7:00pm.

Signed: Roly Beazley

Date: 7th February 2023

Dear car owner

We hope you have enjoyed your visit to Gressenhall ?

The Parish Council and local residents around the Green are very keen to preserve the Green and not allow excessive parking especially on the grass verges in winter.

To that end we are asking everybody to limit parking around the Green and use Bittering Street (left hand side) as the area for overflow parking when the spaces allotted near the Green are full.

We would be grateful for your help with this and look forward to seeing you again!

With thanks

Gressenhall Parish Council – gressenhallpc@gmail.com