

MINUTES OF THE GRESSENHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY
8TH AUGUST 2023 AT 7:00PM IN THE READING ROOM

10789 Present: Councillor Beazley Councillor Day
Councillor Reader Councillor Radford
Councillor Melton Councillor Crisp
District Councillor Duffield District Councillor Atterwill

12 members of the public

10790 To receive and accept apologies of absence: Councillor Keidan and Councillor Kiddle-Morris.

10791 Declarations of interest – All councillors (except Councillor Radford) declared an interest in The Swan Public House, Councillor Reader declared an interest in matters relating to the play area, Councillor Melton in relation to the Affordable Housing Scheme.

10792 To approve and sign minutes of the meeting held 4th July – The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4th July 2023 were confirmed as a correct record. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

10793 Progress on items not on the agenda from previous meetings – None

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

10794 A resident enquired about a bike rack being located near the shop which school children could use. This would help reduce parents travelling by car to the bus stop. The clerk will look into prices and add to the next agenda.

10795 A resident informed the meeting that the Gressenhall councillors were out of date on Breckland's website. The code of conduct on Breckland's website was dated 2012. The clerk confirmed the code of conduct has been updated since then and would contact Breckland. The resident also mentioned that the two new councillor's telephone details were not in the News and Views. The clerk will add these for the next edition.

10796 A resident commented that a flagpole would be nice in the centre of the village. Clerk to obtain prices and add to the next agenda.

10797 A resident asked who is responsible for taking down posters for events where the date had past. Councillors replied that it should be the person who put up the poster but anyone can remove them.

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

Matters Arising from the Minutes

10797 Reporting of Highway Matters – The clerk has received notification from NCC that pot holes along Bilney Road, Longham Lane and the road surface at the Gressenhall Road/Litcham Road junction have either been completed or are listed to be completed. Consideration was given to the next round of Parish Partnership Funding. It was agreed to request a quote from J S Asphalt to resurface The Green next summer.

10798 Update on Affordable Housing Scheme – Not much to report this month. Councillors are meeting with Hastoe on 17th August. The planning application should hopefully go to committee September/October although there is an expected delay due to Nutrient Neutrality issues.

10799 Community Car Scheme Update – Recognition was given to Barbara for her 36-years of service to the scheme. The Chairman also thanked Barbara for her outstanding service. It was a very busy month with 1,123 miles covered. Three new drivers have had DBS checks this month.

10800 To provide an update on internet banking and consider changing bank account – An application has been made to Unity. Signatories have submitted all ID requests and requested paperwork has been sent.

10801 Update on the playing field funding project – Harriet Green gave an update on the project including data received from the online survey, letters of support received and the description of the equipment required.

The first grant application for Grantscape is ready for submission. All councillors agreed for the application to be submitted. A temporary bank account has been opened with Gressenhall Community Enterprise where funds raised from Pop Up Café, barn dance and the Fete Committee are to be transferred. It was agreed to transfer £2,000 to the new account.

- 10802 To discuss Common Drift – The Parish Council were made aware that a Notice of Application for Modification Order has been made to NCC to change Common Drift to a Restricted Byway. It was agreed that clarification to NCC was needed as the notice was signed “by residents of Beetley and Gressenhall” which is misleading.
- 10803 To discuss and consider the request for a bike repair station at The Swan – This project will commence in the next financial year. It was agreed to set aside £325 contribution. The best site for the station was agreed to be at the front of The Swan.
- 10804 Update on Elmham Surgery – Details received from a resident unable to make a non-urgent appointment in August were forwarded to Councillor Keidan who will be attending the next Patient Participation Group.
- 10805 To discuss and consider the government funding for electric charging units – Clerk to investigate and report at next meeting.
- 10806 To discuss the invitation to bid Parish Partnership 2024/25 - Councillor Crisp proposed obtaining a quote from J S Asphalt to resurface The Green next summer as a guide to discuss. All councillors present agreed.
- 10807 To confirm TPO application logged with Breckland for trees on playing field – The application has been logged.
- 10808 To discuss and consider disabled access to the Social Club - Clerk to contact resident to see if proposed work of removing and rolling the gravel would be suitable.
- 10809 To discuss and consider pot holes around The Green – Discussed above under Parish Partnership Funding.
- 10810 To discuss and consider Norfolk Woods and Hedges work list – All work has been completed.
- 10811 To discuss and consider the remainder of the Coronation mug – It was agreed to advertise the remaining mugs in the News and Views for one more month.
- 10812 To discuss planning applications –.
- New Applications**
- Ful/2022/0021 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: Longwater Gravel Company Ltd - Mr Simon Smith – All councillors present agreed to stand by the original objection to this application.
- Decisions**
- 3PL/2023/0619/VAR, Old School House Church Lane - Variation of Condition No2 on 3PL/2020/1032/F - new conservation roof window on House 1, new conservation window on House 2, new window on House 1, new window on House 2, Blocked window on House 3, Amendment to layout of new staircase on House 1 - **Approved**
 - 3PL/2023/0608/LB, Old School House Church Lane - alterations, extension and conversion of former School and School House into 3 houses (1 existing, 2 new). (amended scheme) – **Approved**
 - 3PL/2023/0609/HOU, The Birches 11 Bittering Street, , NR20 4EB - Proposed attached side/rear cart lodge and store - **Approved**
- 10813 To confirm payments for July: Clerk salary and expenses - £363.23, HMR&C - £81.80, Gressenhall Community Car scheme - £142.37, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme (Breckland) - £140.38, Norfolk Woods and Hedges Limited - £408.00.
- 10814 To confirm income received - Breckland Recycling payment - £347.22
- 10815 Councillor Reader proposed payment of the above. This was seconded by Councillor Radford and all councillors present agreed.

10816 Report from County Councillor Kiddle–Morris – No report.

10817 Report from District Councillor Atterwill – A report was read from the Enforcement Officer re the new access at Bittering Street confirming the new access as permitted development. Breckland will be writing to the objector to inform them of this. Hampshire Flag Company were recommended regarding the flagpole and advice was given to look at a fold down pole where the rope is within the column.

10818 Report from District Councillor Duffield – Breckland Council have been shortlisted for an innovation award for their work with the homeless in Thetford.

Reports from councillors –

10819 Councillors agreed for the clerk to send Councillor Kiddle-Morris best wishes.

Correspondence

10820 An email was read from a resident regarding the posters which had been put up along Bittering Street. In brief, the email stated the posters are just one persons view and that the posters are damaging the community spirit. All councillors agreed with the content of this email.

In the absence of any further business, the meeting closed at 8:05pm. The next meeting of the parish council will be held on Tuesday 5th September @ 7:00pm.

Signed: Councillor Beazley

Date: 5th September 2023