

**MINUTES OF THE GRESSENHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY
6TH FEBRUARY 2024 AT 7:00PM IN THE READING ROOM**

10935 Present: Councillor Beazley Councillor Crisp
Councillor Reader Councillor Keidan
Councillor Day Councillor Melton
District Councillor Atterwill County Councillor Kiddle-Morris

5 members of the public

10936 To receive and accept apologies of absence: Councillor Radford, District Councillor Duffield.

10937 Declarations of interest – All councillors declared an interest in The Swan Public House (excluding Councillor Radford), Councillor Reader declared an interest in the play area.

10938 To approve and sign minutes of the meeting held 5th December – The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5th December 2023 were confirmed as a correct record. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

10939 Progress on items not on the agenda from previous meetings – A large willow tree has fallen near the stream by the allotments. A meeting will be arranged with Norfolk Woods and Hedges to assess the trees..

The meeting was opened to the public at 7:03pm.

10940 A resident reported that four trees had fallen in recent months at the playing field and asked if there was a protocol in place for tidying. Children had been seen playing on the fallen trees and they were also throwing logs into the stream. The Chairman replied that a meeting would take place and an action plan drawn up. Money had been set aside for this in next year's budget.

10941 A resident reported that some of the trees were what UKPN cut back from the lines.

That being all the meeting resumed at 7:09pm.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

10942 Reporting of any Highways Matters – The pot holes have been filled in Longham Lane. The pot hole reported along Dereham Road still has not been done. Clerk to forward reference number to Councillor Kiddle-Morris. The new gateway will be installed on 11th March. Highways replied that that there is a signpost in situ at the northern end of the PROW and a way marker at the southern end at the point where the RB starts so no action is required. The entrance to The Drift from Swan Drive is not part of the restricted byway so no sign is required.

10943 Update on Affordable Housing scheme – Nothing to report.

10944 Update on the Gressenhall Community Car Scheme and to confirm submission of car scheme funding application – A very busy month with 1625 miles covered. Due to the dedicated drivers, all journeys were covered. It is requested that as much notice of appointments as possible is given as the drivers are very busy and short notice journeys can be difficult to cover. The Chairman thanked Anne and her drivers. The application for next year's funding of £1,500 has been submitted.

10945 Update on the play field funding project – Another application has been made to Lottery All Awards Grant for £19,250. An application has also been made to Breckland for the new Rural England Grant for £20,000. A reminder that tokens are still being collected in Dereham Tesco.

10946 Update on the Elmham GP Surgery – Councillor Keidan attended a meeting with the practice manager on 17th January. The surgery will be refurbished starting 12th February and there will be disruption for around 6 weeks with some facilities being used at Swanton Morley. Interviews are underway for a new GP. A new telephone system is being installed in April. The email service has not advanced yet but is still in future plans. Articles will still be issued to village magazines. The surgery would like to politely remind patients to show courtesy and respect to surgery staff. The next Patient Participation Group will take place on 14th February.

- 10947 To provide update relating to power outages and consider next step for The Drift/Playing Field Working Group – Despite some bad weather, no power outages have been reported.
- 10948 To discuss quote for tree works adjacent play area hedge – Awaiting quote. Clerk to chase.
- 10949 To consider applying for D-Day anniversary funding – This funding does not apply to parish councils. Clerk to forward to fete committee.
- 10950 To discuss and consider response to Breckland’s Local Plan consultation – Five councillors met with Councillor Atterwill to discuss the consultation. A response was agreed at the meeting. Clerk to submit.
- 10951 To discuss and consider response to Breckland’s Design guide – Details emailed to councillors.
- 10952 To discuss and consider internal audit quote – A quote was received from Robin Goreham of £50. All councillors present agreed to proceed.

10953 To discuss planning matters:

New Applications

- **FUL/2022/0021- Land south of Rawhall Lane, Beetley, Dereham, Norfolk, NR20 4HJ** – Councillor Beazley attended the planning meeting at County Hall to object to this application. NCC approved the application.
- **FUL/2023/0031 - East Bilney Quarry, Rawhall Lane, East Bilney, Dereham, Norfolk, NR20 4HH - Extension to East Bilney Quarry with installation of ground conveyor with culvert to accommodate the conveyor (Application under s.73 to allow the continued operation of the conveyor without complying with Condition Nos. 1, 2, 3, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 23, 24 and 25 of Planning Permission Ref. C/3/2014/3018 for further 11 years, including the use of the conveyor culvert, use of the access from Field Lane, and restoration): Middleton Aggregates Ltd** - All councillors present had no objection to this application.
- **3BT/2024/0004/BT: - GRESSENHALL: Land at Gressenhall Sewage Treatment Works Litcham Road. Prior approval for Arqiva Smart Metering 1No. Omni at 13.83m mean mounted on proposed 12m street works pole. Proposed Arqiva Smart Metering 1No. GPS Antenna at 12.4m mean mounted on proposed streetworks pole. Proposed Arqiva Smart Metering 1No. 3G Omni Antenna at 3.8m mean mounted on proposed streetworks pole and proposed Arqiva Smart Metering Equipment enclosure to be installed on a root foundation (The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) - Schedule 2, Part 16, Class A)** – A lengthy email was received from a resident today. Councillors agreed to read the email and then collate a response by 19th February.

10954 Report from County Councillor – Councillor Kiddle-Morris will forward a detailed report when the final figures of NCC budget have been received..

10955 Report from District Councillors – Councillor Atterwill confirmed that UKPN would be attending the Overview and Scrutiny meeting at Breckland in March. He reminded the meeting that there is still a household support fund to help vulnerable residents with food, heating and cost of living. To apply contact Councillor Atterwill or Duffield.

10956 **Financial Matters**

- To confirm payments for January: To confirm payments for January: Clerk salary and expenses - £356.93, HMR&C - £81.80, Gressenhall Community Car scheme - £200.22, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme (Breckland) - £203.13, Reading Room - £12.00, Westcotec Limited - £162.00, Mrs L Jarrett (Hampshire Flag - £96.28.

The payments were agreed by all councillors.

10957 Reports from councillors (for information only) – None.

10958 Correspondence (for information only)

- An email was received from RNLI asking to raise a RNLI flag from 4th March for one week. All councillors agreed. Clerk to circulate a draft flag raising policy for consideration.
- A letter was received from the Reading Room relating to the bike stand recently installed. The chairman apologised for not consulting the Reading Room committee. A decision had to be made “on the spot”. It was agreed that some Councillors would arrange a meeting with the Reading Room Chairman to agree the best siting for the bike rack.

10959 To confirm the date of the next Meeting of the Parish – Tuesday 5th March 2024

In the absence of any further business, the meeting closed at 8:10pm. The next meeting of the parish council will be held on Tuesday 5th March 2024 @ 7:00pm.

Signed: Councillor Beazley

Date: 5th March 2024