

10960
MINUTES OF THE GRESSENHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY
5TH MARCH 2024 AT 7:05PM IN THE READING ROOM

10961 Present: Councillor Beazley Councillor Crisp
Councillor Keidan Councillor Radford (7:20pm)
District Councillor Atterwill

6 members of the public

10962 To receive and accept apologies of absence: Councillor Melton, Councillor Day, Councillor Reader, District Councillor Duffield, County Councillor Kiddle-Morris.

10963 Declarations of interest – All councillors declared an interest in The Swan Public House (excluding Councillor Radford).

10964 To approve and sign minutes of the meeting held 6th February 2024 – The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6th February 2024 were confirmed as a correct record. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

10965 Progress on items not on the agenda from previous meetings – County Councillor Kiddle-Morris reported that a missing finger post at the start of RB8 (leading to the Drift RB6) has been programmed for replacement. The Chairman met with the Reading Room Chairman to arrange the re-siting of the bike rack. It was proposed to move the cycle rack to The Green, behind the ‘No Parking’ sign near the shop with the Trustees consent. RB to speak with the Charity Trustees.

The meeting was opened to the public at 7:09pm.

10966 A resident commented on the disarray of some parish councils and thanked Gressenhall parish council for all their hard work.

10967 A resident informed the meeting that the Fete Committee would not be applying for the D-Day Anniversary funding. An event is being planned but no funding is required.

10968 A resident reported that verges had been cut along Dunfer Hill and enquired who would be responsible for cutting during the year. NCC will be carrying out one width cut per year.

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

Matters Arising from the Minutes

10969 Reporting of any Highways Matters – The water problem near Spindleberry has been rectified by neighbouring residents. The problem was a tree root. The clerk was asked to contact Highways to say the problem has been rectified.

10970 Update on Affordable Housing scheme – No further information.

10971 Update on the Gressenhall Community Car Scheme – It has been a quieter month with 990 miles covered. A small group of reliable drivers take on the journeys with no complaints. Thanks were given to them. It has been noticed that recently, there has been minimal delays with doctors and hospital appointments.

10972 Update on the play field funding project – No update.

10973 Update on the Elmham GP Surgery – Unfortunately, the surgery staff were unable to make the recent Patient Participation Group meeting. Swanton Morley are seeing a nurse-led clinic as there is no doctor available. The Group agreed to contact the Integrated Care Board to see what should be available. Councillor Keidan is meeting with the practice manager later this month.

10974 To provide update relating to power outages and consider next step for The Drift/Playing Field Working Group – The parish council will meet soon hopefully when it is drier underfoot and then the working group can be convened. Chairman to contact UKPN regarding the follow-up works to be completed.

- 10975 To discuss quote for tree works adjacent play area hedge – Councillors are meeting with Norfolk Woods and Hedges tomorrow to discuss the work required so a quote can be prepared.
- 10976 To discuss and consider Norfolk ALC 2024-25 Membership – All councillors present agreed to the continued subscription.
- 10977 To consider a response to Breckland’s consultation to adopt a Local Validation List – All councillors present agreed to respond that application location plans need to be more detailed.
- 10978 To discuss and consider the annual play area inspection report – It was agreed to move to the April agenda.
- 10979 To receive SAM2 speed data – Unfortunately the battery ran out after a week so limited data to discuss. The highest speed recorded was 70mph at 16:40 on 1st February. It was agreed to forward this detail to the police. It was also agreed to add details to the News and Views together with a request for driver courtesy to pedestrians when driving through the village.
- 10980 To discuss and consider adopting Flag Raising Policy and Financial risk Schedule – All councillors present agreed to adopt both policies.
- 10981 To discuss planning matters:
New Applications
- **3PL/2024/0133/HOU, Dale Farm Barn, Bushey Common – Conversion of existing roof space to additional residential accommodation, roof lights and feature opening to gable. Replacement of roof tiles** – All councillors present had no objection to this application.
- 10982 Report from County Councillor – Highlights from the report were read and the full report was forwarded to all councillors.
- 10983 Report from District Councillors – District Councillor Atterwill reported that Breckland’s budget had been agreed with an increase of £4.95 for band D. It was also reported that the ECO4/ECO Flexible Scheme had not been set up properly but is now up and running. Anyone can apply to have an assessment to see if they are eligible for funding towards energy efficient improvements. Clerk to add details of application to the News and Views.
- 10984 **Financial Matters**
- To confirm payments for February: To confirm payments for February: Clerk salary and expenses - £352.13, HMR&C - £81.80, Gressenhall Community Car scheme - £119.75, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme (Breckland) - £123.75, Norfolk Woods and Hedges Limited - £570.00, David Bracey Play Safety Inspections - £120.00.
- The payments were agreed by all councillors present.
- 10985 Reports from councillors (for information only) – Councillor Keidan reported a blockage at the Poor Lands stream to the Internal Drainage Board. They were very quick to respond that a tree was causing a blockage. This has been removed. There is also a large tree blocking the main river (what three words ///stowing.megawatt.shave) and it was agreed for the clerk to inform the Environment Agency that this needs attention if work not yet done
- 10986 Correspondence (for information only)
- A letter was received from George Freeman MP requesting support in tackling the crippling impact of disproportionately high energy costs on rural communities – All councillors present support the letter to the Chancellor.
- 10987aft To confirm the date of the next Meeting of the Parish – Tuesday 2nd April 2024

In the absence of any further business, the meeting closed at 7:50pm.

Signed: Councillor Beazley

Date: 5th March 2024