

MINUTES OF THE GRESSENHALL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 2ND MARCH 2020 AT 8:00PM AT THE READING ROOM, GRESSENHALL

9639 Present: Councillor Beazley Councillor Reader
Councillor Harris Councillor Crisp
Councillor Bunning District Councillor Duffield
District Councillor Atterwill

9 members of the public

9640 Accepted apologies for absence –. Councillor Melton and County Councillor Kiddle-Morris. No apologies received from Councillor Saunders.

9641 Declarations of interest – Councillor Bunning, The Smithy planning application.

9642 Minutes 3rd February 2020 - The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 3rd February 2020 were confirmed as a correct record. Councillor Reader proposed that the minutes be signed. This was seconded by Councillor Crisp and all councillors present agreed.

9643 Progress on items not on the agenda from previous meetings – The next litter pick will be held on the morning of 11th April 2020.

The meeting was opened to the public for their comments at 8:02pm.

9644 A resident informed the meeting that their fence had been taken down and a pipe, to drain surface water from a neighbouring property, put into their ditch at the side of their property. There was no consulting the resident by Abel Homes and the Managing Director was contacted. The chairman noted the resident's concerns and agreed to contact Breckland Planning, reminding them of the parish council's original objections to the application due to insufficient drainage. District Councillor advised that larger developers are able to self-assess and certify works. If calculations have not worked out, the contractor is responsible for putting it right. Abel should deal with the problems caused. Clerk to copy Rob Walker into correspondence.

9645 A resident raised concerns with speeding through the village as they drive slow farm machinery and has a few near accidents each year with speeding drivers. Concerns were raised if the new gateway is installed as to whether this would make the situation worse by obscuring the road view. Also, if the pub were to reopen there will be more pedestrians in the area. The resident asked if it would be possible to reduce the limit to 20mph. The Chairman advised that the parish council had tried on numerous occasions to reduce the speed limit but to no avail. Ideas were discussed including a fluorescent coat in a garden along Litcham Road, Speedwatch and additional signage. It was also discussed whether the 30mph sign could be moved back allowing the SAM2 sign to be sited at the bottom of the hill. Data can then be shared with the police.

That being all the parish council meeting resumed at 8:20pm.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

9646 Reporting of Highway Matters – The give way sign has been reinstated at Longham Lane and the flooding opposite Manor Farm has been programmed for repair. Pot holes still to be filled along Longham Lane and the pot hole along Bilney Road has reappeared. Clerk to report. Concerns were also raised regarding mud on Litcham Road near the first turning to Longham caused by the pig farming. Longham Parish Council have also raised concerns. It was agreed for the Clerk to report concerns to Highways.

9647 Update on Affordable Housing Scheme – No update due to a hold up with technical issues with Highways.

9648 Community Car Scheme Update – It has been a reasonable month. The chairman thanked Ann and her drivers.

9649 Update on The Swan Community Group – The Enforcement Team are looking into whether the whole building is classed as the business. Another planning application is due. The next social will take place on 16th May.

9650 Update on Registry of parish land – An invoice on account has been received from Inspire Solicitors. Councillors will need to attend Spire in Dereham with proof of identification and address.

- 9651 To confirm the date of the Annual Parish Meeting – It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 4th May 2020 commencing at 7:30pm (this is no longer a bank holiday as it has moved to Friday 8th). Clerk to check Reading Room is available and write to local groups to obtain an annual report of business.
- 9652 Update on the abandoned vehicles at Old Brigg – Two councillors met owner and discussed the vehicles. The resident took onboard comments but is struggling with space. This will be monitored.
- 9653 To discuss email re Tree Doubling – A discussion took place on where trees could be planted. Clerk has obtained funding opportunities for community groups or land owners. If anyone would like details please contact the clerk.
- 9654 To review Play Equipment Inspection Report – The report was discussed. There were no particular issues but the following required attention:
- The contact email is incorrect. This will cost £65 to update and could include clerk's telephone number.
 - Rubber buffer on the gate – PC are aware of this.
 - Mature trees overhanging – add to agenda for next meeting
 - Caps missing and matting require attention – Councillor Reader is able to deal with these.
 - Although the slide is non-compliant, this is due to being installed before the standards came into force. The risk is low-medium due to the height of the slide and no safety matting installed. Councillors considered the details and confirmed the risk is not significant.
- 9655 To confirm Vattenfall Representative's attendance at April's meeting – Clerk to contact representative and inform of the change of date.
- 9656 Report from District Councillor Atterwill – The budget has been set with an increase of £4.95 in Band D Council Tax. This is funding the Silver Social, Auto Number Plate Recognition and Homeless initiatives. Councillor Atterwill has researched Doctors surgeries and funding. Swanton Morley surgery is now closing two afternoons. He met with the practice manager to discuss funding. Each patient attracts £89 per patient, per year. Swanton Morley did receive funding two years ago which gave £200 per patient, per year. Any visit to A&E costs £75 per patient, per visit.
- 9657 Report from District Councillor Duffield – There are 21 homeless units being built under Breckland's control.
- 9658 Report from County Councillor – The Council's budget was set on 17th February. Highways England is starting consultation (26th February – 8th April) on the proposed route of dualling of the A47 between Tuddenham and Easton. Proposed route plans are available at Dereham Library. The next stage of the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan will be a consultation of the final draft plan. This will take place in May/June this year.
- 9657 To discuss planning matters –
- Sunninghill, Common Drift – no objections
 - The Smithy, The Green – no objections
 - 9 Chequers Lane – Councillors felt that it was difficult to see what, if anything, has changed since the last application. There was no issue with the added driveway, subject to highways approval, as the residents need to have access to the paddock at the rear of the property. The points raised at the last application regarding the siting of the new garage block and the second-floor windows overlooking the neighbours do not seem to have been addressed. There seems some doubt as to whether they have the site lines without encroaching on the neighbour's land.
- 9658 Approve February's payments - Clerk salary and expenses - £249.00, HMR&C - £56.00, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme – £92.86, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme (Breckland) - £105.91, Spire Solicitors - £360.00, Heartbeat Community Trust - £104.40, David Bracey Play Safety Inspections - £96.00.
- 9659 Councillor Bunning proposed payment of the above. This was seconded by Councillor Reader and all councillors present agreed.
- 9660 Reports from councillors – None

9661 Correspondence to be circulated to councillors (for information only):

- SAM2 data
- Bank statement
- Information from Town and Parish Forum
- Letter re fundraising Priscilla Bacon Hospice

In the absence of any further business, the meeting closed at 9:00pm. The next meeting of Gressenhall Parish Council will be held on Monday 6th April 2020 at 8:00pm.

Signed:

Date:.....

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