

MINUTES OF THE GRESSENHALL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6TH JULY AT 8:00PM
HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM

9718 Present: Councillor Beazley (v) Councillor Reader (v)
 Councillor Crisp (v) Councillor Bunning (v)
 Councillor Saunders (v) Councillor Melton (v)
 District Councillor Duffield (a)

2 members of the public (v)

(v) = video attendance

(a) = audio attendance

- 9719 Accepted apologies for absence – Councillor Harris, District Councillor Atterwill, County Councillor Kiddle-Morris
- 9720 Declarations of interest – None.
- 9721 Minutes 1st June 2020 - The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 1st June 2020 were confirmed as a correct record with the amendment of minute 9698 to state the pot hole has been repaired on Bilney Road. Councillor Reader proposed that the minutes be signed. This was seconded by Councillor Crisp and all councillors present agreed.
- 9722 Progress on items not on the agenda from previous meetings – It was agreed for Councillor Reader to arrange a meeting with the pig farmer in late July and report back in the August meeting.

The meeting was opened to the public for their comments at 8:10pm.

- 9723 Mr and Mrs Begg shared the exciting news that there is now a willing seller of The Swan. Crowdfunding will be launched mid-August for a four-week period to raise the funds to purchase and renovate. It is hoped to conclude at the end of the year. A meeting has been arranged tomorrow to create a fundraising team to brainstorm the next steps. Councillor Beazley offer congratulations for the good news and asked at what timescale is there for raising the money. It is hoped the money will be raised within 4 weeks, give or take a couple of weeks. The preferred option is to raise all the money to purchase and refurbish within the 4-week periods, having money in the bank rather than pledges. Councillor Beazley asked if there was anything the parish council could do to help? To act as ambassadors passing on concerns from residents and socialising the plan. Council Reader asked how the village is going to be informed about the progress? A gathering on The Green will be arranged later in the summer. Marketing and communication will be discussed and the best order planned and publicised. Marketing will include email, Facebook, News & Views, local press and TV.

That being all the parish council meeting resumed at 8:30pm.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

- 9724 Update on COVID-19 – Nothing to report this month.
- 9725 Reporting of Highway Matters – There had been an error between NCC and the new Highways contractor in that the pot holes and resurfacing works were not coordinated. It was reported that the layby opposite Bunnings has not been resurfaced. Clerk to report. It was also reported that hedges at Evergreen Farm, Norfolk Herbs and Mulberry Cottage were encroaching the highway. Clerk to contact Highways to write to the owners.
- 9726 Update on Affordable Housing Scheme – Nothing to report this month.
- 9727 Community Car Scheme Update – There were 4 hospital visits and 2 doctors visits this month. There are already 12 visits for July booked.
- 9728 Update on The Swan Community Group – As reported in the public participation section.
- 9729 Update on Registry of parish land – Nothing to report.
- 9730 Update of the Parish Partnership Funding – The work on The Green is now complete and looks very good. Clerk to write to J S Asphalt and thank them. Thanks were also given to the Clerk and Councillor Crisp for arranging the work and obtaining funding. A meeting will be arranged to finalise the gateway.

- 9731 To discuss any Parish Partnership Funding requirements for 2021/22 – A letter has been received inviting bids for the next Parish Partnership funding for 2021/22. Bids need to be received by 4th December 2020. It was agreed to see the gateway installed to decide whether to purchase another at the other end of Litcham Road.
- 9732 Update on request for a memorial bench in the playing field – A recycled plastic bench has been purchased. Councillor Saunders will help to install.
- 9733 To provide an update on Internet banking – Nothing to report.
- 9734 Update on the SAM2 sign – The SAM data was circulated to all councillors. Due to the lockdown, figures are lower than usual. Clerk to analyse results.
- 9735 Clerk's salary review – The clerk's salary was reviewed. The salary review will take place in April each year.
- 9736 To discuss two neglected allotments – Councillors visited the allotments. It was agreed to write to the two allotment holders and see if they are still wanted. Holders will be invited to tidy the allotments before passing on if they are no longer required. Councillor Saunders visited the allotments again and added fencing as deer are thought to be entering again. Councillor Sanders was asked to trim the hedges near Soken Drive and two sides of the allotments.
- 9737 To discuss Himalayan Balsam weed in the playing field – The balsam was strimmed last year and is not too bad this year. The playing field side is the worst. Councillor Saunders will strim the area.
- 9738 Report from District Councillor Duffield - There have not been many meetings during lockdown. Met with Mr Begg and discussed the scheme which planning deem favourable. Businesses in the village who applied for funding from Breckland have received the money. The Shop Happy app is to encourage residents to shop local.
- 9739 Approve June's payments - Clerk salary and expenses - £359.09, HMR&C - £84.00, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme PC - £32.30, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme BC - £33.50, J S Asphalt - £11,700.00, Savills (UK) Limited – £201.53.
- 9740 Councillor Melton proposed payment of the above. This was seconded by Councillor Crisp and all councillors present agreed.
- 9741 Reports from councillors - It was reported that rubbish is being burned in the social club back car park. Clerk to write to Mr Gray.

The remedial works in the annual play inspection has now been completed. This included a new sign with the correct email address for the clerk.

One of the no parking signs on The Green near Horseshoes has been damaged. Councillor Reader to look at.

- 9742 Correspondence to be circulated to councillors (for information only)

- An email was received from a resident whose car window was smashed whilst The Green grass was being cut. Clerk forwarded TTSR Limited contact details to resident.
- An email was sent to the parish council with photos of a vandalised bench on the playing field. Councillor Saunders has repaired to a safe condition with one more repair to do.

In the absence of any further business, the meeting closed at 9:02pm. The next meeting of Gressenhall Parish Council will be held on Monday 3rd August 2020 at 8:00pm ~ venue to be confirmed.

Signed: Councillor Beazley

Date: 3rd August 2020