

WIMBOTSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14th March 2023 at 7.00pm, to be held at Wimbotsham Methodist Church, but reconvened to the Recreation Ground.

In Attendance: Councillors: Ian Cable (Chair) Dean Chilvers, Steve Mingay, D Fendley, C Hitchens, A Smith Borough Councillor Colin Rose and 1 member of the public.

Clerk: P Winson

155/22 To consider apologies for absence.

Apologies from J Squires and Borough Cllr Vivienne Spikings.

156/22 To Consider Requests for Dispensations from the restriction on participating in the discussion or voting on a matter in which a member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest.

No dispensation requests.

157/22 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 24th January 2023.

Having been circulated prior to the meeting, subject to amendments the minutes were agreed, and signed, as a true and accurate record by all present at the meeting.

158/22 To record Councillors' declarations of interest on Agenda Items.

None.

159/22 Councillor Vacancies

No applications to consider.

160/22 Elections on 5th May 2023.

Clerk attended the Borough Council briefing. The nomination forms are available to download from the Borough Council website and the forms can be submitted between the 21st March and 4pm on 4th April. The forms need to be taken and delivered by hand to the Borough Council offices in Chapel Street, King's Lynn. They suggest that you contact them to arrange an appointment beforehand as they may be busy.

161/22 Public Speaking.

- (a) Borough/County Councillor report. Cllr Spikings had emailed her report: 'It was agreed that the Boroughs element of the Council tax bill would reluctantly have to be increased, due to significant pressures, by £4.50 (£5.00) with special expenses for the entire year on an average Band D property. This equates to a rise of just under 9p per week. Of this £143.87, a levy of £61.28 is paid to the Internal Drainage Board for the work they do. The work they do to reduce flood risk to people, property, infrastructure and to manage water levels for agriculture and the environment is much appreciated, as well as the public who serve on the Boards and give up their time. The Council is ranked 179 out of 181 for having the lowest charging once the IDB levies are taken out. The Borough delivers services for over 500 sq miles. Upwell and Delph Ward have 5025 electorate. I have fully supported all Community Infrastructure requests and informed when the next rounds re bidding for funding are to be.

With my Councillor Community funding I have allocated funding for trees for Welney Rug, bench for Nordelph river bank in conjunction with the Welle Creek Trust, monies towards a defibrillator at Lakes End village hall, monies towards Insurance at Three Holes village hall, helped towards refurbishing the old village gates at Barroway Drove (unveiling at Kings Coronation weekend) and finally a massive Christmas tree for Wimbotsham where a Carol service was held beside.

As Chair of Planning, I receive lots of requests for help and advice and all meetings can be watched via Zoom.

Enforcement is a very busy department with 593 cases opened and 576 cases closed in one year. The Borough is one of the most proactive in tackling the issues that arise.

From Monday 27th February residents will receive a hanger on their waste bins, before collection so that recycling small electrical items I.e. iron, kettle, batteries, games console, phones, toaster, hairdryers, electric toothbrushes can all be recycled.

The Government's has offered a new Devolution Deal with an Elected Mayor for Norfolk, with £600 million funding offered over 30 years for infrastructure. There are ongoing discussions and I watch this space with interest.

I was so pleased to see how all villages held events for the late Queen's Jubilee and all the volunteers who helped make it such a success. Such a variety and a big thank you to all for their hard work, many events which I attended.

Now there is to be a Coronation in May with grants of £200 to be allocated upon request.

Finally voters will need photo ID to vote in the May elections if voting in person. Acceptable forms of ID are:- UK driving License or passport, Bus pass, Blue badge, Pass proof of age card. The easiest way is to apply online but if you do not have the internet drop-in sessions are available. Call 01553 616200 where you can apply for a paper form or a postal vote. I would also like to thank the Clerk and Parish Councillors for giving their time and dedication in support of their villages.'

Cllr Rose had emailed his report: 'The Borough Council has done a great job on the future budgets which has enabled us to keep rates as low as possible without having to cut services, this was voted in at the BCKLWN full council on Thursday 24th February. It is not just an election ploy. There is a Prosperity fund of £3 million for investment in community projects and businesses planned by the Borough Council, applications open soon. You will find that this will take the form of two opportunities: one The UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the other the Rural England Prosperity fund. These will be targeted at both Capital and revenue funding of from £500-£10,000 in three main areas which include: innovation in the arts, cultural, heritage and creative sectors, enhancements to Character and vibrancy of Town centres and sustainable development of the Borough's year-round visitor offer. Applications will be accepted from the public and private sectors along with businesses and organisations of any size. The Council Leader, Stuart Dark MBE has met with the Secretary of state to press for a decision on QEH. I had the pleasure of joining him on the 25th at Hunstanton Sailing Club with Officers of the Borough to see what can be done to enable access to the beach, and to deal with Cliff problems, which will prove beneficial to the whole community and tourists. Also, at Hunstanton the Soap Box Derby returns on 2nd of April. Teams can enter from 09.00 on 17th February, places are limited so get in quick.

The phased introduction of collections of small electrical items over four months will start together with two other Norfolk Councils from Monday 27th of March. To facilitate this, residents will be supplied with a hanger on their bin. The rateable value of all business and other non-domestic properties has been revalued. Please do not forget that voter photo identities will be in use this year, contact the Borough or your Councillors if you need any help. The next Local Police SNAP meeting will be held at the Methodist Church, Ely Row, Terrington St, John at 19.00 on the 18th April. Current priority is ASB in Downham Market. Enjoy the year ahead as best you can and let us hope the War in Ukraine ends soon. You will be aware that the BC has been supporting refugees from the conflict.'

(b) Members of the public. Nothing to report.

162/22 Matters arising for items not covered elsewhere on the agenda – info only.

None.

163/22 PC Administration

New PC and file storage will be taken forward when new clerk in place.

164/22 New Village Hall Working Group

(a) At the last meeting the group discussed putting together a pack for the design statement.

(b) Payment of £216.00 has previously been agreed to pay for the process of CAN setting up the NVHWG as a CIO. A Smith has contacted CAN to ask whether this fee is the same or whether it has increased.

165/22 Village Hall Fencing

The new fencing is now in place and all agreed not to paint it and leave it as it is to reduce future maintenance costs.

166/22 Jubilee Tree on the Village Green

Clerk has costs for two tree guards but Norfolk Estate fencing haven't provided a quote yet. Dean will contact them and investigate other quotes. **Clerk/D Chilvers**

167/22 Correspondence

Norfolk County Council have sent an email regarding the Bridle Lane development.

Norfolk County Council have been approached to define the street lighting requirements for the development in Wimbotsham and following a review of the highway safety requirements on this site, Norfolk County Council does not require any street lighting on the estate. They have written to ask whether street lighting will be required by Wimbotsham Parish Council. On proposal from S Mingay and seconded by A Smith, all agreed that the Parish Council do not require any street lighting. **Clerk**
Various via email

168/22 Highways

(a) Updates/issues: Pavement outside 33-37 Church Road needs some attention and was previously reported, clerk will chase. D Chilvers asked when the Trod works will be done, clerk will contact LHO Andy Wallace. **Clerk**

- (b) Parish Partnership Scheme. The Parish Council were successful'. with their funding application for 'Low Rd/Lynn Road Junction works – continuation of footpath to improve highway safety for pedestrians'. The total cost of the project is £11000, so the Parish Council would need to pay £5500 for this. As this area is outside of the parish, I Cable will draft a letter to be sent to Downham Market Town Council to ask if they will contribute towards this. **I Cable**

169/22 Chapel Lane

- (a) Request for width/weight restriction on the road. Clerk to contact NCC to ask whether this meets the criteria for a width/height restriction. **Clerk**
- (b) Request for streetlamp on the post opposite the Chapel. There is a lamp which comes on outside the chapel which comes on when you access the hall but this is only on when the light is turned on from inside the hall. Clerk will contact K&M for a quote and this will be discussed further at the next meeting. **Clerk**
- (c) The tarmac from the Chapel to Church Road is now broken up. Clerk to contact NCC to enquire about repair. **Clerk**

170/22 SAM2

Still with Runcton Holme, D Chilvers needs to get it back.

171/22 Small Village Green

As previously advised it is being checked whether there any utilities on there which need to be avoided. Clerk to provide quotes for the posts installation. **Clerk**

172/22 St Marys Church

All agreed to the request to hold the Church Summer fete on Saturday 15th July on the Village Green. Will check that they have public liability insurance. **Clerk**

173/22 Wimbotsham History Group

- (a) To discuss and agree request to hold the memorial event on 30th September on the village green. All agreed to the request. If the event is organised on behalf of the Parish Council, then it will should be covered by the insurance.
- (b) Request for the PC to cover the cost of the Village Hall booking for the day. Cost to be confirmed and grant/donation form to be completed. **Clerk**

174/22 Coronation on 6th May 2023. There are limited resources as a lot of people are away. Volunteer day it was suggested that the Village Hall could be painted. Suggested that something could be done later in the year. **Councillors**

175/22 Representatives, to receive any updates.

- (a) **Recreation Ground** – The CIL funding application for the refurbishment of the pavilion was successful for £20,000. They will speak to the school and they may be able to offer them the building as overspill accommodation. They are looking to replace the Christmas tree lights and I Cable has secured funding from UPP for these. When the weather improves they will organise some working parties. S Mingay to obtain price for the tree lights. **S Mingay**
- (b) **Village Hall** – The village hall heaters have been replaced.
- (c) **Village Green** – The damage to the green has been repaired.
- (d) **Footpaths** –_Tree down in the field at the top of Millers Lane. To check when Holly Landscapes are doing the Trod at the end of West Way. **Clerk**
- (e) **100- Acre Trust** - Nothing to report.
- (f) **Allotments** – All look ok.

176/22 Wildflower Planting

Chris Durham has confirmed that he is happy for the wildflower area to be extended. Holly Landscapes has confirmed that 1kg of seed is required. Rigby Taylor Rainbow Annuals are £254.80 plus VAT. All agreed to the purchase of the wildflower seeds. To ask Nick to confirm cost of ground preparation and seeding. **Clerk**

177/22 Village Litter Pick on 25th March at 10.30am

Clerk has booked two kits and D Chilvers will collect them. I Cable will provide certificates. **D Chilvers/I Cable**

178/22 Maintenance

The dog bins at the top and bottom of Millers Lane have missed cleaning/sticker removal. **Clerk**

179/22 Newsletter Children have been knocking on doors and then running away and taking photos when the door is opened. Info could be out into the newsletter and the complainant will be advised to

contact the police. 18/4/23 is the date of the next SNAP meeting, Cllr Rose also suggested the Borough Council CSNN Team could be contacted by the complainant.

180/22 Planning

Planning Application Consultation 23/00214/F, the Parish Council's response has been submitted that there was no objection to this proposal but there were some concerns expressed regarding the choice of materials.

181/22 Finance

(a) Payments agreed: BCKLWN (Dog Bin emptying) - £624.00, Norfolk Estate Fencing (Village Hall fencing) - £5280.00, Clerks expenses 2022/23 - £475.06 **Clerk**

(a) All agreed to the appointment of J Raby as Internal Auditor.

182/22 Councillors concerns and items for next meeting agenda.

Light outside S Mingay's house (outside 35 Church Road). Defibrillator signage. Floodlights on the village green – do they need to be on all night.

183/22 To confirm the date and time of the next meeting – Tuesday 18th April 2023 starting at 7pm at the Methodist Church.

Members of the press and public were excluded from the next part of the meeting

184/22 Clerk Recruitment/Handover

Selection and Interview panel agreed as I Cable, A Smith & D Chilvers. NALC can provide a locum if required. Business continuity going forward. Clerk advert deadline is Friday 17th March. Job Description needs to be reviewed and updated. Prior to interview the following are required: Job Evaluation Sheet, Interview Questions and to agree a person specification. I Cable has an action plan from NALC which will be circulated to the other councillors. All applications to be sent to A Smith, D Chilvers and I Cable.

Meeting closed at 9.29pm

Chairman:

Date