

WHISSONSETT PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 6TH SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 7.30 P.M. IN
WHISSONSETT VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr B Andrews, Cllr G Buckley, Cllr S Dye, Cllr J Newton and Cllr J Daniels
Others Present: 1 electors and County Cllr M Kiddle-Morris

1. Welcome and to accept apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting. There were no apologies for absence received.

2. To receive any Declarations of Interest

Cllr Daniels declared a Personal Interest in item no. 9, Planning.

3. To confirm and accept Minutes of 13th July meeting

Cllr Daniels proposed the minutes, which had been circulated, be accepted as a true and accurate record, Cllr Newton seconded the proposal, carried by the Council.

4. To report on any matters arising from the minutes of July (not on agenda)

There were no matters arising.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for the Public Participation period

There is a public footpath at Horse Close Lane that cannot be used. The grass is about 2' high. It used to be cut by Highways up until about 2 years ago. Cllr Daniels offered to do work on it. There is a huge pot hole down Raynham Road. It has been reported but it is very deep and needs dealing with. Cllr Kiddle-Morris will deal with this. Cllr Dye has found some dog signs and she is going to purchase them shortly.

Mr Merton from 3 High Street has promised to get the laurel hedge cut on the Campingland. This will be monitored and he will be contacted again if it is not done. Cllr Dye will contact the Reading Room residents and ask that they deal with the cutting they need to do. Cllr Dye has contacted a tree surgeon as there are about 6 trees that need attention. The quote was for £225 + VAT. They will check whether the trees are safe. Cllr Newton proposed that Cllr Dye gets a tree surgeon to come and do the work, seconded by Cllr Daniels and carried. Cllr Dye has had more complaints about the overgrown hedge in North Lane. It was cut in March, scheduled for 2 cuts so it needs to be done again.

Celebrations next year for World War 1 were discussed and the Parish Council will donate £100.00 towards the cost of a village celebration. This was proposed by Cllr Newton, seconded by Cllr Andrews and carried.

Cllr Kiddle-Morris stated that the Highways Engineer Paul Sellick is now working in another department and the person to contact is now Ben Rayner. NCC are now looking at a new Minerals & Waste Plan to go to 2036 so there will be some sites put in the plan. The 2018/19 budget is now being looked at. £100m needs to be saved and everything is on track budget-wise. Adult social care and children in care takes a great deal of money. There are 1100 children being looked after in Norfolk. Council tax will probably go up the same amount as this year.

There was nothing further to discuss, so the Chairman adjourned the Public Participation period and resumed the Parish Council meeting.

5. To discuss Correspondence:- email from Mrs English regarding a seat

Mrs English had sent the Clerk an email regarding some Highways issues and it had been forwarded to the Highways Department.

A letter from Mr Ford of Hill Farm House, London Street, regarding a tree growing at the property of Mr & Mrs Soar, at Hill House. The Parish Council did not feel this was a problem they could get involved with nor was it a problem for the Tree Warden. A letter will be sent to Mr Ford to this effect.

A letter was received from Bunting & Son regarding the hedge on New Road, a letter from Mr & Mrs Burton regarding the hedge on Church Lanes and another letter from them regarding Fly Tipping. There are some pieces of fence on the playing field that have gone missing, so they will need replacing and it may be necessary to replace the whole fence. Cllr Dye will contact P R Burton and see if the company can deal with the fence on the playing field.

A copy of Clerks & Councils Direct magazine

An email from Justin Bamforth requesting an increase in the payment he receives for website work. He now requires £250.00.

6. To discuss the bird problem on the play equipment

The Clerk had spoken to the Clerk of Swanton Morley Parish Council and had the information regarding the spikes they had bought. The product will be looked at by one of the Councillors and the Clerk will check with Playsafety whether they have any objections to those ones being used on the play equipment.

7. To discuss the outcome of the meeting regarding the play equipment and discuss maintenance

The play equipment company will not be available to carry out any work on the play equipment until the New Year and had sent an email to the Clerk suggesting the work be carried out by the Parish Council as what is needed is just some D.I.Y. The Parish Councillors will organize between themselves some maintenance work.

8. To discuss any Planning issues

Breckland Local Plan - pre-submission publication. This will be circulated.

3PL/2017/0433/O Mr John Newton, Telephone Exchange, Mill Lane, erection of 1 self build dwelling, planning permission received.

3PL/2017/0937/O Mr Ivan Smith, The Old Pitt, High Street, a pair of semi detached properties with garage and parking. Outline application with all matters reserved. The Parish Council would welcome development of this site but the Councillors have serious concerns regarding the potential impact of major groundworks on neighbouring properties, particularly older properties opposite. A pair of houses would be over development of this shallow site, one property is favourable and preferably a single storey, as the site is significantly higher than those to the west and north. This proposal includes 2 new vehicular accesses off the relatively narrow village street with no footpath. This proposal would lead to some parking on the road, leading to inconvenience and danger to existing residents and road users. The Parish Council would support one vehicular access and more onsite parking.

3PL/2017/1041/F Mr Bruce Duffy, Lower Farm, New Road, erection of 1 replacement building. The Parish Council supports this application.

3PL/2017/1108/O Mr J Daniels, land adjacent to Meadow House, Mill Lane, 1 self build retirement dwelling. The Parish Council supports this application.

9. To discuss the new Car Parking Contract

The Chairman had a copy of the new contract and she is going to sign it and send it back.

10. To discuss any Highways issues

Highways issues were discussed under Public Participation.

11. To authorize financial transactions -

The Parish Council authorized the following necessary financial transactions:-

HMRC Tax August & Sept. £49.80 Clerk's net salary £199.20

Fakenham Auto Electrical (battery for SAM2 sign) £167.14

11. To receive an update on the allotment situation

Mr Green has given up a piece of his rented land, a 9 yard allotment size, and Mr Triston Ireson is now renting the allotment. He wishes to put a larger shed on it, a greenhouse and a water butt. He has paid £10.00 which the Clerk will bank. The Parish Council will approve this on agreement of a £100.00 deposit refundable on surrender of a cleared allotment. The Clerk will create an agreement for him and send it to him.

13. To discuss any progress filling the Parish Councillor vacancy

As yet no one has shown any interest in joining the Parish Council, so the current Parish Councillors will continue to try to recruit as best they can.

14. To receive items for the next Agenda

To set the Precept

To discuss the bird problem on the play equipment

To receive an update on the seat at Hurn Lane

World War 1 celebration and donation

15. To set date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday October 26th at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting finished at 9.35 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date