

WINTHORPE WITH LANGFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 21st December 2023 at the Village Hall commencing at 7.30PM

Present: Mr P Smith (Chair), Mr A Leary, Mr M Kneen, Mr B Allen, Mr C Bentley, Mr B McClymont, Mr B Wright

Apologies: Mrs L Cutts, Mrs L Dales (District Councillor), Mr P Farmer (District Councillor), Mrs D Darby (County Councillor)

Clerk: Ms M Horley

121. No declarations of interest

122. To receive and accept minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th November 2023

- a. Mr Allen said that 114a should refer to the Internal Drainage Board (IDB) not the Environment Agency (EA) and that grids are cleared during heavy rain not after.
- b. Minutes proposed by Mr Allen and seconded by Mr Kneen.

123. Matters arising from the minutes

- a. Cricket Club - Mr Smith said that an incident where dogs had eaten poison should not be associated with the Cricket Club as there is no evidence. The owners of the dog that died believe that it was picked up near the Community Centre and was rat poison. An article has gone in Focal Point warning dog owners to be careful.

Action: Mr Leary to raise with Cricket Club

- b. Jubilee Meadow - A meeting was held on 22nd November 2023. The trees have been ordered. The PC garage behind the community centre is being cleared out so materials can be stored there.

Action: Ms Horley to account for Jubilee Meadow funding

- c. Defibrillator - The installation date is to be 27th December and there has been a successful application to NSDC to claim back £500 of the invoice.

Action: Ms Horley to pay VIA EM and claim from NSDC

- d. Neighbourhood Watch - Mr Kneen has written and distributed the newsletter, and reported that communications are working as he has had

a call regarding people hanging about in Hargon Lane hanging, they were advised to call PC Nicholls.

- e. Dog Bins - Miss George's report has been circulated

Action: Ms Horley to put on the agenda for January's meeting

- f. Parish maintenance - A new grit bin has been delivered after a request from Mr Kneen. Several potholes have been filled after a request by Mrs Darby. Clarification was requested by Mr McClymont regarding how they decide which potholes to repair, as some are done and some left. The process for reporting was outlined. Grit has been distributed, and there are 10 bags in the PC garage.

- g. Policies

Action: Ms Horley to put on the agenda for January's meeting

- h. School parking - The school visit seemed to go well according to Mrs Darby's report. Mr Smith thought it was possibly calmer but Mr Leary noticed no difference. Mr McClymont suggested that retired people avoid school run time and Mr Leary said that people shouldn't have to. Mr Smith pointed out that it's a danger to the children. It was agreed that there is further work to do.

- i. Insurance - Zurich have been contacted to see if they can provide a cheaper quote than Clear Councils (formerly BHIB) but could not quote until 90 days before renewal.

Action: Ms Horley to obtain several insurance quotes in June 2024

- j. Flooding - The Fleet is now flowing freely.

- k. Neighbourhood Plan - OpenPlan have been asked if it can be released early in the new year and are working on it.

- l. Precept

Action: Mr Leary to remind Mrs Dales about organising information session

- m. Benches - Mr Bentley has circulated a list. Only the tennis court bench is not accessible. One bench plaque is from 1984 and it was considered whether to have a date cut-off for memorial benches.

- n. Community centre lighting - Mr Bentley reported that there has been no change from last time, despite Mrs Cutts and Mr Smith raising it, and it is dangerous.

Action: Mr Smith to contact the community centre management committee

- o. Street lighting - Mr Smith has had reports of inadequate lighting on The Spinney and Gainsborough Road

Action: Mr Smith to raise with Mrs Darby

124. District/County Councillor updates

- a. A meeting is planned with Mrs Darby in early or mid January.

125. Invoices for approval and any other financial matters

- a. Updates
 - i. The HSBC account can now be closed. Mrs Sillery reports that the £1000/day transfer limit applies to all transfers, she has transferred £1000 but thinks it would be best to do it by cheque. It was agreed that a cheque would be written for an amount to the nearest £1000 and the rest transferred by BACS.
 - ii. HMRC Basic Payroll Tools is now set up and the clerk's salary and PAYE are up to date.
- b. Report circulated containing bank balances, receipts and payments

126. Parish Councillor activities since the last meeting

- a. Mr Wright drew the council's attention to a serious road accident in Langford at which the air ambulance attended.

127. Correspondence

- a. Mr Smith heard from a resident about road markers into the village, there were five but now only one left, Mr Kneen has reported.
- b. Mr Harriman from the Allotment Society has requested that the Parish Council purchase a pump for use when the allotments flood. After discussion as to whether drainage would be more effective it was resolved that the pump be purchased.

Action: Clerk to reimburse Mr Harriman for the pump and Mr Allen to discuss drainage

- c. Invitation received from Newark Town Council to discuss additional burial space in the surrounding area

Action: Mr Leary to attend if possible

128. Any other business

- a. New councillor election or co-option

Action: Mr Smith to put it in Focal Point after Christmas

- b. Half-yearly accounts review

Action: Mr Leary to check if Mr Kena, the internal auditor, has done a half-yearly review of the accounts.

Meeting closed at 20:23