

Minutes of Hardingham Parish Council meeting held on 14th March 2022 at 7pm in Hardingham Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Dudley George (DG) Chair, Tim Barrett (TB), Richard Burke (RB), Henry Edwards (HE) Glen Gower (GG), Paul Hawkshaw (PH) and Jane Strudwick (JS),

In attendance: H Fray (Clerk) and two members of the public.

OPEN FORUM

None

1) **Apologies for absence.** None

2) **Declarations of Interest.** None

3) **Minutes** of the Parish Council meeting held in January 2022 were circulated prior to the meeting. They were initialled and signed by the Chairman. Proposed: HE, seconded: TB

4) **Matters Arising from the minutes of the last meeting (not already on the agenda):-**

- The Clerk to approach Highways to ask about longer term solutions for road repairs rather than just pothole filling. **Clerk to action**
- DG has ongoing contact with the Footpath Officer regarding footpaths in the parish.

5) **Financial Matters**

- Consideration of membership of Norfolk Association of Local Councils. There was discussion and it was agreed that the Council should join for a trial year at the cost of £95.20 and review the value next March when the subscription is due for renewal
- Explanation of the financial situation regarding the village noticeboard purchases. It was agreed that the Village Hall should be thanked for the paying the delivery costs and their flexibility in the scheduling the payment to the noticeboard provider. The net cost to the Parish Council remains zero as approved by the Council as the funds were received from CC Connolly as part of his members budget for the current financial year.
- It was agreed the Dudley should be added as signatory for the Parish Council account. Proposed: TB, seconded: GG **Clerk to arrange the paperwork**
- Payment of Accounts and precept update

Payments

• Village Maintenance	chq 722	£50.00
• HMRC	chq 723	£46.40
• Norfolk Pension Fund (April)	chq 724	£69.64
• Clerks reimbursements (Jan / Feb)	chq 725	£28.84
• Clerks wages shortfall (tax code change)	chq 725	£93.40
• Hardingham Village Hall (hire)	chq 726	£20.00
• Norfolk ALC membership	chq 727	£95.20

Receipts

- None

Proposed: TB and seconded: RB

6) **To consider the view of the Council about the following planning issues**

Any planning applications:

- 3PL/2022/1666/F: 8.7ha field adjacent to River Yare – creation of 651 metre new channel created on the River Yare, a series of seven wetland scrapes and a series of three ponds. It was agreed that overall and subject to certain clarifications, the application would enhance the environment and should be supported. Discussion took place on the risks of both up and down stream flooding. A resident has contacted the applicant to ask for further details about the flooding. It was also noted that there are no clear plans for the removal of the waste soil from the site, or plans in place to minimise the disruption to residents and damage to the highways

whilst accessing the site during the construction phase. It was agreed that the Council should request confirmation that a full hydrological survey has been undertaken to properly assess flood risks before any permissions are granted. **Clerk to respond.** Proposed: DG, seconded: RB

Planning response by delegated powers:

- None

Any Planning Notifications:

- 3PL/2021/1681/VAR: Barn on land adj to Gresham Farm, Sandy Lane. APPROVED by Breckland Council
- 3PL/2021/0268/DOC: Barn on land adj to Gresham Farm, Sandy Lane. Discharge of Conditions complete
- 3OB/2021/0051/OB: Land adj to Ketts Cottage, Low Street. APPROVED by Breckland Council

Other Planning issues:

- Email from Development Manager Planner regarding small fill site development. The Clerk circulated the response outside the meeting and it was discussed. It was noted that the original question was not answered and it was agreed that the clerk should contact planning and ask for a more relevant response. **Clerk to action**
- Meadow Barn: Councillors were pleased to note that the roof cladding has begun.
- Councillors noted that covid is being used as an excuse to refuse face to face planning feedback comments and advice from officers. This arrangement should be reviewed, as it represents an erosion in the quality of service to be expected from the District Council. **Clerk to contact Breckland for a time line to revert to the pre-covid arrangements.**

7) Correspondence

- Email from member of the public regarding hunting in the Parish and response by the Chair. Retained by the Clerk
- Norfolk Resilience Fund email regarding support for community resilience. It was agreed that the Clerk should sign up to alerts however this will be reviewed if the information is not relevant. It was agreed that the Council telephone tree should be updated. **Clerk and RB to action.**

8) Village Issues

Highways Issues

The Clerk reported that there are no items on the Highways log.

HE reported four areas with significant potholes. **Clerk to report to Highways**

Nameplate 'Hardingham Road' is missing at the junction of Hackford Road. **Clerk to report**

There is a significant pothole on the left hand side of Low Street on the bends to the north of Tawny Owl Barn.

Footpath Issues

Nothing to add

Village Sign restoration update

There was discussion and it was agreed that the sign is not in need of re-painting at present. The centre post is secure however there is one loose brick and the need for repointing. HE to approach a local builder during the summer and the condition of the sign to be monitored. **HE to action**

Arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting in May

To be held after the next Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm

9) To review and agree the Complaints Procedure in line with the Policy Review Schedule

This was agreed. Proposed: RB and seconded: TB

10) To review and update the Parish Action Plan

This was circulated before the meeting and discussed. It was noted that now there is fibre to the property when power cuts occur digital telephone lines do not work and with poor mobile reception over certain parts of the village, this leads to vulnerable people being isolated.

11) Date of Next Meetings

9 May, 11 July, 12 September and 14 November 2022 all at 7pm in Hardingham Village Hall

12) Feedback from Councillors and items for the next agenda.

- PH reported that he attended a meeting organised by George Freeman MP and shared the minutes outside the meeting. He noted that there was limited attendance from other MP's.
- JS shared Jubilee Champion information for the clerk to complete.
- It was agreed that the May Parish Council meeting be held at 7pm followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.45pm on the same night. Invitations will be circulated during April and representatives from local groups will be asked to attend. The meeting will be informal as usual, but will not involve catering.

Meeting closed at 8.20pm