

Minutes of West Winch Parish Council

Tuesday 19th March 2024 at 7:30pm at West Winch Village Hall

Parish Councillors Present: Cllr Alan Johnson (Chair), Cllr Michele Summers (Vice Chair), Cllr Gavin Ball, Cllr Paul Moss, Cllr Adam Gipp, Cllr Barry Thrower, Cllr John Collier, Cllr Anne-Marie Mensink, Cllr Frank Dutton Also, present: Rob Shaw (Clerk), County Councillor Kemp, Borough Councillor Simon Nash, Borough Councillor Thomas Barclay and 3 members of the public were present.

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr John Lamb

No Apologies for absence received by Cllr James Lockwood.

2. **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 20thth February 2024**

It was brought to the council's attention that the clerks' minutes of the 20th of February could be a little more descriptive in their content. The Minutes were agreed with but more information to be added going forwards. It was proposed by Cllr Johnson and seconded by Cllr Collier with three councillors not in favour. The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16th January 2024 be signed as true copy. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

3. **Members' Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda** - There was a declarations of interest from Cllr Thrower.

4. **Reports from County Councillor and Borough Councillors.**

County Councillor Kemp – Planning inspectorate cancelled last year, and the planning resumption of local planning hearings will take place between 26th of March and 28th of March. CC Kemp has raised a motion that there is no building in the area until the road / bypass issue has been dealt with. CC Kemp is dealing with Flood issues in the village also.

Waiting for Fenland Council to see if there will be a judicial review regarding the Wisbech Incinerator.

Contact has also been made to "City Fibre" regarding the one gigabyte project.

Borough Councillor Simon Nash - Has been to visit the people at the Night Shelter to discuss the running of this project, they have 60 volunteers, 15 staff and 10 trustees and he has managed to save them some money via rate relief. Flooding reports are subsiding due the slightly better weather.

Cllr Dutton raised a question regarding any progress with "Deerfield's" planning issue – Reply – not hit the planning group agenda as of yet – will be reviewed.

Borough Councillor Thomas Barclay – Mentioned huge resistance against issues at North Runcton.

5. **Open Forum for Public Participation:** an opportunity to hear from members of the public.

Information offered against the siting of a traveller site on land that has already had PP refused.

Requested – Have we heard anymore regarding planning enforcement at the Windmill?

BC Nash to chase up on PC behalf as PC not getting anywhere with enquiries so far.

6. **Clerks Report** - Bullet points of work done behind the scenes and updates.

New Contract in place for the servicing of Fire appliances in the Village Hall, New Contractor in place to services the Grass Cutting needs in the village. Some FOC training has been undertaken this month in Finance and Audit.

A credit account has been opened for the Maintenance team with a materials supplier to prevent cash being used – to remove potential risks to the PC. Progress is being made on the change of hands for the Charity that runs the village hall. The Stephen Walker cup will be presented at the Residents meeting to be held at the hall on the 26th of March 2024.

Signed _____

Dated _____

7. Agenda Items

- a) The Chair addressed the parish council regarding the football club moving forward with the previously planned extension of the Changing rooms etc at the rear of the hall. There may be a small extension, but not to the scale as previously explored due to the cost. Small projects and a new container will take place, once permission is in place. The meeting was left open as to timescales. Will be kept updated. Cllr Thrower voiced his dismay that the Changing rooms, after so much input by several of the Councillors in the past has failed to such as it is now proposed.
- b) 1-New Logo and PC website was discussed by the Clerk – New Logo was approved after voting took place from a shortlist – **Proposed Cllr Collier – Seconded – Cllr Moss – All Agreed**
2-A new website will be taken into consideration in the near future – once a proposal has been put together regarding costs – benefits and examples of new design have been put forward by the clerk.
- c) Cllr Collier has proposed that a new Parish Council Flag be designed and flown in the village now the logo has been agreed. A decision on colour ways and design is still to be approved again after samples have been presented to council. Other info – Approx cost will be £150 and will take 3 weeks to produce, Size is approx. 5ft x 4ft.
- d) To accept Nation minimum wage increases to be approved – minuted (moved agenda item to closed session to discuss amounts)
- e) Update on Coronation Meadow access – Cllr Summers – Solicitors have requested information via FOI act and are now in receipt of the information from BCKLWN – To be updated at a later date when information has been processed.
- f) Local Plan – planning inspectorate hearing to be held between 26th and 28th of March – Cllr Summers will be attending the three days as the PC representative- Will report back to PC.
- g) The IDB were invited to a site meeting to discuss the flooding around the playing field, village hall and pump track. Three experts will advise on a solution to sorting out this issue permanently and we are awaiting a costing to produce drawings / design of a new drainage system to coincide with the car park refurbishment later in the year – once external funding has been sought.

8. Planning Consultations

Planning application, only one this month, was for 7 Willow Drive, Setchey, Kings Lynn – 24/00359/O

A question was raised about the planning application regarding the site and further investigation will take place before the Prish Council returns its opinion to the Planning Department.

9. Working Group / Committees Reports

- a) **The Planning Chair to give a report.** – Nothing to report this month
- b) **The Finance Chair to give a report.** Cllr Johnson (chair) will resign from the Finance committee due to other commitments- Cllr Summers proposed that Cllr Dutton take his place on the committee – **Proposed Cllr Summers and Seconded Cllr Thrower – All in favour.** Cllr Dutton accepted the position – The Community infrastructure levy grant application to resurface the carpark at the William Burt Complex was declined – Finance committee will reapply in the next round of grants in July.
- c) **The Street Lighting Chair to give a report.** Cllr Gipp reported that work with the Streetlights was an ongoing project and there was nothing significant to report –

Cllr Gipp is also the Police Liaison representative and reported that he has received information from Downham Market that there is currently a rise in “SCAMMERS” and that information, given to the PC has been uploaded to the PC Facebook page for the parishioner’s information.

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Dated _____

d) **The Playing Fields and Maintenance Chair to give a report.** - Apart from the drainage issues previously discussed by Cllr Thrower He stated that the Maintenance Team's tools have been serviced and returned to us and we are now ready for the summer season. There needs to be a "work in progress "update – Clerk to action.

e) **The Village Hall Chair to give a report.**

The current acting Hall chair passed this opportunity to Cllr Moss to explain what is going on with the hall. Cllr Moss stated that a folder is in progress of being developed to aid with compliance within the hall setting. The Current trustees have had a meeting to stepdown as Trustees of the hall charity and to ask the PC to take over the hall as sole trustees – this is progressing. Cllr Moss has agreed to speak with the Charity Commission to move this forward. Cllr Collier asked a question regarding the ramp at the rear of the hall – this is in hand and will be completed as the weather brakes. The Hall manager also stated a new trial reference hire costs will be put into place.

10. Finance Report

a) To Note Balance of Account on 11th March 2024

Barclays Community Account	18,000.48
Barclays Business Saver Account	36,246.22
Unity Trust Bank Current Account	5,000.00
Unity Trust Bank Savings Account	15,074.72
Total	74,321.42

b)

To consider Payments for March 2024

			£
196	Mrs J Jackson – purchase drill and drill bits	Paid Feb 24	169.98
197	WWPC (To Unity Trust Bank) 2 nd transfer	Paid Feb 24	10,000.00
198	People's Pensions DD	Paid Feb 24	192.10
199	Anglian Water 4/1/24 – 8/2/24 (part recharge) DD Feb 24		48.53
200-205	March salaries		3792.20
206	HMRC DD		131.66
207	People's Pension DD (a/c in credit as Interim Clerk had pension refunded)		0.00
208	Mr R Shaw – expenses		137.05
209	Mrs J Jackson – expenses		56.47
210	Mr K Blackall – expenses		6.75
211	Mrs D Thrower – expenses		15.00
212	ID Mobile – Clerk's phone DD amount to be confirmed		3.99
213	N Power Feb electricity usage DD		565.20
214	Norfolk Parish Training & Support – R Shaw intro clerks		100.00
215	Norfolk Association of Local Councils – G Ball effective Cllr		36.00
216	Bin Buster – wash metal wheelie bin Inv Mar-24		20.00
217	K & M Lighting Services March SL maintenance. Inv 8586		146.98
218	Able Engineering Ltd – install bus shelter Inv 10645		9554.40
2219	Social Club – electricity 1/12/23 – 15/12/23 Inv 208		42.15
220	Social Club – electricity 15/12/23 – 15/1/24 Inv 210		73.34
221	Social Club – electricity 15/1/24 – 11/2/24 Inv 212		76.03
222	AR Consulting EA Ltd – antivirus software Inv-00981		24.48
223	Electricity – 12/02 to 17/03 – Inv 214		96.60

c) To Note money received

			£
12/2/24	52	Village Hall – salaries Jan, Feb	592.83
19/2/24	53	Social Club – Water/Sewerage Inv 23/30	106.51
14/2/24	54	NCC – recycling credit (paid into Unity TB)	74.72
4/3/24	55	Social Club – Rent	350.50
5/3/24	56	Social Club – Gritting Inv 23/33	417.12

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Dated _____

5/3/24	57	Social Club – Water/Sewage Inv 23/34	95.05
8/3/24	58	Petty Cash returned to bank	191.88
4/3/24	59	Barclays interest	259.92

11. Closed Session to the public – Discussed and agreed NMW increase for Maintenance and Grounds person – from the 1st of April – Letters will be sent, and updated Contracts signed annually going forwards.

Discussed proposal to move to new payroll provider to save money – To finish with Stephanson Smart (current provider) and to employ the services of NALC (Norfolk association of local councils) as the new payroll provider. We currently have a subscription with Nalc and therefore the payroll element is offered at a discounted rate and will save the parish council approx. £144 per annum.

Proposed Cllr Ball – Seconded Cllr Moss – All Agreed

Meeting Closed at 8.50pm

DRAFT

Signed _____

Dated _____