

East and West Barkwith Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 19th January, 2023, starting at 7.30pm.

Present: Mr. A. Platt, Mr. J. Stamp, Mr. C. Wilson, Mr. D. Ward and Mr. C. Fincham.
There were no others present on this occasion.

1196 **Apologies** - Cllr. Gibson was working, Cllr. Brady is recovering from major surgery, Cllr. Scott was unwell and Cllr. Parker had a work emergency.
These were accepted and approved by the meeting.

1197 **The Minutes** of the meeting of 17th November, 2022 had been circulated. They were approved by the meeting and signed by the chairman.

1198 **Matters Arising** - The clerk reported that the clothing bank had been installed and that the first payment should arrive around the end of January.

1199 **Correspondence.**

Newsletters, general information and dates - These have been forwarded on arrival, as have any Play Equipment catalogues. There were no comments on any of these.

Other items:-

Electoral Register The new full listing has arrived from East Lindsey, followed by an up-date to add one new resident.

East Lindsey's new postal address has been circulated, all other contact details are unchanged.

LIVES are seeking donations to support funding for the equipment carried by their First Responders. The letter was circulated at the meeting and it was agreed that, as these volunteers provided a local service of great importance to the community, it fell within the established custom of the council to be supported. It was proposed and agreed to send the requested donation of £80.

Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service is preparing the Facilities Guide for this year. The East Barkwith entry still shows the Pub, Post Office and Shop, plus Garage, Caravan Site, Walks and Play Area. It was agreed that there were no changes to be made and the clerk would reply accordingly.

They have also sent news of a new **Arts Project** based on the Neolithic (New Stone Age) period in the area of the Wolds. Cllr. Wilson requested a copy of the e-mail for the History Group and the clerk will forward it.

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1200 **Planning** - a) Applications - S/044/02429/22 - Bellrose Homes Ltd. - for the constructions on land beside Hollingworth House, Willingham Road, East Barkwith, Market Rasen, Lincolnshire, LN8 5RP.

Proposal:- Section 73 application to vary certain conditions relating to the footprint of two buildings, the landscaping and surface water treatment and the window glazing on one building, as imposed on planning permission S/044/00046/21 which was for the erection of 4 houses with associated garages, walling and fencing to a maximum height of 1.95m and construction of a vehicular access.

It was agreed that, as there had been no response to the concerns raised at the time of the original application, no further comments would be made.

- S/044/02510/22 - St. Mary's Church, Torrington Lane, East Barkwith, LN8 5RY. Extension and alterations to the existing church which is a listed building, to provide a wc.

This was a re-application of the previous documents as the permission granted at that time had expired. It was agreed to give the proposal full support.

b) Decisions - N/164/00946/22 - The application for change of use and planning for a cycle track at South Willingham has been granted.

- S/044/02287/22 - Listed building consent for repairs and renovations to the ceiling at St. Andrew's Church, Panton.

This was a retrospective application for work which has been completed. The details and diagrams were circulated by e-mails on arrival and were approved by the councillors.

The Consent has now been granted.

Parish Emergency Plan - Cllr. Wilson had prepared the draft plan which was circulated before the meeting for initial scrutiny. It was suggested that there should be two names on the main contact list, in case one should be unavailable, and that storage facilities were needed for items such as sand bags. Cllr. Ward agreed to serve as the second contact, in addition to Cllr. Wilson. The draft will now be sent to the County authorities for their comments to be incorporated into the final version.

1201 **Reports** -

a) Village Hall - The AGM was held on Monday, 21st November, followed by the Annual Committee Meeting at which Cllr Wilson was re-elected as chairman.

The proposal for the Clothing Bank was approved by the committee and the installation has been completed. Cllr. Wilson confirmed that he had supervised the placement of the clothing bank in the Village Hall car park, to be readily accessible without taking any parking space.

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The Risk Assessment for the Hall now requires a supplement relating to Legionnaire's Disease. This has been prepared, subject to a final check.

The Improvement Plan has been up-dated in preparation for grant applications.

The notice board for the grass verge has been completed to show contact details for hiring.

b) Neighbourhood Watch - The Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators will be holding their next meeting on Friday, 27th January, with a police representative in attendance.

In the meantime, there have been reports of individuals, ostensibly touting for scrap, but actually looking for potential opportunities for break-ins. The police are aware and are taking action to catch them.

The risks of telephone and on-line fraud remain and attempts appear to be rising.

c) Play Area - Cllr. Wilson reported that there will shortly be a meeting of the sub-committee. He is hoping to increase the numbers on the committee and on the inspection rota.

d) Countryside Committee - Cllr. Wilson thanked Martin Chambers for his donation of oak timber for the construction of a bench to be set by the Church Path. It will be in memory of his parents and there is the possibility of adding a plaque to that effect.

The Parish Field is looking well. A tree survey will be carried out shortly to assess any maintenance required and it is hoped to form a working party to assist Eric Brady in any tasks resulting from the inspections.

The plants and some seeds were established in the re-wilding projects but the weather then turned first wet then very cold. The remaining seeds will be sown as the weather improves.

e) Dog Watch - The arrival of the additional dog waste bin for Louth Road is still subject to a decision on the best position. Cllr. Wilson is seeking more signs to replace those which have deteriorated over time.

f) History Group - Members are continuing with various projects at home but meetings are expected to resume in late March.

g) Special Events - Cllr. Wilson reported that he had received many requests for information as to the type of celebrations which might be mounted for the Coronation, which has been set for 6th May. Most have been in favour of some form of street party, possibly on a 'Bring Your Own' basis, and there have been a number of offers of help in staging the event. It was agreed that the council would support an event of this type provided the cost could be kept low, in keeping with the financial restraints of the current national situation. Cllr. Wilson will call a Public Meeting to assess the level of general support and to co-ordinate the organisation of the day.

The 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings will be in June of next year

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1202 Amenities -

a) War Memorial - Thanks are due to Mr. Les. Robinson for some well-rotted farmyard manure which has been dug into the bed around the War Memorial to refresh the soil. The next step will be the repainting of the posts and chains where necessary.

Last year, Mr. Steve Andrews gave an informal figure for the replacement value of the War Memorial as he was unable to make a full survey due to illness. It is hoped that he will soon be sufficiently recovered to be able to make a full report.

b) Post Office and Shop - Cllr. Ward reported that the negotiations with the Post Office and Royal Mail authorities on their future plans are still on-going. These may well have an effect on the future of small post offices and consequently on attached village shops. He will report on any further information as soon as it is available.

The chairman made a point of extending to Cllr. Ward the congratulations of the council on his award of a B.E.M. in the New Year's Honours List.

1203 **Highways** - The unexpected 'speed hump' which appeared on Torrington Lane has now been removed but Cllr. Wilson is still pressing East Lindsey for action on the removal of the slippery dead leaves as soon as possible.

There have also been comments that any pot-hole repairs have been disintegrating in as little as 24 hours and these will be passed on to the county authorities.

1204 Finance -

The clerk reported that the bank had now confirmed the removal of former Councillor Neil Battell from the list of authorised signatories.

a) Receipts - A small donation for the Play Area in the sum of £10.00

b) Bills - The following items had been approved for payment at the due date or on receipt of invoice, using the CARD where necessary:-

Payee - For	Cheque no.	Net	VAT	Total
Mr. B. Hodgson - Electrical Work	000954	£66.20	-	£66.20
Mr. S. Champion - Grass-cutting	000955	£100.00	-	£100.00
HMRC - PAYE for Clerk	000956	£258.80	-	£258.80
Mrs. B. Theairs - Net Salary	000957	£833.20	-	£833.20

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Bills also approved at the meeting:-

Barkwith Village Hall - Meetings in 2022	000958	£662.16	£132.43	£794.59
Mr. S. C. Scowen - Plumbing (from Grant)	000959	£319.00	-	£319.00
L.A.L.C. - Annual Subscription	000960	£153.63	-	£153.63
L.I.V.E.S - Donation	000961	£80.00	-	£80.00
East Lindsey - Green Bin	CARD	£50.00	-	£50.00

In addition, the council approved the placing of an order for ink and paper, to the estimated total of £105 (plus VAT) to be made as soon as possible, while a special price is available.

c) Precept - Preliminary information had been circulated at the beginning of the month and up-dated details were circulated for reference during the discussion.

It was proposed and agreed that the clerk's allotted hours, as reviewed at the last meeting, must be increased to the 10 hrs per week required for completion of the necessary work. The resulting salary figure was accepted.

It was noted that the council's lap-top computer was giving cause for concern. It is ten years old and is unable to take the up-grade to Windows 11 so will become unsafe on-line when Windows 10 comes to the end of its support period in early 2025. It was agreed to begin looking for a replacement and that the precept allocation for office equipment should be increased to £250.

It was also agreed that the S137 allocation would be sufficient to cover the low-cost plans for the Coronation celebration so a separate sum would not be needed.

The final figure was confirmed and it was agreed that the Precept should be set at £11,600. The clerk will report this to East Lindsey when the office opens tomorrow morning.

1205 Any Other Business -

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Signed by the Chairman