

East and West Barkwith Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, 21st July, 2022, starting at 7.30pm.

Present: Mr. A. Platt, Mr. C Wilson, and Mr. N. Gibson.
These three members are sufficient for a quorum.

There were no others in attendance.

1166a) **Apologies** - Cllr. Stamp was working, Cllr. Brady was unwell and Cllr. Scott had been called to a family emergency. Cllr. Ward had been granted leave of absence due to business commitments.

1166b) **New Councillor** - East Lindsey had reported no requests for an election so the council was free to co-opt a new member. The vacant seat had been advertised in the community with initial contact to be referred to the clerk to confirm eligibility and prepare notes to inform the councillors' decision.

Ultimately, only one of those who enquired actually presented the requested brief introduction and this was circulated at the meeting. The councillors agreed, unanimously, to proceed with the co-option of that candidate, Ms. Helen Parker. As she could not be present at the meeting due to a prior appointment, the clerk will notify her of the decision and arrange for completion of the necessary declarations. The District Council will also be informed.

1167 **The Minutes** of the meeting of 19th May had been circulated. They were approved by the meeting and signed by the chairman.

1168 **Matters Arising:-** The clerk had intended to circulate the up-dated list of Committees and Representatives but this will be delayed until the next meeting to allow the new councillor time to register her interests.

1169 **Correspondence.**

Newsletters, general information and dates - These have been forwarded on arrival, as have any Play Equipment catalogues. Also forwarded were two consultation documents in their initial stages. There were no comments from any of these.

Other items:-

East Lindsey has sent two up-dates for the Electoral Register for 2022, totalling seven creations and three deletions.

Signed by the Chairman

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The team at **Lives** has sent a letter of thanks for the recent donation of £50 from the council, plus £10 from an apologetic councillor.

They had arranged an 'Afternoon Tea' event at the Epic Centre on the showground for Tuesday, 19th July but this has been postponed due to the extreme heat. A new date will be advised.

The Summer Newsletter from **Seafarers** has arrived if anyone wishes to see it.

The **Merchant Navy Fund** has sent a reminder for Merchant Navy Day on 3rd September. They have asked whether we will be doing anything else in support. It was agreed that the Red Ensign would be flown from the flag pole but there could be no special event to mark the day.

The **Royal British Legion Industries** have asked whether we will be planting a tree for the Platinum Jubilee (the Queen's Green Canopy) and are offering to supply a steel commemorative plaque to mark the specimen (made by veterans, cost £120 each). It was agreed that the Parish Field was well-stocked and there were, at present, no other sites available for new trees.

1170 **Planning** - a) Applications - South Willingham reported an application for the construction of a recreational cycle track on land off Donington Road, South Willingham as they were concerned about the amount of traffic in the surrounding area, in particular vehicles taking 'short cuts' through the villages. The details were circulated to all councillors but it was agreed that the potential contribution to the economic viability of the businesses in the area outweighed the disadvantage of drivers not following the recommended main roads to access the site. A letter was sent to East Lindsey to express these views, with a copy going to the Parish Council at South Willingham. There has been no decision as yet.

b) Decisions - There were no decisions to report on this occasion.

1171 **Reports** -

a) Village Hall - The vacancy for a caretaker / cleaner was advertised locally and Ms. Karen Thackeray has been appointed, subject to confirmation by the Management Committee at the next meeting which will take place within the next two weeks. The Committee will also be looking at the up-dated Development Plan and the implications for funding.

b) Neighbourhood Watch - In the absence of Cllr. Ward, there was no report on this occasion. However, the leaders of the local group of Watches would like to attend a council meeting to present suggestions on improving cohesion between the units. It was agreed that they should be offered an opportunity at the beginning of the September Meeting.

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c) Play Area - Cllr. Wilson wished to thank all those who assisted with the maintenance work and the regular inspections of the Play Area, particularly Tom Bollan, Ned Chamberlain and Peter Thornally.

Costs for the replacement cradle swings and chains for the flat swings had been circulated and approved and the equipment was ordered. The cradle swings have been fitted but there was a problem with the chains for the flat swings and this is being rectified.

A further supply of bark and sand will be needed to top up the levels before the annual inspection next month. PlayDays in Wragby will be approached for a quote.

d) Countryside Committee - During the last two weeks Gavin, from Green Stripe has reported the arrival of the new machines and Cllr. Wilson and Eric Brady have been to identify a suitable model. The cost, close to the original expectations, was circulated and approved by e-mails and the order placed. The machine will be delivered tomorrow (Friday) with instructions and training for the the operators. There will need to be an allowance in the budget for regular maintenance of the machine and for any additional insurance costs. The clerk will be contacting the insurance company about this.

Arrangements have been made for the safe-keeping of the new machine and the old tractor-mower will be removed to alternative storage as it may still be useful for some of the lighter work.

e) Dog Watch - A suitable position has been found on the Louth Road for the extra waste bin requested and Cllr. Wilson is liaising with East Lindsey for its installation.

f) History Group - Other local activities have taken precedence over meetings for the past few weeks but the date for the Detector Day is to be set shortly.

g) Jubilee - Both the Beacon Ceremony and the Village Party were much enjoyed and the Thursday raffle for Ukraine resulted in a total of £360 being contributed to the Fund. Thanks are due to Mark Stephenson for the use of his Beacon and to all those who helped and supported the celebrations for a remarkable occasion.

The Accounts for these events are now complete, copies were circulated, and the Council was asked for its approval for them to be signed off. The details were approved and the signing off agreed. The organising sub-committee was duly disbanded.

The application for East Lindsey's Community Grant had been approved and the Jubilee Clock had been ordered. It arrived just in time for the clerk to bring it to the meeting for unpacking. The councillors expressed their approval and Cllr Wilson will be arranging for its installation as soon as possible. The accounts for this are being kept separately from the other Jubilee figures as the funding came from the District Grant. They will be finalised when any installation costs have been met.

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1172 Amenities -

a) War Memorial - The summer marigolds are needing regular watering in the current dry weather but they are surviving. It is not clear at this stage, whether to begin preparations for the winter pansies this year, or if it might be wiser to leave the ground fallow for a time to regain strength and reduce the level of disease dormant in the soil.

b) Bottle Banks - A check with East Lindsey has revealed that plans are well underway to introduce a kerb-side collection service for glass and a letter is to be issued to all households next month. An additional wheelie bin will be delivered to each property and the new service is expected to start in late September or early October. All remaining Bottle Banks will be withdrawn during 2023.

1173 **Highways** - The Speed Camera is currently down for re-charging. With the resignation of Mr. Battell, it is not yet known who will be able to take on the task of downloading the data and producing the analysis and whether there might be a councillor or a volunteer with the necessary skills to operate the program.

There had been a request for the trimming of a tree which was obscuring a road sign. This had been noticed during the regular inspection of the Play Area and its surroundings and the matter had been dealt with.

1174 **Finance** -

a) Receipts - The Precept has now been received in the correct amount of £9,300.00.
 Lloyds Bank have credited the compensation for their confusion over the method of correcting the Precept payment in the total amount of £36.00.
 East Lindsey has awarded the Jubilee Grant of £1,000.00.
 Cash Donations towards the Jubilee Party totalled £1,080.00.
 A cheque donation was received in the amount of £100.00.

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
Meg-a-Bounce - Soft Play Items	000925	£155.00	-	£155.00
*Cash Payment to Band	CASH	£600.00	-	£600.00
Wisby Butchers - Bread Rolls	000926	£97.50	-	£97.50
S. Stamp - Foods from Bookers	000927	£64.72	-	£64.72
B. Theairs - Party supplies	000928	£109.10	-	£109.10
*Pater Pub - Beverages	000929	£390.63	£78.12	£468.75
As Time Goes By - Jubilee Clock	000930	£788.00	£157.60	£945.60

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HMRC - PAYE for Clerk	000931	£258.80	-	£258.80
Mrs B. Theairs - Clerk's Salary	000932	£833.20	-	£833.20
Amazon (AS Lighting) - Paper goods	CARD	£8.04	£1.61	£9.65
Barkwith Village Hall - Jubilee Day	000933	£100.00	-	£100.00
Eric Brady - Mower fuel	000934	£33.43	£6.69	£40.12
Mark Woodcock - Grass-cutting	000935	£99.00	-	£99.00
Viking - Inks & Paper (main printer)	000936	£138.98	£27.80	£166.78
Green Stripe - New Tractor-mower	000937	£5,332.50	£1,066.50	£6,399.00

*Please note:- The Cash payment to the Band and the payment to Pater Pubs, for the Beverages at the Jubilee Day, were made possible only by the impressive amount of cash donations received to support the event.

Bills also expected shortly:-

Payment for the Cradle Seats and spare chains in the Play Area - £662.00 plus VAT.
 Bark and Sand for the Play Area - past purchases have usually amounted to about £300.
 Play Area Inspection Fee - £70.00 plus VAT.

It was agreed that all payments were approved and should be made as they arise.

The clerk circulated the detailed account of the receipts and expenses for the Jubilee Event, together with a summary showing the grant for the clock and the costs so far. There may be some expenses to come for the installation.

c) Signatories - It was agreed that the name of former Cllr. Battell should be removed from the bank's list of approved signatories. There would now be four names remaining for the time being. The clerk would arrange for the appropriate paperwork.

d) Annual Return - The receipt of the Certificate of Exemption has been confirmed by the External Auditors. The period for Inspection of the Accounts expires tomorrow (Friday) and there have been no requests to view any documents. It was agreed that the Accounts for 2021 to 2022 could be closed after the weekend and prepared for storage.

1175 **Any Other Business** - There was no other business and the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Signed by the Chairman