

East and West Barkwith Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held at 8.00 pm. on 19th September, 2019, in the Village Hall.

Present: Mr. A. Platt, Mr. C. Wilson, Mr. D. Ward, Mr. N. Battell, Ms. K. Breckons and Mr. C. Fincham.

There was one member of the public in attendance.

1001. **Apologies for absence.**

Both the District and County Councillors were at other meetings.

Mr. J. Stamp was working, Mrs. T. Brady was away and Mr. S. Goodacre was unwell.

Their apologies were accepted and approved by those present.

1002. **Minutes.**

Minutes of the meeting of 18th July, 2019 had been circulated prior to the meeting.

They were approved by the meeting and signed by the chairman.

1003. **Matters arising.**

There were no items on this occasion.

1004. **Correspondence.**

General information and dates - as listed for circulation

Other items:-

East Lindsey had sent two up-dates to the Electoral Register showing 8 deletions and 8 additions.

They have also announced two workshop sessions, set for October 7th and 8th from 6pm until 8pm, to discuss the Corporate Strategy Review. This may include further discussion on electronic planning consultations. No councillors were able to attend at this stage.

Lincolnshire County Council has sent details of the new Highways Contracts, operating from early next year. It was agreed that the Chairman should have a copy, along with Cllrs. Wilson and Fincham.

They have also said that the Statement of Community Involvement (2019), outlining the consultation process for planning applications, has now been formally adopted.

Signed by the Chairman

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LALC has sent three messages:-

There have been details in a recent edition of LALC E-News of a survey on the recent general election. Councillors are able to respond individually on line by the closing date of 27th September.

The quarterly LALC News is now being sent electronically to clerks for forwarding to councillors. It was established that the latest issue, no. 170, had come through successfully, along with details of the forthcoming Conference and AGM on Tuesday, 15th October.

Following up an earlier questionnaire, the team would like to hear from any councils wishing to register an interest in working in a cluster with other councils. It was felt that, although this council would be happy to work with neighbouring councils as and when the occasion arose, a formal arrangement would not be appropriate at this stage.

Lincolnshire Wolds have e-mailed the latest issue of their newsletter, 'Higher Ground'. It is not easy to print out as many items are reached via links in the document. Cllrs Wilson, Fincham and Battell asked to have the copy e-mailed through in order to register directly and Cllr. Breckons asked for it to be forwarded by the clerk for each issue.

1005. Planning

a) Applications - One application had been received between meetings, as a matter of courtesy, rather than consultation, as it relates to a neighbouring parish.

S/205/01455/19 - St. Mary's Church, West Torrington - Listed building consent for extensions and alterations to form a dwelling.

No comments are required for this.

b) Decisions - There were two decisions to report.

S/044/01157/19 - White House, Willingham Road, East Barkwith - Extension and alterations to existing dwelling and construction of vehicular access. This has been granted.

S/044/00120/19 - The Manor, Louth Road, East Barkwith - Change of Use, extension and alterations to existing agricultural building to provide a single storey dwelling, and erection of a detached double garage. This has been granted.

c) Other matters -

The chairman visited Wragby Parish Council, prior to their last meeting, to meet the Clerk and register East & West Barkwith's interest in co-operating on the development of neighbourhood planning and on other issues of mutual concern.

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1006. Reports

a) Village Hall. Cllr. Wilson wished to add his thanks to those of Cllr. Brady, expressed at the last meeting, for the assistance with and support of the Summer Fete. It was noted that funds raised from events such as this were now having to be used to cover any shortfall from the hiring fees for paying the insurance and other major overheads, and not for improvements to the hall as had been the original intention. This did not encourage more volunteers for these events.

Tuesday's meeting of the Management Committee had confirmed that some members will be looking to retire soon and, although there were a few residents offering to help with specific events or projects, none were willing to serve on the committee. Another flyer will be prepared to advertise the AGM, due in October, and to repeat the invitation for new members but, if this fails, other management arrangements will have to be considered, including the process of transferring the responsibility to the Parish Council, with implications for the precept in the case of a shortfall.

Cllr. Wilson will be arranging a further meeting with Samantha Smith, from Community Lincs, to discuss the future options and it was agreed that the Chairman and other councillors would also attend.

In the meantime, it was formally proposed and agreed that the Parish Council, in its capacity as Residual Trustee, would be willing, in principle, to accept the responsibility of managing the hall, probably through a sub-committee to be set up for that purpose.

The question of the advertising board will be deferred until the future management system has been settled.

b) Neighbourhood Watch. There have been reports of 'Rogue Traders' in the area, offering various types of garden and tree work. Residents are warned to be wary of such callers.

c) Play Area. The Annual Inspection has taken place resulting in the need for attention to a few small, low-risk items. These will be dealt with during a maintenance day at the end of this month.

There are now four new members on the regular inspection rota.

There is to be a new questionnaire to residents as to what equipment should be installed to replace or supplement the existing items. The result will form the basis for a new grant application.

d) Countryside Committee. David Cotgrave has recently been welcomed to the committee and is assisting on the grass-cutting rota. The Winter Management programme is in preparation.

The problems with the mowers have prevented the latest cut along the Lincoln Road verge and this may now have to be left until the Spring. In the meantime Cllr. Wilson will look into the options as the ride-on mower has shown recurrent wear to the belt and the tractor-mower is beginning to show its age.

The constructor for the Bat and Owl boxes is currently recovering from surgery but the order for the materials is to be made shortly and further help will be invited.

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e) Dog Watch Co-ordinator. There was no report on this occasion.

f) History Group. Thanks are due to all who assisted with the exhibition in the Church on Sunday, 25th August and those who visited it. It was well attended and brought the donation of new items for the village collection.

A new member was welcomed to last night's meeting, at which field-walking arrangements were discussed for the end of September or early October.

The members agreed to seek costings for photograph frames of A3 size, or larger, and for secure display trays for the coin finds. These will be discussed at the next group meeting and presented to the council for approval in November.

1007. Amenities.

a) War Memorial. The summer marigolds are still looking good, if a little tall in some places, and the winter plants have been purchased and are growing on well.

Steve Andrews has been too busy to clean the War Memorial but suitable equipment may be available towards the end of this month so that the work can be done then.

Due to the recent passing of Mary Jordan, Cllr. Wilson is seeking a new leader for this year's Remembrance Sunday Service. It was agreed to donate £50 to the British Legion, as usual, for one standard and one small wreath. The clerk will make the arrangements.

b) Web-site. The web-site Events Calendar is now operating well and there have been further pictures added in other areas. The main sections are now in the hands of Cllrs. Battell and Brady, with the clerk attending to the Council Sections. Mr. T. Bollan remains on the team as technical adviser.

1008. Highways.

The conditions for joining the Community Speed Watch Scheme were reviewed. It was agreed to check the poles available for attaching both the notices and the reactive signs. The forms and subscription would then be completed with a covering letter to explain that the poles would initially carry the free notices but that a reactive sign would eventually rotate between them when funds allowed a suitable model to be purchased.

Cllr. Breckons offered to identify the locations of suitable poles while Cllr. Wilson looked into the prices of other reactive signs compared with the one recommended.

The contractor engaged by the County Council for the work on the Bus Shelters, has not been responding to any communications and the authority is now seeking an alternative. Further information will be sent when it is available.

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1009. Finance.

a) Receipts - The Grass-cutting money has been received £902.63
 The Merchant Navy Collections totalled £17.52

b) Bills - One item had been omitted from the report of the last meeting:-
 17.06.19 - To Amazon for external Hard-drive - Paid by CARD - £57.99 - VAT not applicable

The following items had been approved for payment on receipt of invoice -

Payee - For	Cheque no.	Net	VAT	Total
Post Office for East Lindsey (Elections)	000833	£97.00	-	£97.00
George Lodge - for mower parts	CARD	£25.52	£5.10	£30.62
Viking - inks for new printer	000834	£90.94	£18.19	£109.13
Mark Woodcock - for Grass-cutting	000835	£110.00	-	£110.00
LALC - for Newsletter subscription	000836	£6.00	-	£6.00
Mr. C. Wilson - Mower fuel	000837	£12.50	£2.50	£15.00
Jersey Plants - Winter bedding plants	CARD	£82.95	-	£82.95
George Lodge - for mower parts	CARD	£25.52	£5.10	£30.62
Play Safety - RoSPA Inspection	000838	£72.00	£14.40	£86.40

/Bills approved at this meeting -

Viking - reserve inks & stationery	000839	£114.88	£22.97	£137.86
Mr. C. Wilson - Mower fuel	000840	£12.49	£2.49	£14.99
HMRC - Clerk's Tax	000841	£137.00	-	£137.00
Mrs. B. Theairs - Clerk's salary	000842	£578.00	-	£578.00
Mrs. B. Theairs - Clerk's expenses	000843	£158.58	-	£158.58
Merchant Navy Fund - Collection	000844	£17.52	-	£17.52

Also approved, in principle, for payment on receipt of invoice -

Wreaths for Remembrance Sunday - £50.00
 Final payment for grass-cutting
 Final payments for mower parts and fuel.

c) Signatories - The clerk had prepared the forms for the amendments to the signatory arrangements as agreed at the last meeting. They were approved by the meeting and signed by the Chairman and Cllr. Ward as existing signatories. They will be delivered to the bank during the course of next week.

Signed by the Chairman

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d) Audit - The September payments will complete the transactions for the first half of the year. The clerk will complete the half-year accounts and it was agreed that they should again be submitted to Sophy Warren for audit.

1010. Any Other Business.

Cllr. Ward wished to remind the council of the Charity Fund-raising events at the Crossroads on Saturday.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed by the Chairman