



MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Thursday 18 January 2024 at 1930

2024/01

Those Present: Karl Jagger, David Reason, Jonathan Smith (Chairman), Kirsty Vaughan-Jones,
Steve Vickers
Keith Leesmith (Clerk)

- 1a) Declaration of Acceptance of Office** signed by Karl Jagger
- 1b) Apologies** Michael Dalby (NCC) Sarah Butikofer (NNDC)
- 2) Declarations of Interest** None
- 3) Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 16 November 2023** - Approved and signed
- 4) Reports**
- a) Norfolk County Council**
Michael Dalby had sent a report which was distributed to Councillors, is appended to these minutes, and appears on the website.
- c) Parish Clerk**
KL had circulated a report to Councillors. This is attached to these minutes and appears on the website. In addition to this KL had received a large catalogue of playground equipment from *Komplan* which, whilst being only one of many manufacturers, appeared to offer a complete service which could include construction and commissioning. They could also recommend grant providers. They had a representative in Norfolk who could visit and assist when the time was appropriate.
- d) Affordable Housing Site**
No reports received, but the site appears to be progressing slowly but surely.
- 5) Planning Matters**
There were no planning matters for discussion
- 6) To discuss government requirements for biodiversity/conservation**
All public authorities, including Parish Councils were required to start the process of forming a policy on biodiversity by the end of 2023. However, NALC (which we rely on for such matters) had only advised us of this the day before our last meeting in November. We therefore had to leave this until our January meeting.
KL had provided a draft policy which was discussed and suggestions for its improvement were made. The revised statement of policy is available on the website.

7) Financial Report plus any accounts for settlement

A bank reconciliation had been circulated to Councillors.

The following amounts had been paid since the last meeting:

a) Yu Energy – Street lights to 31 October	65.18
b) Grounds Maintenance Contractor – Hedge Cutting	180.00
c) Yu Energy – Street lights November	50.11
d) K & M Lighting – supply and fitting timers to street lights	1092.00
e) Bank Charges	18.00

Also on spreadsheet:

Receipt of grant for lighting timers	750.00
Transfer from current account to deposit account	2000.00

8) Minor Matters

KL had reported to highways the fact that the closed road sign, and barriers, on the Wighton Road appeared to have been moved but they replied that they had inspected the site and would continue to monitor it but would not take any action for the time being. Councillors were concerned that barriers were still being moved, and also that the date for repair of the bridge appeared to have been put back from February to next summer. Some Councillors were personally reinstating the barriers on a regular basis. KL would speak to highways.

The front hedge at School House, The Street, was protruding making it difficult for pedestrians to pass along the footpath. It was believed that this is now a holiday let. KL would attempt to find the agents for the cottage and ask them to get the owners to trim the hedge.

9) Date of next meeting

Confirmed as 21 March 2024 at 1930.

The meeting closed at 2025