

## WHISSONSETT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Whissonsett Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021 in the Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllr Sally Dye (Chair)  
Cllr James Daniels  
Cllr Tristan Ireson

County Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris  
Sheryl Irving (Clerk)

### **1. Welcome and apologies for absence.**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies received from Cllrs Edge, Holloway, Andrews and District Cllr Carter were accepted.

### **2. To receive any declarations of interest.**

There were none received.

### **3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021.**

Cllr Dye proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting, this was seconded by Cllr Ireson and agreed by Council. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

### **4. Open Forum for Public Participation.**

There were no members of the public present.

### **5. County & District Councillors Reports.**

In addition to his written report (attached), the C/Cllr reported that he will be meeting the Highway Engineer in the village to discuss the outstanding issues, including the parking for Open Reach vehicles on Mill Lane. The Chairman reported that she had met with a Highways Technician and resolved the following issues:

- Mill Lane – resurfacing works lifting – works programmed.
- London Street – flooding – works programmed.
- Wash Lane – blocked gullies etc – works programmed.
- High Street – potholes – works programmed.
- New Road – flooding – the technician will be investigating possible solutions.

**6. To receive a report regarding the vacancy for a parish councillor and consider the co-option of a new councillor.**

Council noted the recent resignation of Cllr McGee and were grateful for all the work she had done on behalf of the Council. It was hoped that a new member would be co-opted at the November meeting.

**7. To receive a report regarding the Code of Conduct for parish councillors.**

The Chairman reminded councillors of their duties in respect of the Code of Conduct, particularly in the area of planning. It was noted that members should not submit any personal comments which included any reference to the parish council and, if they had submitted comments prior to an application being discussed at a council meeting, they should not contribute to the discussion as they had made a pre-determined decision. Members were advised to submit any personal comments via the Breckland website and after the relevant council meeting.

**8. Planning Issues**

**a) Decisions to note.**

Council noted that no decisions had yet been made in respect of the following two applications.

- 3PL/2021/0274/CU – Caravan, Back Lane, Stanfield - change of use of agricultural and brown field land to residential caravan use for an extended Traveller family. A maximum of two static caravans and three touring caravans to be stationed on the land, on either a temporary or permanent basis (Retrospective).
- 3PL/2021/0981/O – land adjacent to West End, Rayner Lane – three self build detached dwellings.

**b) Applications to consider.**

- 3PL/2021/1125/VAR – Queensforth, London Street - Variation of Condition No 2 on 3PL/2019/1314/VAR - change plot 2 to single storey bungalow instead of one and half storey dwelling – Cllr Dye proposed a ‘in support’ response to this application, this was seconded by Cllr Daniels and agreed by Council.
- 3PL/2017/0937/O – The Old Pitt, High Street - Council noted that works appeared to have recommenced with no resolution to the height enforcement issue being received from Breckland. Council agreed that a request for an update should be made.

**9. Highways matters.**

**a) To receive an update re matters previously reported.**

The following matters had been dealt with at item 5.

- Mill Lane – resurfacing works lifting – works programmed.
- London Street – flooding – works programmed.
- Wash Lane – blocked gullies etc – works programmed.

- High Street – potholes – works programmed.
- Mill Lane – Open Reach vehicles parking on road and the request for land reinstatement.

Council noted the following updates.

- Faded Street Signs – Rectory Road/School Road – reported to Breckland.
- Footpath 3 – Bridge – reported to Highways and being investigated.
- Footpath 4 – overgrown – reported to Highways but no additional works to be carried out.

**b) To receive a report regarding the SAM II sign.**

Cllr Ireson had recently volunteered to take responsibility for the SAM II speed sign and will receive the relevant training.

**c) To consider any other Highway matters.**

Council noted that a 30mph repeater sign will be installed on the post in the High Street.

**10. The Play Area.**

**a) To consider any issues arising from the Annual Play Area Inspection Report.**

In the absence of Cllr Edge, Council noted that the remaining items on the report were being dealt with. The fence repairs had been carried out and the missing screw covers will be installed once received.

**b) To consider any other Play Area issues.**

The Chairman reported that the hedge was overgrown in places and requested a meeting with the grass contractors to discuss that and other overgrown hedges in the village, the north Church Lane, the west side of the Campingland and the path at the rear of the Bowling Green, all of which were overgrown but not included as part of the cutting contract. In addition, Cllr Daniels will seek a second quote for the works.

**11. To review the grass cutting works, including the moles in the churchyard.**

Council agreed there did not appear to be a mole problem in the churchyard and no other issues were raised. The Chairman will meet the contractors to discuss hedge cutting (see item 10b above).

**12. To consider an application to the NCC Million Trees Scheme.**

Council agreed to submit an application for a free tree pack, to be sited in the north-west corner of the Playing Field, adjacent to the existing trees.

**13. To consider any maintenance or other issues relating to village areas.**

Cllr Daniels reported that the downpipe was working on the bus shelter taking the water away but he would fix it properly in the near future.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Ireson for repairing and repositioning the village map in the bus shelter, which had been well received by residents.

**14. To receive an update regarding a parish commemoration to mark the Queens Platinum Jubilee in 2022.**

No progress had been made on this matter and the Chairman will liaise with the Village Hall Committee and the PCC to take the matter forward.

**15. To consider a land registry application in respect of the Campingland.**

Following a recent incident whereby a camper van had been illegally parked on the Campingland for a period of time, the Chairman advised that the land should be registered. The Chairman will liaise with the PCC and an estimate of costs will be obtained, for a decision at the next meeting.

**16. Correspondence**

- Draft Dereham Town Delivery Plan – Council agreed that no response was necessary.
- Royal British Legion ‘Tommy’ Statue – Cllr Ireson proposed the purchase of an ‘Unknown Tommy’ with the message ‘We Remember’ and at a cost of £200, this was seconded by Cllr Dye and agreed by Council.

**17. Finance & Governance Matters**

**a) To receive a financial statement for the year ending 31st March 2022.**

Council noted the financial statement (attached).

**b) To approve the following payments.**

Cllr Dye proposed approval of the following payments, this was seconded by Cllr Daniels and agreed by Council.

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| • Clerk (Salary/Allowance – Aug/Sept) & HMRC Refund | £286.75 |
| • Grass Contractor (July)                           | £699.29 |
| • Grass Contractor (August)                         | £699.29 |
| • Mole Catching – Playing Field                     | £150.00 |
| • Play Area Inspection                              | £144.00 |

**18. To receive any new items for the next agenda.**

The following two items were received:

- Electric Vehicle Charging Points
- A Breckland presentation – Housing for Local People.

**19. To note the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021 in the Village Hall.**

Council agreed to commence the November meeting at 7.00pm to allow additional time for the presentation 'Housing for Local People'.

The meeting closed at 9.06pm.

Signed:

Date:

<b>WHISSONSETT PARISH COUNCIL</b>					
<b>YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022</b>					
<b>FINANCIAL REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2021</b>					
<b>BUDGET UPDATE</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Bank Reconciliation</b>	
	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>date</b>	<b>Spend</b>	<b>Community Account at 01.04.2021</b>	<b>11,659.33</b>
				Plus Receipts at 31.08.2021	7,799.68
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				Less Payments at 31.08.2021	<u>11,618.46</u>
Admin	1,145.00	756.26	66%	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,840.55</b>
Salary	1,600.00	796.05	50%		
Grass Cutting	5,200.00	2797.16	54%	<b>Bank Balance at 31.08.2021</b>	7,840.55
Play Area	250.00	842.49	337%	Less any outstanding payments	
Open Spaces/Maintenance*	7,675.00	5680.95		Plus any outstanding receipts	<u>-</u>
Donations	100.00	0.00		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,840.55</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,970.00</b>	<b>10,872.91</b>	<b>68%</b>		
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			<b>Received</b>		
Precept	13,000.00	6,500.00	50%		
Allotments	170.00	-	0%		
Open Spaces	-	-			
Grants	-	1,000.00			
Misc - HMRC Refund	-	42.80			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,170.00</b>	<b>7,542.80</b>	<b>57%</b>		
<b>SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	<b>(2,800.00)</b>	<b>(3,330.11)</b>			

\*Updated to include Beech Tree Reserve of £5,675.00

## County Councillor for Necton and Launditch Report for September 2021

Grass Cutting: The second cut of the year to highway verges and junctions was due to start on August 9<sup>th</sup> and when completed should have addressed all the inadequacies of the first cut of the year which was, quite frankly, a shambles. Please let me know if there are still problems in your area with the standard of the cut.

One Million Trees: Norfolk County Council (NCC) acknowledges that trees are a vital resource in combating climate change alongside rewilding for carbon sequestration. As reported previously NCC have committed resources to work with communities, landowners and partners to plant 1 million trees over 5 years which must amount to a net increase. NCC's tree planting scheme will work in harmony with the unique "Queens Green Canopy" initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. There are packs of trees and hedging plants available to parishes to "kick start" the project. If there is any interest, please contact me for further detail on how to apply. The planting season runs from November 2021 to March 2022.

Offshore Transmission Network (OTN): There has been a lot of discussion between our local MPs in both Norfolk and Suffolk and government ministers about the number and length of cable routes crossing both counties bringing wind generated electricity to connection points on land. To minimise ecological and commercial damage to the countryside an OTN has been proposed. The OTN would allow connection of all future wind farm electricity output to a cable system lying offshore which would only require one overland route to a connection point with the National Grid. NCC have been involved in the initial Offshore Consultation Project in 2020 and are currently responding to an Ofgem consultation which is asking for comments on proposals to amend regulations to allow the use of an OTN.

Hazardous Waste Amnesty: There is to be a hazardous waste amnesty at NCC's local recycling centres as follows; Dereham on September 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> (open 9am to 5pm) and Hempton (Fakenham) on 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> October (open 9am to 4pm). Details of the which items of hazardous waste are acceptable is available on NCC's website.

Highways: Despite the lack of revenue funding in NCCs coffers there is still some future capital available to put towards some highway schemes such as resurfacing (not surface dressing) and junction and other highway improvements. If you have any work that you would wish to be carried out, please let me know and I will submit the suggestion for inclusion in the long term capital budget.

Mark Kiddle-Morris