

Minutes of the Aldwincle Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd September 2024 at the Village Hall commencing at 8:00pm

Present:

Tim Hankins Chairman
Bob Blakeman
Paul Williams
John Lawrence
Bernard Lowe
Mrs Vicki Cook

Richard Reed – Clerk

There were five residents present

24/096 Public Open Time

There was a report that areas of Green Lane were overgrown. Cllr. Williams said he would follow this up. **Action: PW**

24/097 Apologies

Cllr. Barry Watts. NNC Cllr. Geoff Shacklock

24/098 Declarations of Interest

Pecuniary Interest: None

To declare any other interests: None

To consider any requests for dispensations: None

24/099 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 24.06.24

It was proposed by Cllr. Lawrence and seconded by Cllr. Blakeman that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 24th June 2024, and having previously been circulated, be accepted and signed as a true record of that meeting. Agreed unanimously

24/100 Matters arising.

Cllr. Mrs Cook said she would be speaking to the school shortly. **Action: VC**

The Clerk is preparing the new e-mail for future PC use. **Action: Clerk**

24/101 Village Hall

Cllr. Lowe said that the PA and sound system together with the hearing loop had been installed and a training session over its use is to be convened. The next pub Night is in early October with Quiz Night in November.

24/102 Risk Assessments

Various risk assessment reports have been submitted. Cllr. Blakeman has dealt with issues raised previously in the playground.

There have been reports of vehicles being parked on the Village Green. Cllr. Mrs Cook will speak to the school about parking when events are held. **Action: VC**

24/103 Play Area

Generally covered under minute 24/102

24/104 Highways

Cllr. Williams presented his report. Although some patching works have been carried out, the drainage problems remain unresolved, and the residents effected are concerned over the approach of winter and the potential of further flooding.

Cllrs. Blakeman and Williams are proposing to attend the Strategic Parish and Town Forum at Thrapston on 21st November. **Action: BB/PW**

24/105 Overgrown Hedges

The brambles in Lowick Lane have been dealt with following an earlier complaint. There are many other issues with vegetation obstructing the highway in the village and while legislation exists to deal with this, a less formal approach is preferred and Cllr. Blakeman is to circulate a note to residents. **Action: BB**

BB

24/106 Maintenance issues

- (i) Website: Cllr. Blakeman said that Spanglefish suggest moving to Spanglefish 3 with a net estimated increase of £10-15 in the fee. It was proposed by Cllr Lawrence to take this action, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Cook. **Action: BB**

Further consideration will be given to changing to a gov.uk domain in due course.

Chairman

Date

- (ii) VAS: There have been some issues over recording recently. Cllr. Blakeman circulated printouts of downloaded data. Regarding the second site, grants are available up to a maximum of 50% of the costs. It was decided to hold over for now.
- (iii) All Saints Church boundary walls. Attention is required again to remove vegetation and deal with sycamores. A working party is to be arranged and Cllr. Lawrence will speak to Cllr. Watts. **Action: JL**
- (iv) Grass cutting: General satisfaction with Ben Emery's work. Some residents have been carrying out mowing of the Village Green themselves and Cllr. Williams expressed concern over risk. Cllr. Hankins said he would speak to residents. Action: TH

24/107 Street Lighting

There had been no reports of outages.

24/108 Trinity School Liaison

Cllr. Mrs Cook is to be in touch with the school. **Action: VC**

24/109 To approve Risk Assessment Policy

It was proposed by Cllr. Blakeman and seconded by Cllr. Lawrence to approve the policy considered at the Annual Meeting.

24/110 Correspondence

As list previously circulated to councillors. Cllr. Blakeman spoke of intimidation of users of the Permissive Path, and he had been in touch with Savills.

24/111 Planning

- a) The following application was discussed: NE/00151/FUL, amended/additional information. No further comments considered necessary.
- b) Applications considered since the last meeting: NE/22/00698/OUT – no further comments; NE/00692/FUL & NE/00693/LBC – no objections; NE/24/00704/FUL – no objections.
- c) No further planning matters arose.

24/112 Finance

- (i) The Clerk presented the statement of accounts. £2108.34 had been received from HMRC since the last meeting being the reclaim of VAT.
- (ii) The following invoices were approved for payment, proposed by Cllr. Lawrence and seconded by Cllr. Blakeman.

Retrospective

25.06.24 Mr Giles Howard Fernwood Arboriculture £378.00 OLT
 28.06.24 Emery grounds and Garden Maintenance Ltd. £165.00 OLT
 01.07.24 YU Energy £113.02 D/D
 09.07.24 Emery grounds and Garden Maintenance Ltd. £165.00 OLT
 25.07.24 Emery grounds and Garden Maintenance Ltd. £165.00 OLT
 02.08.24 YU Energy £116.10 D/D
 05.08.24 Emery grounds and Garden Maintenance Ltd. £165.00 OLT

Zurich Municipal £1,503.46 OLT

Emery grounds and Garden Maintenance Ltd. £165.00 OLT

YU Energy £117.94 D/D

YU Energy £59.82 (Clerk to investigate why payment for the second invoices is not being taken by D/D)

- (iii) Phil Hector who has managed the payroll is closing his business at the end of March. The Clerk has obtained a quote from the accountant who manages his other PC payroll of £60.00/quarter. It was agreed to accept this for 2025/26. **Action: Clerk**

24/113 Items Requiring Urgent Attention, For Information or For the Next Agenda

There was nothing at this time.

24/114 Date of Next Meeting

14th October 2024 to be held in the Village Hall commencing at the usual time of **7:30pm**.

There being no further urgent business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:25pm.