

**Minutes of the Aldwinckle Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at Trinity CE Primary School commencing at 7:30pm.**

*The changed date was due to the unavailability of the Chairman.*

**Present:**

Bob Blakeman Chairman  
John Lawrence  
Bernard Lowe  
Mrs Vicki Cook  
Tim Hankins  
Barry Watts

Richard Reed – Clerk

There were no residents present

**23/021 Public Open Time**

There were no members of the public in attendance and no issues had been brought to the attention of councillors.

**23/022 Apologies**

Cllr. Williams

**23/023 Declarations of Interest**

None declared on agenda items.

**23/024 To Approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 09.01.23**

It was proposed by Cllr. Lawrence and seconded by Cllr. Mrs Cook that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023, and having previously been circulated, be accepted and signed as a true record of that meeting. Agreed unanimously.

**23/025 Matters arising.**

Cllr. Mrs Cook had met with the Headmaster and the Head Governor regarding parking and behavioural issues. The school wants to help resolve the problems and will be writing to parents. The school is also to look at drop-off and pick-up time to ease the parking concerns. Cllr. Blakeman will contact the school over the lack of circulation of the Trinity Times. **Action: BB**

Cllr. Blakeman had attended a meeting of the Village Hall Committee regarding the transfer of the payment of the insurance premium in full from 2023/24 and this had been agreed.

The litter pick is scheduled for Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March. **Action: JL**

**23/026 Village Hall**

It was reported that the hall had now dried out and the redecoration had been completed. The replacement of the floor was awaiting a decision on the choice of floor, and a meeting with Belfor was being arranged in the next few days for them to advise. The plumber had replaced the flexipipes and had installed an electric cut-off. The roofing was complete at a cost of £5837, including replacement gutters, and the heating had been recommissioned at a cost of £1644.

**23/027 Risk Assessments**

Cllr. Mrs Cook spoke of progress so far. Councillors discussed the extent of the Parish Council's responsibility for All Saints churchyard. It was believed that the boundary walls are included.

**23/028 Tree Survey**

Fernwood's report following the tree survey had been received. It was agreed that the lime tree in the play area and the sycamores in the churchyard (G1) were a priority and negotiations over the quotation for this work would be commenced. This was an unexpected cost and would put pressure on the budget for 2023/24. Other work identified in the survey was less urgent and could be delayed until 2024/25 financial year and/or dealt with by volunteers.

**Action: BB**

**23/029 Play Area**

Wicksteed Leisure's annual inspection report had been circulated. The potentially hazardous gap noted on page 42 is to be inspected. **Action: BB**

It was noted that fence repairs were required in due course and an acceptable quotation for the entrance gate was still awaited.

**23/030 Highways**

Cllr Williams had previously circulated his report which councillors noted.

Chairman

Date

The quote for the VAS post was still awaited and Steve Barber is chasing this. The Section 50 licence had been completed and signed.

Cllr. Hankins spoke of the recent spate of vehicle run-offs on the bend by Eleanor Fisheries access. There was a need for signage in the form of chevrons or reflector posts. Cllr. Hankins is to liaise with Cllr. Williams over this matter. **Action: TH/PW**

Cllr Hankins was concerned about the road width for farm machinery while scaffolding was in place at 45 Main Street. He would look at using cones to discourage parking opposite **Action: TH**

### **23/031 Street Lighting**

Cllr. Mrs Cook said she was unaware of any issues at the moment.

The Clerk had received a letter regarding the end of the contract on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023. Confirmation had been received from Clear Utility Solutions that they would advise Drax that the account was being transferred.

### **23/032 Parish Council Signage**

Cllr. Blakeman had circulated copies of suggested signs and these were accepted by all. Cllr. Blakeman is to order these. **Action: BB**

### **23/033 Correspondence**

As list previously circulated to councillors.

### **23/034 Planning**

a) Application NE/23/00139/FUL was considered by councillors and a number of major concerns were noted including the height of the proposed dwelling, its dominance over the area and traffic issues during and after construction. **Action: Clerk**

NE/22/0151/FUL (Additional information): Cllr Blakeman is to attend a forthcoming meeting of STAUNCH. Any further comments would be considered after the meeting.

b) Applications NE/22/00151/FUL, NE/22/00698/FUL and NE/23/00021/FUL had been commented on following the last meeting.

c) There were no other planning matters.

### **23/035 Finance**

(i) The Clerk presented the statement of accounts.

(ii) The Clerk presented the Budget Monitoring Report. In view of additional costs unknown when the budget was prepared, Cllr. Blakeman had amended some of the allocations. It was agreed that there was no longer a need for a Zoom subscription.

(iii) The following invoices were approved for payment, proposed by Cllr. Lawrence and seconded by Cllr. Hankins.

#### Retrospective

12.01.23 North Northamptonshire Council £321.00 Cheque No. 200176

19.02.23 Drax £146.69 D/D

19.02.23 Drax £30.85 D/D

Wel Medical £267.60 Cheque No. 200177 (*Reimburse R Blakeman*)

R Blakeman £14.90 Cheque No. 200178 (*Materials for playground repairs*)

P Williams £164.80 Cheque No. 200179 (*Trees, etc.*)

Drax £27.87 D/D

Drax £132.51 D/D

(iv) Information had been received from HSBC on product bundling rules.

### **23/036 Items Requiring Urgent Attention, For Information or For the Next Agenda**

The Clerk informed councillors that it was his intention to retire this summer but he was willing to stay on until the end of June to cover the May annual meetings and the audit.

It was agreed that the May meeting would be held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

### **23/037 Date of Next Meeting**

17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 commencing at 7:30pm. It was anticipated that the Village Hall would be available.

There being no further urgent business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:50pm.

Chairman

Date