

Minutes of a meeting of Horbling Parish Council held on Thursday, 25th September 2019 at 7.40pm in the Meeting Room, Horbling

Present: Miss L Brown Chairman
Mr M Jackson
Mr M Kierstan
Mrs. J. Wesley
Mr A Daubney
Mr J Gale
Mr R Stacey

Parish Clerk: Mr I Sismey

South Kesteven District Councillor Jan Hansen was present and is the Toller Ward representative.

Before the meeting started Cllr Hansen was welcomed and all members present introduced themselves.

1354.401.19 To Receive /Approve Reasons for Apologies for Absence.

All members were present and there were no apologies

1355.401.19 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

1356.401.19 To ask if members of the public present wished to speak on any agenda item.

There were no residents present.

1357.401.19 Minutes of last meeting held on Thursday, 16th May 2019

Proposed M Jackson, Seconded J Wesley

RESOLVED: For the chairman to sign the notes of the meeting held on the 16th May 2019 as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

1358.401.19 Asset Register. The clerk explained to the members that MK had made it known to the Council that following his research and from the Council's Risk management the tangible assets of the Council, predominantly land and buildings should be valued in the Council's accounts at present market value as opposed to original cost or less.

The clerk was in agreement with this and therefore informed members that he would organise a valuation of the Council's land & Buildings.

1359.402.19 Possible purchase of a de-fibrillator. The clerk informed the members that the Council's application to the British Heart Foundation had been accepted and was now awaiting further details from BHF.

Discussion took place as to the possible location for the defibrillator and generally members thought that it would be best placed in the vicinity of the Plough/meeting room.

LB suggested that all members should come up with possible other locations that were central to the village.

MK mentioned the importance of relevant signage to inform awareness of the defibrillator.

1360.402.19 Banking Arrangements. The clerk explained that the new mandate was now in place and that the new signatories were as follows:

Louise Brown, Matt Jackson, Mark Kierstan and Andy Daubney

The standard practice applies that each payment instruction requires two signatures from the above selection.

Discussion moved onto internet banking arrangements which was the next phase of the Council's banking arrangements.

The clerk explained that each signatory needed to be signed up for internet banking. Cllrs MJ and AD agreed to meet with the clerk early in the following week to complete this.

1361.402.19 PCC use of the meeting room. The clerk informed members that whilst the PCC had paid the invoice for last year's use of the meeting room for its coffee mornings no grant application had been received for its ongoing use.

The members were of the opinion that the Council should not expend any monies unless an application was received from the PCC.

Generally the members felt that the PCC were making headway in improving the facilities at the Church that would mean that they may not need to use the meeting room in the future.

RS asked if a grant had been made available to the PCC for the maintenance of the churchyard. RS was informed that whilst this was generally the case no request had been received over the past year. Discussion took place regards the churchyard maintenance as a general consideration for the members. MK informed the

members that he was aware of various nature trusts that had worked with churchyards to make them more environmentally friendly.

1362.403.19 LALC. This item was deferred due from a previous meeting but no discussion took place.

CORRESPONDENCE

1363.403.19 The clerk produced a list of correspondence for the members to receive:

- A) *For Information only – to be received en bloc*
- a) **LALC News - issue No.170**
- b) **LALC News - issue No 169**
- c) **NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin**
- d) **LALC – News Update**
- e) **LCC – Adoption of statement of Community Involvement**
- f) **NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin**
- g) **NALC - Newsletter**
- h) **LCC – Recommendations for Highways 2020 Contracts**
- i) **LALC – News Update**
- j) **Rural Services Network – Funding Digest**
- k) **LALC – News Update**
- l) **LALC – News Update**
- m) **LALC – News Update**
- n) **RSN – The Rural Bulletin**
- o) **NALC – Newsletter**
- p) **RSN – The Rural Bulletin**
- q) **LALC – News Update**
- r) **RSN – The Rural Bulletin**
- s) **LALC – News Update**
- t) **LALC – News Update**
- u) **LALC – News Update**
- v) **LALC – News Update**

Proposed M Kierstan, Seconded A Daubney

RESOLVED: To receive the above items en bloc

B) *For Discussion*

a) **Letter from St Andrews**

The clerk informed members of a letter from the PCC with regard to the work that had been completed following a grant from the Parish Council in 2016.

This matter had been referred to under minute No. 1361.402.19

FINANCIAL REPORT

1364.404.19 Approval of Treasurers Report

The Clerk provided the financial reports for the members. This comprised of an Income & Expenditure Account plus Balance sheet for the period to 31st August 2019. The Accounts showed a deficit for the year to date of £3,134.62.

Proposed M Kierstan, Seconded A Daubney

RESOLVED: To approve the Treasurers Report as presented

1365.404.19 Approval of Payments since last meeting

Proposed M Jackson, Seconded J Gale

RESOLVED: To Approve the schedule of payments provided by the Clerk

1366.404.19 Grant Application Horbling & Billingborough Scout Group

A request for financial support had been received from the Scout group to enable them send two scouts to the European Jamboree in Poland July 2020.

The clerk reminded members that a grant had recently been made to the group for the sum of £300.00 to assist with their Normandy trip.

The clerk commented that grants made by the Council were made under S137 of the Local Government Act 1972 and that any expenditure should be commensurate with the benefit to the community.

LB queried why the group were only sending two scouts? LB suggested that the Council request more information from the group as to how the two members were selected and did they come from Horbling? LB was of the opinion that it was a brilliant opportunity for the two young members and it would be good if the Council could support them. This was supported by the other Council members who thought that as much information as possible should be provided to aid their decision.

Proposed L Brown, Seconded M Jackson

RESOLVED: For the clerk to make contact with the Scout Group for additional information.

1367.404.19 Highways Update. The Clerk presented the members with two pieces of information:

1. Works on a waterproofing system at Piperdam Bridge, Billingborough that would last 6 weeks from the 23rd September 2019
2. Schedule of anticipated works in the local area for the rest of 2019.

MK was of the opinion that a lot of the surface work that had recently been undertaken was very badly done and already breaking apart. Spring Lane was cited as a particularly bad area.

There was general concern that the remedial work that has been undertaken is generally of a poor standard and that the clerk should write to LCC Highways informing them of this.

AD raised the issue of speeding down Sandygate Lane and asked if it would be possible for the speed limit to be reduced to 20 MPH. Sandygate Lane is the route for School Children making their way to the local Primary School.

The members were keen that an approach is made to Lincolnshire County Council to see if the speed reduction on Sandygate Lane was possible.

Another issue raised was that the pathway is extremely narrow and to aid safety should be widened.

1368.405.19 Conservation Update

The clerk confirmed that the consultation process was due to finish imminently on the 27th September.

The Parish website had carried the consultation details and an explanation as to why the village needed the conservation status and what benefits it would bring to the community.

LB shared her concern that the consultation process appeared flawed as her household as others had not received any communication from SKDC with regard to the consultation.

MK informed the members of a brief history of the Conservation status journey so far. MK had approached SKDC back in February 2017 with the view to achieving Conservation status for the village to which the District Council were happy to assist with. MK continued that the Parish Council were promised by Sylvia Bland (Development Management) and Paul Thomas (now acting Chief Executive) that the process would be complete by December 2018. MK had been told by an external agency that the work involved on this initiative would only take 3.5 Days to complete and this matter has still not been concluded and in the eyes of the Parish Council it has not been conducted properly.

JH stated that he would be more than happy to get involved and apply pressure from his position as the Local District Councillor but the feeling was that this may not be helpful at this stage.

MK backed by the other members were of the opinion that the District Council should keep their promises and complete every job in a professional way.

LB again mentioned her concern that the consultation had not been thorough enough and could cause problems going forward if this was proven to be the case.

The clerk confirmed that SKDC had listed it on their own website (although difficult to find) and reiterated that it had been displayed, and still is, on the Parish website. At this stage various members confirmed that although they may not have received any communication from SKDC on the matter they knew residents that had.

JG produced a copy of the consultation letter sent out to local residents that he had obtained from a local resident. The letter was brief and did not explain the benefits of the village being granted conservation status.

The clerk explained that once the consultation was closed all comments received would be given consideration and if necessary the draft document amended before being put to the District Full Council.

MK mentioned that the fact that the status was in progress was positive because at least planners would know of its existence and be able to refer to it. The clerk responded that the document would only add weight once adopted.

It was decided that a communication should be sent to Sylvia Bland to try and illicit a response that would confirm that SKDC were happy with the way the Consultation had been conducted and that they were happy to confirm that they have no concerns at its conclusion.

1369.406.19 The Meeting Room and the Plough Inn. General Update and Repointing.

AD informed members that phase 1 of the repointing of the Plough had been completed and that phase 2 was due to start, however the contractor is currently 5 weeks behind schedule due to the weather but hopes to start mid-October.

Phase 2 is predominantly from the Back door of the Plough, the pool room and above.

AD continued that the problem then arises that if the weather continues to be against us we would be paying for scaffolding that would not be put to best use therefore it may be the best decision to leave the work until next spring.

AD also mentioned that the refurbishment of the village benches had not been started again due to the weather and the non-availability of contractors.

AD concluded his report by informing members that a repair to the flat roof had been completed.

1370.407.19 The Plough Inn Internal inspection

The clerk issued a copy of the lease to all members as they had previously been unaware of its content. The clerk then informed the members that whilst the document did not refer to the Council's right to inspect from the insurance point of view it would be better if the Council considered this.

The clerk produced a draft checklist which he wished the members to consider.

The clerk then went on to explain that although as Landlords there was no right to enter the premises we should in agreement with the tenant look to protect the Council's asset.

All members were in agreement with this and that any suggestions for the draft document should be emailed to the clerk and that an internal inspection would be arranged.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1371.407.19

S19/1030 Mr Kevin Ward

**Lawful Development certificate for the erection of garden shed
39 Donington Road, Horbling**

It was agreed that the Parish Council had 'No Objections'

1372.407.19 To fill the vacancy on the Parish Council in line with its co-option procedure.

Following this year's local council elections Horbling were left with a vacancy for a Parish Councillor.

An application was received from local resident Mr Richard Stacey.

Proposed A Daubney, Seconded M Jackson

RESOLVED: To elect Mr Richard Stacey as a Parish Councillor on Horbling Parish Council.

1373.408.19 Enquiry from a local resident with regard to ‘Weed Cutting in the Beck’

The clerk had received an enquiry from a local resident concerned that the weeds in the Beck had not been cut back for some time.

The members were in agreement that this maintenance had always been completed by the Black Sluice IDB.

The clerk informed the members that he would make enquiries as to who was responsible for this and see what could be done.

1374.408.19 To assess grass cutting in the Parish, specifically the alley way opposite the plough.

MJ informed the members that the public footpath opposite the back entrance to the Plough was currently unpassable and that this had not been the case in recent years.

The clerk agreed to contact Lincolnshire County Council to ascertain why it was not being maintained.

1375.408.19 To receive reports, if any, by District/County Councillors or Representatives on other Organisations.

SKDC Councillor Jan Hansen was present and gave the following report:

- Chief Executive Aidan Rave had left employment with SKDC and the position was temporarily being filled by Paul Thomas
- Kelham Cooke was likely to become the District Council’s new leader
- Planning policy change following national guidelines with regard to infill as opposed to developments
- Was following Horblings attempt to gain Conservation Status
- The ‘Big Clean’ team will be back in Horbling in November
- One of the local Policing teams priorities was ‘Anti-Social’ behaviour
- As an SKDC Councillor Mr Hansen will continue to lobby for fairer funding for Lincolnshire

1376.408.19 To discuss any such information which the chairman may legally bring to the Councils attention.

Following the retirement from Council of both Cllrs Pat Covell and Jill Wesley a garden party had been held in their honour. It was reported that Jill and Pat enjoyed the occasion, which had proved very successful, and wished to thank the Parish Council for such an enjoyable afternoon.

1377.409.19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, 28th November 2019, at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 10.10pm

Signed Chairman

Date