

Minutes of a Meeting of Horbling Parish Council held on Wednesday, 26th July 2023 at 7.00pm in the Meeting Room, Horbling

Present: Cllr L Brown Chair
Cllr J Wesley
Cllr K Lunn
Cllr G Stonestreet
Cllr S Walker
Cllr D Blandford
Cllr M Turner - SKDC

Parish Clerk: Mr I Sismey

The Chair welcomed the members to the meeting.

1845.550.23 Apologies for absence and acceptance of reasons given.

There were none.

1846.550.23 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

1847.550.23 To ask if members of the public, resident or employed within this Parish, have any intention to speak under any agenda items of this meeting.

There were none present.

1848.550.23 To adopt the notes of the meeting held on the 24th May 2023 as a true record and to resolve for the chair to sign them.

Proposed G Stonestreet Seconded S Walker

RESOLVED: For the chair to sign the notes of the meeting held on the 24th May 2023 as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

1849.550.23 Plough Inn

This item was subject of a separate agenda item.

1850.550.23 South Kesteven Prosperity Fund

This item was subject of a separate agenda item.

1851.551.23 To receive reports, if any, by District/County Councillors or representatives on other organisations

Cllr Murray Turner who represents the Toller Ward was present and reported as follows:

The new establishment being the coalition was working well and things were moving on for the better.

Cllr Turner continued that he was still fielding questions from residents on lots of varying issues but that he is happy to continue doing so as he feels this is his remit.

CORRESPONDENCE

1852.551.23 The clerk produced a list of correspondence for the members to receive.

The clerk informed the members that should they wish to inspect any item of correspondence then they should contact him direct.

A) *For Information only – to be received en bloc*

- a) NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin
- b) LALC – Enews 26.05.23
- c) SKDC Planning Lists 22-26.05.23
- d) SKDC Planning Lists 30-02.06.23
- e) RSN Rural Bulletin 06.06.23
- f) RSN – Rural Funding Digest
- g) NALC – Newsletter
- h) NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin
- i) LALC – Enews 09.06.23
- j) SKDC Planning Lists 05-09.06.23
- k) RSN Rural Bulletin 13.06.23
- l) NALC – Newsletter
- m) SKDC Planning Lists 12-16.06.23
- n) RSN Rural Bulletin 20.06.23
- o) NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin
- p) LALC – Enews 27.06.23
- q) SKDC Planning Lists 19-23.06.23
- r) NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin
- s) SKDC Planning Lists 26-30.06.23
- t) RSN Rural Bulletin 04.07.23
- u) SKDC Planning Lists 03-07.07.23
- v) RSN – Rural Update
- w) SKDC Planning Lists 10-14.07.23
- x) LALC – LALC News
- y) NALC – Newsletter

z) ICO-Renewal Confirmation GDPR

B) Items for discussion

a) LCC Litter Picking Kits

The clerk presented a letter to members which indicated that LCC would supply local parishes with litter picking kits.

The members were unanimous that the clerk should confirm to LCC that they were happy to take part in the initiative.

b) SKDC Climate Action Strategy

The clerk informed members that SKDC were undertaking a consultation on the above subject and that if members required more information they should contact the clerk.

Proposed L Brown, Seconded J Wesley

RESOLVED: To receive the above items en bloc

1853.552.23 Highways Update

The clerk reported that there was little to report on Highways. He continued that he had reported the village pavement issues to LCC and was awaiting feedback along with the normal pothole issues etc. this situation is ongoing but the clerk reminded members that they should continue to report issues through 'Fix My Street'.

The clerk informed members that he had been informed by LCC Highways that there would be a road closure on Stow Lane between the 14.08.23 and 25.08.23.

The clerk continued that LCC Highways were conducting a survey on highways and transport surveys to complete the survey members should follow the link as stated below: www.nhtnetwork.co.uk/isolated/data/scorecard/new/bespoke/1214.

Proposed S Walker, Seconded L Brown

RESOLVED: To receive the above report

1854.552.23 Planning

The clerk informed members that there were no outstanding planning applications for the parish but wished to introduce a brief planning guide to the members. The clerk explained that the guide gave examples of 'Material Considerations' that would be taken into account in a planning application decision and should prove useful to members going forward.

Proposed J Wesley, Seconded G Stonestreet

RESOLVED: To receive the above report

FINANCIAL REPORT

1855.553.23 To approve the treasurer's report for the period to 30th June 2023

The clerk provided an Income & Expenditure report for the period to 30th June 2023. The report showed that the Parish Council had made a surplus of Income for the period amounting to £4,988.

Proposed L Brown, Seconded G Stonestreet

RESOLVED: To approve the treasurer's report for the period to 30th June 2023

1856.553.23 Approval of Payments since last meeting

The clerk presented a list of payments to the members totalling £ 2,307.08.

At this point Cllr Stonestreet raised the question as to whether the current grass cutting contractor might be able to undertake other work in the parish that was currently unmaintained. All members agreed that this would be a good idea and that any one in contact with the contractor should enquire if this was feasible and what the cost would be? The main areas of concern were:

- 1) The bottom of Green Lane
- 2) The right of way opposite the meeting room

This matter would be reported on at a future meeting.

Proposed J Gale, Seconded K Lunn

RESOLVED: To approve the payments as listed totalling £ 2,307.08

1857.553.23 Grants

The clerk informed members that he had received a request from the PCC for a grant towards the cost of grass maintenance at the church. The chair informed members that she was happy to support the request but that it should be left to the PCC as to how and on what it was spent as long as they appreciate that they only receive the one budgeted grant per year.

Cllr Stonestreet informed members that the PCC have recently obtained funding for roof repairs.

Cllr Walker mentioned that there was work needed on overhanging trees around the perimeter of the church curtilage.

The Chair concluded that maybe in the future the Parish Council may be able to help them out further.

Proposed L Brown, Seconded S Walker

RESOLVED: To approve a grant of £1,000.00 to the PCC

1858.554.23 The Meeting Room and the Plough Inn.

Cllrs Blandford, Stonestreet and the clerk had met on the 28th June and compiled a report that was presented by the clerk and covered the following points:

- 1) Kitchen window in living quarters – In need of repair hanging from its hinges,
 - 2) Pub windows facing Spring Lane – Unable to open as they had been painted Over.
 - 3) Chimney Stack with loose brickwork.
 - 4) Hanging Sign – Restraining bracket appears to have pulled away from the Wall.
 - 5) Half round stone planters – loose stonework
- (The full report will be archived in the Parish files)

The clerk concluded that Mortar pointing was a major concern and was a major part of the original report prepared by Banks Long & Co over 5 years ago. The inspection team had been of the opinion that a similar report should be completed by the same organisation.

The Chair Cllr Brown thanked the team for taking the time to complete the report but was of the opinion that to commission a new report would not prove to be value for money. Cllr Brown continued that having gone through the report it is clear that there are items from the original report that still need to be completed and that we can also see items that are in need of attention.

Cllr Brown proposed that we adopt a common sense approach and complete what it is felt needs completing on a priority basis.

Cllr Brown was in agreement that the sign needed replacing and that there was an opportunity to replace both the sign and the bracket and invite Bateman's to have some input on a new feature sign and that we could obtain monies from them towards the new sign. Cllr Brown informed members that she had been in touch with Bateman's who had provided details of their preferred contractor (Web Signs, Skegness) who would be able to provide a costing at preferential rates.

Cllr Stonestreet reminded members that any new sign would require Planning Permission due to the listed status of the building.

Cllr Brown commented that the current sign was relatively new but had been erected with the wrong fixings.

It was agreed that a price could be obtained from Bateman's preferred contractor and that Cllr Stonestreet could obtain some costings as well.

Cllr Lunn suggested that we could involve the villagers in a design for a new sign and that the design could also be voted on by the villagers.

All members were of the opinion that this would be a good idea. Cllr Stonestreet offered to complete the drawings for a possible new sign.

The clerk mentioned that the Council should be mindful of control on expenditure bearing in mind that monies still need to be spent on external decoration of the premises.

The chair moved on to other issues with regard to roofing, chimneys and guttering. Cllr Brown informed members that she had made contact with a local contractor who was prepared to investigate and quote for any outstanding issues at roof level. The contractor would break the quote down so it could be dealt with in manageable chunks.

Cllr Brown was of the opinion this would also achieve the completion of a new report.

Cllr Brown then broached the joinery issues and the fact that the kitchen window needed repairing and that at some point one of the sash windows on the front of the building would also need replacing. Cllr Brown stated that this could be incorporated with the external painting and that a local contractor would be able to complete this work who had worked for the parish council previously.

The clerk mentioned the uncompleted repointing works and the chair was of the opinion that the local contractor could undertake these works which included the pool room and above and the area over the flat roof.

Cllr Brown informed members that once the roofing works had been complete then the next big job would be the render work on the side of the building.

In conclusion Cllr Brown would prefer spending money in getting works done as opposed to spending money on another report that would be expensive.

The members were in general agreement with this proposal.

Cllr Brown said that she would contact the local contractor to ensure that the repairs to the kitchen window were undertaken as this repair was a necessity.

Cllr Stonestreet confirmed that he would obtain some quotes to reinstate the current sign. Cllr Turner offered to assist Cllr Stonestreet in rectifying the sign issue.

It was agreed that signage quotes would be obtained in time for the next Council meeting.

The clerk was asked to search the parish files to see if there were any plans of the premises.

It was further agreed not to commission a new report by a firm of surveyors but to take the route laid out in the comments above.

It was also agreed that any quotes would be sent to the parish email address.

Proposed L Brown, Seconded G Stonestreet

RESOLVED: To receive the above report and to follow the actions mentioned.

1859.556.23 South Kesteven Prosperity Fund

The clerk informed members that two internal meetings had been held with regard to the fund and that currently two applications had been made by the Parish Council one of these was for the Speed Indicating Devices the other was for the historical signage.

The clerk continued that he had attended a meeting recently that was chaired by SKDC Cabinet member Cllr Philip Knowles. At the meeting it had been explained that many applications had been received and that it was taking time to verify them. Whilst many applications had been approved there was still £300,000 worth of applications in the pipeline.

Delays had occurred due to the change in establishment but the clerk had been informed that the UKSPF board was reformatted and would be meeting by the end of August.

The verification process has now been changed and any applications for items £5,000 and under would be dealt with by the officers involved and would not have to go before the board.

The clerk provided a listing of all the current applications that have been approved and it was agreed by the members that the list was extremely varied.

Once again the clerk asked that if any member was aware of any projects that deserved an application then this should be made sooner rather than later.

Cllr Gale asked about applications for benches and the clerk confirmed that this would be applied for once the village inspection was complete.

Cllr Turner also urged the Parish Council to make applications to the fund as and when they saw fit.

**Proposed L Brown, Seconded J Wesley
RESOLVED: To receive the above report.**

1860.557.23 To discuss any such information which the chair may legally bring to the Councils attention.

The following items were discussed:

Cllr Blandford queried the maintenance of the Parish Website the clerk explained that due to technical difficulties the website hosted by LCC was going to be reinstalled which hopefully will sort out any of the technical difficulties.

1861.557.23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be scheduled for the 6th September 2023 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 20.20Hrs

Signed Chair

Date