

Minutes of a Meeting of Horbling Parish Council held on Wednesday, 28th September 2022 at 7.00pm in the Meeting Room, Horbling

Present: Miss L Brown Chair
Mrs J Wesley
Mr P Wesley
Mrs K Lunn
Mr G Stonestreet
Mr J Gale

Parish Clerk: Mr I Sismey

The Chair welcomed the members to the meeting and as this was the first meeting following the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II a minutes silence was held.

1740.515.22 Apologies for absence and acceptance of reasons given

There were none.

1741.515.22 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

1742.515.22 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.

Those present did not wish to speak.

1743.515.22 To adopt the notes of the meeting held on the 10th August 2022 as a true record and to resolve for the chair to sign them.

Proposed L Brown, Seconded J Wesley

RESOLVED: For the chair to sign the notes of the meeting held on the 10th August 2022 as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

1744.515.22 Conservation status update

This item was the subject of a separate agenda item.

1745.515.22 Emergency Planning

The clerk informed members that this was clearly an important topic would need a meeting with the chair to finalise the document.

1746.516.22 Plough Inn Lease

This item was subject of a separate agenda item.

1747.516.22 Community Speed Watch

This item was subject of a separate agenda item.

1748.516.22 Councillor Vacancy

The clerk informed members that the advertising of the vacancy had been delayed due to the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The vacancy had now been advertised with a closing date of 19th October 2022. This would enable the Parish Council to make an appointment at the next Parish Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

1749.516.22 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) **Parish Online - Newsletter**
- b) **NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin**
- c) **RSN Rural Bulletin 16.08.22**
- d) **Lincs Reservoir – Investing in two reservoirs'**
- e) **NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin**
- f) **SKDC Planning Lists**
- g) **SKDC – Gambling statement 2022**
- h) **YMCA – Lincolnshire Newsletter**
- i) **NALC – Newsletter**
- j) **LALC – Enews Update 31.08.22**
- k) **NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin**
- l) **RSN Rural Bulletin 31.08.22**
- m) **NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin**
- n) **RSN – Funding Digest**
- o) **NALC – Star Councils Award**
- p) **SKDC Planning Lists**
- q) **LALC – Enews Update 13.09.22**
- r) **NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin**
- s) **SKDC Planning Lists**
- t) **LALC – Enews Update 20.09.22**

- u) RSN Rural Bulletin
- v) SKDC – CTS Consultation
- w) SKDC Planning Lists
- x) LALC – Enews Update 27.09.22
- y) Neighbourhood Policing Team update
- z) SAAA – Audit opt Out

The clerk pointed out two items for the attention of the members:

1) the Neighbourhood Policing Team update and,

2) The SAAA Audit opt Out – This was an option for the Parish Council to opt Out of the national audit scheme which the clerk strongly urged the members to stay in the national scheme.

Proposed L Brown, Seconded P Wesley

RESOLVED: To receive the above items en bloc

HIGHWAYS UPDATE

1750.517.22 Community Speedwatch

Coordinator Andy Tagg gave the members a comprehensive report:

- 12 volunteers trained and ready to go.
- 6 checks logged
- 886 vehicles counted
- 42 travelling 31mph-34mph (These receive no letter)
- 27 travelling 35mph or more
- Fastest recorded vehicle travelling at 48mph
- 3% of vehicles received letters
- First offence letter, 2nd offence letter, 3rd offence visit from Police

Mr Tagg reminded the members that he required the purchase of more passive signs and also the loan SID if available.

Mr Tagg also queried whether the Parish Council were in a position to purchase their own SID. The chair responded that this would be kept under review but not purchased at the present time.

Two further training courses were planned on the 3rd October and the 10th October.

The chair thanked Mr Tagg for all of his work on the CSW initiative.

1751.518.22 Conservation Status Update

The chair informed members that the approval of the Horbling Conservation area had been presented to SKDC full Council on the 22nd September and that approval had been given, with the provision that the final 'tidying up' of the documentation would be completed by the delegated officer.

The chair asked Cllr Hansen if there had been any comment at the SKDC meeting with regard to the Horbling appraisal to which Cllr Hansen mentioned that one Councillor had queried the inclusion of some residencies and not others but it was considered a minor point.

1752.518.22 Planning Applications

The clerk presented the following to members:

1. Planning Permission S22/1219

This matter was discussed by the Parish Council on the 10th August and recorded an observation of 'No Objections'.

2. Planning Permission S22/1491

This matter was discussed by the Parish Council on the 28th September 2022. A letter of objection was sent to SKDC but still resulted in permission being granted.

3. Planning Permission S22/0530

This matter had been discussed various times by the Parish Council and due to the diligence of the chair a formal complaint had been raised. A response had been received from SKDC to the formal complaint stage 1 but was still unsatisfactory.

The Parish Council therefore decided to take the complaint to Stage 2. The Chair emphasised that the complaint was not against the decision made but in regard to the flaw in their procedures and the fact that the District Council did not acknowledge the Parish Council's initial comments. Cllr Brown continued that the District Council have taken note of part of the complaint by ensuring that they notify the Parish Council when they have made a decision which has not always been the case.

1753.518.22 To receive reports, if any, by District/County Councillors or representatives on other organisations

SKDC Cllr Jan Hansen raised the following:

1. That at the SKDC Full Council meeting he had been asked to second the motion to approve the Horbling Conversation Appraisal at which time he also offered the Parish Council's thanks for getting the matter to the current stage.

2. That at the appropriate stage he had referred back to the issues the Parish Council had encountered with the team at SKDC, at this point the leader of the Council had offered to hold a meeting with the Chair of the Parish Council.

Cllr Brown indicated that she would like to reserve the right to engage in that meeting depending on the response from SKDC with regard to the current formal complaint.

The chair continued that not only did the Parish Council require an apology from SKDC but also an assurance that they would introduce robust procedures to ensure that this kind of situation would be prevented from happening again. The Chair was of the opinion that if the assurances were not given then the Parish Council should consider taking the matter to the Ombudsman.

Cllr Hansen emphasised that there seemed to be a problem not only with planning but also other departments within SKDC.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Cllr Brown introduced the topic of finance by explaining that when the Plough was trading normally the Parish did not require a precept because it was able to draw its income from the pub. Following the Coronavirus epidemic the Plough revenue stream dried up and it became necessary to introduce a precept for the first time to enable the provision of other services.

Cllr Brown continued that although it looked as if the Plough was about to receive a new tenant the Parish Council would now have to spend money on refurbishing the external's of the pub along with all the other expenditure items that were necessary to maintain the Parish. With that in mind the chair informed the members that the Council were now going to separate the revenue streams to enable a focus on the income and expenditure from the Plough and from maintaining the Parish. This would then enable the Council to support the Plough from the revenue's received from it. Cllr Brown commented that the revenue's from the Plough had been poor for a long period and that the Parish Council now needed the Plough to finance itself.

Cllr Brown emphasised to those present that the Parish Council was not a profit making organisation.

The clerk explained that as the Plough was a listed building the burden of cost to attract a skilled workforce was high.

Cllr J Wesley asked if there were grants available to help the Parish Council with the necessary maintenance work. The clerk responded that generally there were grants available for the maintenance of listed buildings, but that it was more problematic to obtain them for a commercial property.

Cllr Brown concluded by stating that once the new tenants were in and trading the Parish would have a lovely vibrant pub and a low precept.

1754.520.22 Approval of Treasurers report

The clerk presented the members with the Income & Expenditure Account for the period to 31st August. The report showed a surplus of income of £ 4,165.69.

The clerk continued that he had also included a report that purely showed the income and expense related to the Plough which showed a small surplus of £374.00.

This supported Cllr Brown's earlier comments that currently the Plough was barely contributing and that this situation in the near future would only worsen.

The clerk moved on to the balance sheet and explained that whilst this showed a current healthy position the cash situation would worsen over the coming months as larger payments for solicitors fees etc would be going out of the account. The clerk continued that the Parish Council needed to ensure that it had sufficient reserves at all times to act as a safety barrier.

Discussion moved to the meeting room revenues that although not high maintained an amenity for the Parish.

Proposed K Lunn, Seconded J Wesley

RESOLVED: To approve the treasurer's report for the period to 31.08.22

1755.520.22 Approval of Payments since last meeting

The clerk presented a list of payments to the members totalling £ 1,856.09

Proposed K Lunn, Seconded P Wesley

RESOLVED: To approve the payments as listed totalling £ 1,856.09

1756.520.22 The Meeting Room and the Plough Inn.

Cllr Brown addressed the members on this item and informed them that the lease had now been signed and that the final step of the process was completion.

The Chair continued that Batemans were starting to organise the works that need to be completed before the pub could reopen that they are responsible for and that they will also be obtaining quotes for the work that the Parish Council is responsible for so that the work can be completed at the same time. Cllr Brown continued that Batemans already had two prospective tenants that are under final selection.

Proposed P Wesley, Seconded K Lunn
RESOLVED: To receive the above update.

1757.521.22 To discuss any such information which the chair may legally bring to the Councils attention.

Three items were discussed:

- a) New Reservoir Update – The clerk reported that this matter was ongoing and that a consultation was currently underway that would continue for 12 weeks. It seemed certain that an open event may take place at the meeting room for the benefit of residents.
- b) Communications/Social Media – The Chair wanted to ensure that business advertising did not appear on the Parish Facebook Page. Strictly for Parish Council business and community not for profit events.
- c) Defibrillator Training – Cllr Lunn confirmed that training would take place at the meeting room on the following dates: 13th October 6.00-8.30pm, 15th October 2.00-4.30pm, 27th October 6.00-8.30pm and 30th October 2.00-4.30pm.

1758.521.22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be scheduled for the 2nd November 2022 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 20.40Hrs

Signed Chair

Date