

Great Houghton Parish Council

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 19 May 2022

Those present :

Chairman : Councillor D L Parkin- Coates

Vice Chairman : Councillor J Bembridge

Councillors : Councillor G Frame, Councillor A Gothard, Councillor P Gregg, Councillor D Hanson, Councillor T Neale

4017 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from - Cllr L D Higginbottom

4018 Appointment of Chairperson for the Current Financial Year

It was proposed by Cllr D Hanson and seconded by Cllr T Neale that Cllr D P Coates be nominated as Chairperson for the financial year 2022/23. There were no other nominations therefore Cllr D P Coates was duly elected.

4019 Appointment of Deputy Chairperson for the Current Financial Year

It was proposed by Cllr P Gregg and seconded by Cllr A Goddard that Cllr J Bembridge be nominated as Deputy Chairperson for the financial year 2022/23 There were no other nominations therefore Cllr J Bembridge was duly elected.

4020 Annual Governance Statements

The Clerk presented the following Governance Statements for consideration and approval:

Annual Audit Governance Statement
Financial Risk Statement
General Risk Statement

It was agreed they be approved

Proposed Cllr P Gregg seconded Cllr A Goddard

4021 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr P Gregg and seconded by Cllr T Neale that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 7th April 2022 be accepted as correct, subject to minute No 4012b reading West Kirk Lane and not West Kirk Way.

4022 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Minute No 4008c-The Clerk informed members that new Village Caretaker had now started work. **Noted**

Minute No 4010 That no interest had been shown regarding the playing field being let grazing purposes. **Noted**

Minute NO 4012 that he was still waiting for further information from BMBC regarding the road refuge. The Chair along with Barnsley Cllr A Peace who was present at the meeting informed members they were pursuing this. **Noted**

4023 Correspondence

The Clerk reported that he had received the following letters / e-mails from.

a) Fitzwilliam Estates regarding Mr A B Lomax the Estates Manager leaving. **Noted**

b) The Local farmer requesting the damaged fence separating the play area on Church Street from his field be repaired.

The clerk informed members that it is the Parish Councils responsibility to repair the fence, and had sought two quotes. At the time of the meeting only one had been received. **Noted**

Following discussion it was agreed to wait until the other quote was received and to seek possible assistance from Barnsley MBC,

Proposed Cllr D P Coates seconded Cllr D Hanson

c) L Clayton informing members that the proposed erection of the monument on Crowell's Corner was with their solicitors. - **Noted**

d) New Media 4 Schools informing members that the changes to the web site had now been made- **Noted.**

The Chair asked the clerk for New Media4 Schools to make further changes as a result of additional bookings in the welfare Hall etc.

e) British Telcom regarding renewing the contract which is due to expire in July. The Clerk, following consultation with the Vice Chair agreed that the contract be renewed due to the terms of the agreement being reduce to.£ 39/ month - **Noted**

f) The Information Office regarding payment for registering under the Data Protection Act **Noted**

g) BMBC's Playground inspections report. - **Noted.**

h) The Pilates instructor regarding the increase in her hire charge and other issues regarding the hire of the welfare which has resulted in her finding alternative premises.

Following discussion it was agreed that the commercial rent be reduce to £15/hr for all businesses to make the decision fair to all, and a letter of acknowledgement be sent.

Proposed The Chair seconded Cllr T Neale

4024 Allotments

The Clerk informed members

a) The majority of the Allotment rents had been collected on Saturday 9th April 2022 - **Noted**

b) Requests had been received from three existing allotment holders regarding taking over plot No's 18, 19, & 19b Thurnscoe Lane for horse grazing, should they become available.

Following discussion it was agreed that any allotments that became available would be offered to the next person on the waiting list as per normal practice.

Proposed by Cllr J Bembridge Seconded Cllr P Gregg.

It was also agreed that an inspection of the allotment sites would be arranged at the next meeting.

4025 Planning

There were no Planning Applications to consider, although concern was expressed by Cllr P Gregg over the proposed High Street development. **Noted**

4026 Member's Recommendations

The Chair requested that the village Caretaker be sent on a Weed Spraying course. **Agreed**

Cllr P Gregg to enquire at Wigfield Farm and the Clerk to enquire at Barnsley MBC regarding suitable courses

Cllr J Bembridge

a) raised concerns about a resident(s) excessive weed spraying of the lane between Garraby Close and Gregory's Buildings which was killing wildlife. It was suggested a licence would be needed - **Noted** The Clerk to contact Barnsley MBC regarding possible action.

b) raised concerns about the poor access to Gregory's Buildings play area due to parked cars -. **Noted**. The Clerk to contact Barnsley Highways regarding possible action

Cllr P Gregg

a) Raised concerns over the fencing on the path between Springvale Road and Old Crown Gardens.

The Clerk reported that he had looked into this matter and was informed by Barnsley MBC's Highways Dept that the fencing was the responsibility of the home owners, not the authorities **Noted**. Cllr A Peace agreed to look into the issue

b) Asked why Park Lane had not been re-surfaced at the same time as Crabtree Drive and Aswood Grove had, as it is in a poorer condition. Cllr Coates also referred to Norfolk Road and informed the meeting that both roads had been reported. **Noted** The Ward member **Cllr A Peace** agreed to further enquiries.

c) Raised concerns over the state of the road at the entrance to the petrol station that was probably caused by the car wash - **Noted**, and to be reported to Barnsley Highways

d) Informed members that 3 deer had been killed in the last week by vehicles on Brierley Common and asked if it was possible for warning signs to be erected along its length. - **Noted** The Clerk to contact BMBC's Highways Dept to see if this is possible.

4027 Clerk's Financial Statement

The Clerk presented the final accounts for the year end 31st March 2022 on an income and expenditure basis and the reconciliation report for April 2022.

It was proposed by Cllr P Gregg and seconded by Cllr J Bembridge that the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2022 be approved.

And it was proposed by Cllr A Goddard and seconded by Cllr T Neale that the April accounts also be approved.

The Chair signed both the accounts as being correct.

4028 Parochial Matters

There were no Parochial Matters raised.

4029 Any Other Business

The Clerk

a) asked members to consider the implications of future energy costs, relating to the operation of the Welfare Hall. Whilst the current contract ran until February 2023 to re new it at todays prices (following comparisons) would result in costs increasing by approx. £4k - **Noted**

The Chair recommend the timer for the heating be re-instated rather than operating the system manually. **Noted**

b) asked members to consider replacing the external notice board at a cost of £585 following a quote from Weathershield Ltd.A funding application will be prepared via the Village Hall Committee.- **Agreed**

Proposed Cllr P Gregg seconded Cllr J Bembridge

c) Informed members that he was still waiting for a quote to provide an external storage cabinet for use by the village caretaker. **Noted**

d) informed members that problems had occurred with the intruder alarm system resulting in an engineering having to be called out. On inspection it was revealed that the problem is likely down to outdated fuse boards. As the 5yr electrical inspection was due to be carried out in November of this year, it was agreed with the Chair and Vice Chair to have it done immediately. This has now been carried out and shows remedial works costing approximately £2k need to be carried out. **Noted** and agreed subject to additional quotes being obtained and the Chair/ Vice chair giving approval to the appropriate designated contractor.

Proposed Cllr T Neale seconded Cllr P Gregg.

e) asked members to agree the annual rental for the garage sites. It was proposed it be set at £60 for the current financial year.

Proposed Cllr J Bembridge seconded Cllr D Hanson

The Chair informed members that the Foodbank operating from the Welfare Hall provided 573 meals in March (over a two week period) and 1,095 in April. - **Noted**

Cllr P Gregg proposed and agreed to investigate setting up a non engagement Facebook page for the Welfare Hall - **Noted**

The Vice Chair requested that a bouquet of flowers be sent to the retiring Chair Cllr L

D Higginbottom, thanking her for everything she has done over the last 50 plus years.
Agreed.

4030 Date and Time of Future Meetings

Future meetings will be held as follows

Wednesday 29th June 2022

Wednesday 10th August 2022

Wednesday 21st September 2022

All meetings will commence at 6:30pm and take place in the Welfare Hall Lounge -

Please enter the building by the lounge doors

Signed.....(Chairperson)

19 May 2022