

KIRTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 7PM ON 25TH AUGUST 2022 AT THE CANTEEN ,FORTERRA BRICKWORKS,KIRTON.

THIS MEETING WAS CALLED TO DISCUSS THE OFFER FROM VIA/NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL TO DECLUSTER THE LENGTHSMAN SCHEME.

PRESENT; R FEGAN (CHAIR), N BATTY, R BATTY, D SURGEY & D BEARD

IN ATTENDANCE K HALL (CLERK)

NUMBER	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION/DECISION	ACTION POINTS
1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Cllr T Wildgust and Cllr H Atherton apologised for absence and this was accepted by the Council.	
2	DECLARATION OF INTEREST	None	
3	FEEDBACK FROM MEETING AT VIA 25 TH AUGUST	<p>Cllr N Batty and K Hall attended a training session at the VIA offices on the morning of 25th August.</p> <p>Cllr N Batty gave a report on the meeting, highlighting the following points.</p> <p>The relaunched Lengthsman scheme is an opportunity for small Parishes like Kirton to decluster from the current scheme and take on the maintenance work themselves.</p> <p>This work can only be undertaken where it is safe to do so. E.g. within the 30mph speed limit, and has been risk assessed.</p> <p>Any work that needs to be completed outside the 30mph limit, or where the person undertaking the work would put themselves in danger,or where the Parish Council does not have the correct equipment would be referred to NCC/VIA.</p> <p>Examples of work that could/would be undertaken are</p> <p>Grass cutting</p> <p>Weed killing</p>	

		<p>Siding up with a spade Tree trimming if the tree overhangs a public footpath or road for example Cutting of other vegetation that overhangs a road or pavement Maintenance of landscaping features and minor repairs Reporting of safety defects like potholes back to VIA/NCC Cleaning of heritage signs.</p> <p>It was agreed that these were all items that the volunteers on the Parish Council and within the village already undertook and that the funding offered of £1150 per annum would make a welcome addition to the Parish coffers for the upkeep /and purchase of equipment. This funding is offered retrospectively, as the contract starts on 01 September 2022.</p>	
4	DISCUSSION RE PARISH COUNCIL CONTRACTING TO TAKE ON THE LENGTHSMAN SCHEME.	<p>This offer to decluster from the current scheme had been sent to the Parish Council at the end of July and the Councillors had questions that required clarification before a decision could be made.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contract- the contract is for 3 years from 31 August 2022 to 31 March 2025. The work is paid for in retrospect. An invoice is created by the Parish between January and March and sent to VIA with supporting evidence, this invoice will be paid within 2 weeks of receipt. 2. Will VIA provide training?- Cllr N Batty and Kate Hall attended the training course on 25th August. This training was mainly around Health & Safety and the importance of only doing work that is within your capabilities and for which you have the correct equipment. 3. Will VIA help with specialist training and equipment?- No as it is not expected that a Parish Council will undertake the kind of work that would require specialisation, this would still be referred back to VIA/NCC. 4. If any work is completed by an external contractor ,can the Parish Council claim for this within the funding?- Yes, an invoice from a contractor can be included within the Parish claim. 	

		<p>5. Can volunteers be paid to undertake the work?-No but the funding can be used as above to pay contractors or for the upkeep or purchase of new equipment for the village. The funding can be used for anything for the maintenance and upkeep of the village that the Parish Council considers to be a priority.</p> <p>6. Is there a mechanism in place to resolve any disputes between the Parish and VIA?- yes any issues will be resolved via the Clerk and VIA.</p> <p>As all the queries had been answered to the satisfaction of the Parish Council, Cllr R Batty proposed that we accept the offer and sign the contract and this was unanimously agreed.</p>	
5.	FURTHER ACTIONS	<p>Cllr Fegan has signed the contract and this will be hand delivered back to VIA on 26th August</p> <p>The Clerk has also emailed Ollerton Parish Council to advise them that we will decluster with effect from 31 August 2022.</p>	Clerk delivered contract back to VIA Friday 26 th August
6.	MEETING CLOSED	The meeting closed at 7.45pm.	

Minutes prepared by Kate Hall-Clerk to Kirton Parish Council 27th August 2022.