

GREWELTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting 9th September 2020

This meeting was held in the Village Hall main room with social distancing.

1. **Present**
Cllr Dawson (Chair), Cllr Kerr (Vice Chair), Cllr Lofthouse, Cllr Rhodes
Cllr Simms(District), Cllr Atkinson (County)
Parish Clerk
2 members of the public
2. **Apologies**
None received
3. **Declaration of Interest**
None
- 4 **Minutes** of Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 8th July 2020 were approved and signed as a correct record
- 5.0 **Matters arising from the last meeting**
The following agenda items had been held over due to the current Covid position and were agreed to be deferred to the January meeting agenda, with the exception of the Asset Register.
 - 5.1 **Community Speed Watch**
 - 5.2 **Asset register – operational items and “walkround”** – an updated action list was shared by Cllrs Kerr and Dawson for Cllrs action.
The size of the duck population had been raised on the walkround.
Resolved: Actions to be reviewed each meeting. Cllr Rhodes to review duck numbers.
 - 5.3 **Village Mobile Phone signal**
 - 5.4 **Public footpath signage**
- 6.0 **Finance**
 - 6.1 **Balance of Accounts**
The Clerk produced a financial pack providing a summary of receipts and payments.
The financial position as outlined below was reported as at 1st September 2020.
The Clerk also produced a Bank reconciliation report as at 1st September 2020.

Business Account statement £4393.52(1st September 2020)
Cash Management Account £3078.32(1st July 2020)

Resolved: That the position be noted.
 - 6.2 **Budget statement** – The Clerk outlined a budget projection statement for FY2019/20
Resolved: that the position be noted
 - 6.3 **Monies Received** - The Council noted the receipt of the following monies:
 - i) £720.52 – VAT reclaimed for FY 2019-20
 - ii) £59.73 - Wayleave Agreement payment received from Northern PowerGrid
 - iii) £1.20 – Bank interest received
 - 6.4 **Authorisation of expenditure**
 - i) £228.00 – replacement battery for Village Defibrillator, inc vat and shipping
 - 6.5 **Payments to be recorded** - The Council recorded the following payments:
 - i) £134.30 – Clerk salary, allowance and expense for June

Minutes of PC meeting 9/9/20 – page 2

7.0

Correspondence

7.1

Hackfall Woods car parking

A summary of recent correspondence was provided by the Clerk. These included further comments about the car park and overflow, plus pedestrian safety on the road from the car park to the village. Whilst the car park extension is due, this will add only 5 further bays. The Council are keen to work with the Woodland Trust to find solutions.

Resolved: Clerk to arrange a meeting for Council with the Woodland Trust

7.2

Traffic Safety – Crosshills/Kirkby road

The Clerk has held a site meeting with Highways, who have advised that this mirror is not a measure that Highways would provide. The Council could install a mirror under Council responsibility, if agreed at a further meeting and with relevant local agreement. Cllr Atkinson advised that there may be some financial support for this.

Resolved: Clerk to establish costs of mirror and installation.

7.3

New Village Hall website

Council was asked to approve Parish Council content, contacts and links for this.

Resolved; Clerk to provide to the new website.

7.4

Grasscutting on Village Green Triangles

Council had received suggestions that the Village Green triangles (or part of) should be left uncut to allow for wild flowers to grow, providing a habitat for insects, etc.

Resolved: Having considered the balance between the habitat benefits and concerns over traffic visibility, tidiness and the environment around the Wayside Cross, Council decided to continue with cutting for next season.

8.0

Decision on planning applications, appeals, enforcement investigations received

8.1

Hill Top Farm -conditional planning approval given to erect a lambing shed. Council had responded with no objections.

8.2

Oak Stile Farm – application to convert an agricultural barn to a dwelling had been rejected by Planning. Parish Council had previously responded with no objections.

8.3

Red Phonebox - BT have again applied for approval to remove the red phonebox from outside the old Hackfall Inn/ Old Post Office. Parish Council have again raised objections and HBC have supported those objections in statement to the Secretary of State.

8.4

Himalayan Gardens – retrospective planning approval sought for 2 sculptures, plus Change of use for part of Woodland area to form part of Sculpture Park.

Resolved: Council agreed to reply to Planning with no objections. Clerk to action.

9.0

Quarry Field and allotment project

Clerk is still awaiting a response from Land Registry, having applied for deeds to the Field. The processing of applications is being delayed by the impact of Covid.

Resolved: Clerk to update on Land Registry at next meeting

10.00

Tree Works – Oak Tree replacement

Cllr Rhodes confirmed that the firewood from the old oak had raised £75.

Council then considered replacement trees. An offer of a young oak had been made from a member of the village.

However, the advice from tree surgeons had been to avoid replacing with another oak tree (too tall and wide for proximity to road and cables).

Resolved: Council decided to replace with 2 trees – both Pink Hawthorns , which provide interest in flowers and foliage across the seasons. Cllr Kerr to source.

Cost c. £120.

Minutes of PC meeting 9/9/20 – page 3

- 11.0 Website Accessibility** – The Clerk reported back that, due to the simple nature of the Council website, limited actions were required on accessibility. The website is text only, with no video/audio content or payment mechanisms to be addressed. A Statement of Accessibility needs to be published by 23rd September .
Resolved: Clerk to action
- 12.0 Proposal for a Unitary Authority for N Yorkshire**
Government proposals for the current County and District levels of local government to be replaced in N Yorks by a single Unitary Authority were discussed by all Councillors. It was reported that there was a counter proposal to split the county into 2 Authorities. Council had mixed views, but agreed that, if the restructure were to take place, then this second option of 2 “Unitary” Authorities would be preferable.
Resolved: Clerk to provide feedback accordingly
- 13.0 IT review**
Cllr Dawson proposed that a review be carried out on the Councils IT equipment, which is ageing, in advance of the 2021/22 budget proposals.
Resolved: Clerk was asked to prepare a comparison of costs of refreshing or replacing the current laptop. Costs were also to be researched for a laminator.
- 14.0 NJC Pay Scales for 2020-21**
Council received confirmation of the NJC approved salary scale increase for the current Year – Clerk is on Scale Level 11.
Resolved : NJC approved increase to be implemented.
- 15.0 Councillors reports – none**
- 16.0 Questions or Comments from Members of the Public**
Recently, a number of door-to-door sellers of cleaning products have visited the village, allegedly under the auspices of a police-approved programme to assist ex-offenders or invalided ex-service personnel. Some concerns had been raised by public. Advice was given that, should members of the public have concerns when visited by future sales people, the public should request and inspect their authority badge, (take a photo if possible) and take registration numbers of any vehicles. Any concerns should be reported to the Police on telephone 101.
Resolved: Clerk to put this advice onto the noticeboards and website.
- 17.0 Agenda Items for next meeting –**
Tree planting, Christmas arrangements, 2021-22 Financial Budget approval
- Date of Next meeting-**
7.30pm Weds 11th November 2020 Village Hall - room TBA and subject to Covid regulations in place at that time

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Signed as a correct record

Name:

Date:

