

KIRTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 07 FEBRUARY 2023 AT THE CANTEEN FORTERRA BRICKWORKS, KIRTON

PRESENT R FEGAN (CHAIR), N BATTY, H ATHERTON, D BEARD.

IN ATTENDANCE K HALL (CLERK)

NUMBER	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION/DECISION	ACTION POINTS.
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr D Surgey, Cllr T Wildgust and Cllr R Batty	
2.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST	None	
3.	TO APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING.	The minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on 28 December 2022 were agreed by all and signed off by the Chair	PDF of December minutes sent to Cllr Surgey for inclusion on the website 08 February.
4.	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	None.	
5.	VILLAGE AMENITIES		
5.1.	THE PLAYING FIELD	Despite the Playing Field having a Play Space Preservation Order and a large sign advising that dogs are not to be exercised in the area, there have been recent incidents of dog fouling on the field which led to its temporary closure for health and safety reasons. The resident responsible for the dog has been advised of the regulations regarding taking the animal onto the field and the field is now open again. It is noted that a mole is causing quite an amount of damage to the field close to the entrance. The Parish Council are investigating differing methods to repel the mole from the field. Cllr N Batty reminded the Council that the bark under the play equipment will need to be aerated when the weather improves.	
5.2	ELECTRICITY SUB STATION	The electricity sub station started to make alarm noises at random times in December and these are particularly noticeable to residents	

		<p>close to the sub station especially when the main road is quieter and at night.</p> <p>The noise was reported to the Electricity Board who have advised that the alarm was fitted by the environment agency to measure emissions.</p> <p>A representative of National Grid has visited the site and the investigation into this alarm is ongoing.</p>	
5.3	THE GREEN & LOW FENCE AT KIRTON COURT.	<p>Cllr N Batty first reported the dilapidated state of the low fence along the top and side of the Green at Kirton Court over 2 years ago and since then more of the fence has disintegrated.</p> <p>Working with Ben Stacey from Street Scene at NSDC a solution to this problem, which is also more in keeping with the village has been agreed.</p> <p>Low hedge plants will be placed along the top and side of the Green and the broken fence will be removed. Where the fence is still in reasonable condition, it will be left and the hedge plants will be placed in front of the current low fence.</p> <p>As more plants become available other parts of the fenced area will also be planted.</p>	
5.4	ACCIDENT AT CHURCH CORNER.	<p>The Parish Council share the shock and sadness of the village at the destruction of the Lytch Gate at the Church Corner in a vehicle collision.</p> <p>We understand that this will be repaired when insurance funds are forthcoming.</p>	
5.5	NEW BUS SHELTER	<p>The old bus shelter opposite the Playing Field has been replaced by a larger lighter new bus shelter with a seat and lights for the evenings.</p> <p>Hopefully this new structure will deter the anti social behaviour that the old shelter suffered from.</p> <p>Cllr Atherton would like to thank Elliott Mizen at NCC for all his help in getting this new shelter installed.</p>	
5.6	COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH	<p>Cllr Atherton has contacted PCSO Cotton and Richard Dunn regarding the possibility of training for additional volunteers to assist with speed watch in the village. This can take place as soon as we have enough people to make it viable.</p>	

		Sadly currently, only 1 volunteer has come forward and endeavouring to set up speed watch times is becoming more difficult as residents stop working from home and return to work. If any residents do wish to volunteer they can contact any member of the Council or email kirtonparishcouncil@gmail.com	
5.7	THE STABLES	In recent weeks 2 horses have managed to escape from the Paddock at the Stables and get out into the village. Fortunately with these 2 incidents residents have managed to get the horses back to the stables. The Parish Council and residents are concerned about the safety of the animals if they were to stray onto the main road.	Clerk to write to the owner of the stables requesting a contact number in case another horse escapes or there is an emergency at the Stables.
6.	TREE PRESERVATION ORDER (TPO) AT BOUGHTON CAMP.	In January ,tree preservation order N412 2023 was put into place to cover trees on 2 large areas of Boughton Camp from being cut down or removed. The Parish Council was asked for any comments and has replied unanimously that they are in full favour of this TPO being made permanent when the consultation period is completed. The Parish Council consider that this will further protect the woodland areas on the camp and the green areas bordering the Village.	
7.	CLERKS APPRAISAL AND PAY SCALE 2023	The Clerk was appraised by Cllr Fegan and Cllr Wildgust on 06 February and her performance was evaluated and objectives set for the coming year. Currently the Clerk sits at pay scale 13 on the NALC guidance but in view of her performance over the last year it was recommended by the appraisers that her salary be increased to pay scale 17 at £13.95 per hour for 16 hours per month, with effect from February 2023. This item was proposed by Cllr Fegan and agreed by all. Cllr Fegan advised the Councillors present that a new pay scale may be introduced in April 2023 and that this item will be reviewed if necessary at that time.	Details of new pay scale forwarded to Cllr N Batty to advise accountant 08 Feb 2023. Standing orders with bank altered 08 Feb 2023.

8.	LENGTHMANS SCHEME 2022-2023	<p>The Parish Council agreed to take on doing their own Lengthsman work in August 2022.</p> <p>As part of this scheme an annual report has to be completed of work undertaken within the Parish and an invoice sent to VIA to reclaim funding.</p> <p>Cllr N Batty and the Clerk prepared this and it was emailed to VIA for payment on 18th January 2023.</p> <p>Cllr N Batty advised that as part of this work she has enlisted the help of Paul Crothers to trim back both sides of the banking near the Church on the Tuxford Road and cut back the hedge where it overhangs the pavement at Boughton Camp.</p>							
9.	THE PINFOLD	<p>The project to restore the Pinfold is going to be a big undertaking for the village.</p> <p>As the front wall of the Pinfold has completely disappeared, this will be the most expensive part of the restoration work to replace the wall in a fitting manner to match the Church wall.</p> <p>We have been kindly supported by Forterra who have offered, if required bricks to rebuild the non heritage wall which currently stands at the back of the Pinfold.</p> <p>At the moment we are awaiting the results of applications for grants that have been submitted.</p> <p>The Parish are most grateful to Forterra who have already offered a grant of £1000 from their community fund.</p> <p>Applications have also been submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund and to Newark & Sherwood District Council.</p> <p>Once we know if we have been successful, we can then determine more realistically the scope of the project.</p> <p>If all the applications are not successful we may have to look at some more cost effective alternatives to the gold standard one that would be the preferred choice or make the restoration in stages.</p> <p>This is a Community project and Cllr N Batty suggested that when the weather improves we can then start to make a decision about the rear wall of the Pinfold and look at clearing out more of the undergrowth and sides of the area.</p>	Clerk to keep the Council updated as notifications of funding come through and keep a look out for more funding opportunities.						
10.	ACCOUNTS PAID	<table><tr><td>P Crothers</td><td>Christmas Tree</td><td>£140.00</td></tr><tr><td>Stamps (KH)</td><td></td><td>£ 4.08</td></tr></table>	P Crothers	Christmas Tree	£140.00	Stamps (KH)		£ 4.08	
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		Mowershop Equipment Repairs £221.59 DB Bartle Mower Repairs £500.00 Printer Cartridge (KH) £36.50 Wood for bin next to bus shelter (NB) £11.10 New Sweeping Brush (NB) £9.99	
11.	VILLAGE CONTRIBUTIONS	<p>The Parish Council would like to thank the following people for their support in making Kirton a pleasant place to live.</p> <p>Cllr H Atherton for her work with NCC to get the new bus shelter installed.</p> <p>Colin Haywood for replanting the verges at the sides of the bus stop.</p> <p>Tim Wildgust and George Eves for helping to remove the roof of the damaged Lytch Gate to a safe place for future restoration after the traffic incident.</p> <p>Cllr Richard Batty for clearing all the evidence of dog fouling from the Playing Field.</p> <p>Cllr Nicola Batty and Cllr Tim Wildgust and other residents for their efforts with litter picking</p> <p>Forterra for their kind donation towards the restoration of the Pinfold.</p>	
12	CORRESPONDANCE RECEIVED AFTER THE PUBLICATION OF THE AGENDA.	<p>A letter has been received from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities regarding the Coronation weekend of 6/7/8 May 2023.</p> <p>They would like to make it as easy as possible for people to organise street parties, take part in the Coronation Big Lunch on 07 May or be involved with volunteering in the Community on 08 May.</p>	This item to be discussed in detail at next Parish Council meeting.
13.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 07 March 2023 at 19.30 hours at the Canteen, Forterra Brickworks, Kirton	
14	MEETING CLOSED	The meeting closed at 21.25 hours.	

Minutes prepared by Kate Hall, Clerk to Kirton Parish Council 08 February 2023.