

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PEAKIRK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2021 IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STARTING AT 7:30PM**

Present: Councillors Henry Clark (Chair), David Fovargue and Anne Tuley

Also in attendance: Angela Hankins (Clerk) and Sarah Smith.

99. Public question time: Cllr Fovargue expressed concerns about very heavy vehicles accessing the railway via The Sanderlings, fearing that damage might be caused to either fencing or properties. Cllr Fovargue to monitor the situation and take photos as appropriate and will then write to Network Rail.
100. Cllr Clark paid tribute to Councillor Greg Prior who had served the Parish Council for many years as councillor, grass-cutting contractor and Tree Warden. He had been responsible for planting the Poplar trees in the field on the Deeping Road, a local historian and founder member of PAST (Peakirk Archaeological Survey Team) and keen litter picker. He was a great asset to the village and will be sadly missed. Members wished to record their condolences to Greg's widow, Avril.
101. Apologies were received from Cllr Crowson and Cllr Jackson.
102. No declarations of interest were recorded.
103. Following a minor amendment (item 92 – Medium length grass will be allowed along the Chestnut Close edge (width of 3 metres) the minutes of the previous meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> November were agreed as a true record.
104. Members approved the co-option of Mrs Sarah Smith to the parish council. Mrs Smith gave a brief overview of her experience and was welcomed on board.  
***Clerk to provide induction pack and details of training opportunities. Cllr Tuley to pass on her copy of Local Councils Explained.***
105. Cllr Clark voiced potential concerns with the use of personal e-mails and the requirement to register individually with the Office of the Information Commissioner.  
***Cllr Clark to investigate the pros and cons of using gov.uk e-mail addresses.***
106. Correspondence:  
106.1 A letter of thanks from St Pega's Parochial Church Council was noted.  
106.2 CPRE Countryside Voices Winter magazine was passed to Cllr Tuley, for onward circulation to Cllrs Crowson and Fovargue.  
106.3 There were no other items of correspondence.
107. Planning: application 21/01662/FUL had been received for the proposed change of use with the demolition of existing warehouse and the construction of four one-bed maisonette dwellings including associated parking and external works at St Pegas Warehouse, St Pegas Road.  
***Clerk to request extension of time to allow the application to be considered at the next meeting.***
108. Finance:  
108.1 Approval given for reimbursement to Cllr Tuley in the sum of £18.04 for preservative and ancillary items.  
108.2 Members approved reimbursement to Cllr Jackson in the sum of £60.70 for wooden stakes for use on the Community Orchard allotment.  
108.3 Approval given for payment of the clerk's office expenses in the sum of £42.02.  
108.4 Members approved payment of PAYE to HMRC for the period Oct-Dec.  
108.5 Approval given to payment of Home Working Allowance in the sum of £10 and salary payment to Mrs A Hankins for December.  
108.6 Members ratified the budget for 2022/23 and approved a gross parish precept of £9,423.

- 108.7 The Clerk advised of receipt of £48 from NFU in relation to the insurance claim for the damaged bollard on the Village Green opposite Rookwood.
109. Village Gateways / Speed Watch:
- 109.1 It was noted that the revised costs for purchase of the Village Gateways had increased to £3,129.27 +VAT.
- 109.2 Correspondence from the City Council advised that the installation costs of the gateways would be £2,387 should they not cover the cost.
- 109.3 Members approved purchase of the gates and installation costs if required.  
***Cllr Fovargue to order the gates, the Clerk to advise Martin Brooker at the City Council.***
- 109.4 Cllr Fovargue provided a report on Speed Watch and Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS). The VAS on St Pegas Road had measured over 32,000 vehicle speeds leaving the village, the fastest being 75mph. The average speed was 35.4mph and over 40% of the vehicles were travelling at more than 30mph. When analysing the data by hour, each hour contained a vehicle travelling at a speed of 55-60mph. Cllr Fovargue expressed ongoing frustration with the Neighbourhood Safer Speeds Team administrator's requirements for data submission. Cllr Clark suggested that the data could be downloaded in excel format which should be able to be easily used.  
***Cllr Clark to contact the Police & Crime Commissioner. Cllr Smith suggested inviting Amanda Large to the next meeting.***  
***Cllr Clark to adjust the speed sign if possible so that the speed does not display to incoming traffic when it is measuring outgoing traffic.***
110. Book Stop: the Clerk advised of a recent meeting with organisers of the book swap. Councillors approved the proposal to put the bookcases onto the back wall of the bus shelter, suitably secured, and provide extra bench seats at the sides.
111. Allotments –Cllr Clark reported on the recent activity morning when a working party had cleared the plot to be used for the community orchard, created a beetle bank and built a dead hedge on 2 sides. It is intended to plant the fruit trees on 29<sup>th</sup> January with help from the JCCP (John Clare Countryside Project).
112. Maintenance:
- 112.1 The Clerk advised that 2 quotes had been received for tree works on the Village Green. As the work was not of a major or critical nature it was decided to postpone any work until the full tree survey, due in 2022, had been undertaken.
- 112.2 Consideration was given to a date for the Annual Village Litter Pick. It was agreed that this would be held on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April to coincide with the Great British Spring Clean, (25<sup>th</sup> March - 10<sup>th</sup> April).  
***Clerk to book the village hall for refreshments.***
- 112.3 To consider a policy in relation to the use of plastic in areas controlled by the Parish Council including ethical sourcing and disposal – in the absence of Cllr Jackson it was agreed to postpone this item to the next meeting.
- 112.4 There were no other maintenance matters
113. Climate Emergency Group / John Clare Countryside Project report – Cllrs Clark & Jackson, along with the Clerk had met with Rowan Rumball, the City Council's Wildlife Officer to walk around the village. It was an interesting meeting with Rowan very keen to achieve his target of doubling nature across the Peterborough area.
114. Councillors Reports: Cllr Fovargue advised that the Village Asset Inspection Report now includes a risk Assessment. It was noted that a date for reviewing the Emergency Plan has still to be arranged.
115. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January. There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:54pm.