

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PEAKIRK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 20TH MARCH 2023, IN THE VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING AT 7:30PM

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

Also in attendance: Angela Hankins (Clerk) and 2 members of the public (for item 145 only).

145. Public question time: A request was received from Dr Avril Lumley Prior for a further test pit to be dug on the Village Green to investigate further the route of the Car Dyke. Fane Road Archaeological Group (FRAG) will be involved with the excavation, with involvement from residents if possible. The proposed pit will measure 3mx2m and the excavation will take place over 5 days. The field officer from FRAG confirmed that a risk assessment will be provided, the pit safeguarded, and public liability insurance held. The dig is likely to be held during the latter part of September/ October. Ongoing contact to be with Avril Lumley Prior. Members welcomed the proposals outlined subject to the usual requirements.
146. Apologies were received from Cllr Sally Jackson and Cllr Sarah Smith.
147. No declarations of interest were recorded.
148. The minutes of the previous meeting of 20th February 2023 were signed as a true record.
149. Correspondence:
- 149.1 149.1 (1) Police Neighbourhood Team Community Engagement – Clerk to respond to Sgt Rose to agree a suitable date for the team to visit the village.
- 149.1 (2) Deepings Leisure Centre Community Group – this had been noted. An update can be found on Save The Deeping Community Centre Facebook page.
- 149.2 Clerks and Councils Direct – March Edition – circulated for Cllrs Crowson, Tuley and Fovargue.
- 149.3 National Allotment Society Magazine – taken by Cllr Clark.
- 149.4 Request for further archaeological test pits on the Village Green – covered at item 145 above.
- 149.5 A request for a short presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting on St Pega's Secret Past was received from Dr Lumley Prior – members agreed that a short presentation would be welcomed.
- 149.6 Ideas for inclusion in the next edition of the Village Tribune – the next deadline for contributions is 14th April. Suggestions from members included the parish meeting, coronation events and the archaeological dig. Any other ideas to be notified to Cllr Clark.
- 149.7 Other items of correspondence: the Clerk had made contact with Joanna Taylor, the local democracy reporter for the Peterborough Telegraph. Suggested topics to bring to her attention were speeding traffic, rural buses and refusal of the City Council to provide assistance with Neighbourhood Plans.
150. Planning:
- 150.1 Consideration given to application 23/00252/HHFUL – addition of 'The Coach House' within the courtyard, attaching to the existing single storey building at Peakirk House, 16 St Pegas Road – no objections in principle.
- 150.2 Clarification was requested by the clerk on the revised terms of reference for the Planning Working Group and procedure for processing of consultations. It was agreed that all correspondence to go through the Clerk. For planning applications the Planning Working Group will confer (meet or e-mail) and advise the clerk of its collective view. For consultations one councillor can be the lead but proposed responses have to be circulated to all councillors.
- 150.3 Asset of Community Value Application for the Ruddy Duck Public House – the Clerk reported that the e-mail address on the City Council website was not working and no response had been received from Helen Harris, the named officer.
- Clerk to continue with application for reinstatement.***
- 150.4 There were no other planning matters.

151. Finance:
- 151.1 Approval given to the payment of Home Working Allowance and salary to Mrs A Hankins for March.
 - 151.2 Members approved reimbursement to Cllr Jackson in the sum of £53.99 for wildflower bulbs.
 - 151.3 Members noted the budget review to 28th February 2023.
 - 151.4 Consideration was given to Cllr Jackson's proposal for a donation to PECT in relation to work on the allotments.
£100 donation to be included on the agenda of the next meeting.
152. Maintenance:
- 152.1 Nothing further had been received from the City Council on repainting of the Folly Bridge.
 - 152.2 Overhanging tree branches – no response had been received from the City Council.
Clerk to chase.
 - 152.3 Dog fouling – members were grateful for the signs received from the City Council.
Cllrs Fovargue, Crowson and Tuley to have a walkabout of the village and site signs as appropriate.
 - 152.4 Tree works on the Village Green - it was agreed that the specification for the trimming of the Yew Hedge is as per previous years. Estimates for trimming of the Yew Hedge to be kept separate from other works required to trees on the village green.
 - 152.5 Village Litter Pick – no further details were available regarding proposals for the Big Help Out event on 8th May.
 - 152.6 Best Kept Village Sign – members agreed that action needed to be taken as the sign is in poor condition. Ideas for possible refurbishment or replacement were discussed.
153. Needs Assessment – item to be held over to the next meeting in the absence of Cllr Smith.
154. Allotment Report – Cllr Clark reported that there is some plot availability at present which Christine Dearman is managing. The water tanks are full of rainwater and hedging plants have been planted on the boundary with the adjacent open field. Thanks to Cllr Clark and David Hankins for their efforts. It was agreed that the small plot that had been earmarked for a community herb garden could be let.
155. Speed Watch Report and Traffic data: it was noted that a further Speed Watch had been undertaken on St Pega's Road, near to The Sanderlings, in an outward direction, with 6 vehicles exceeding the speed limit. Another Speed Watch to be undertaken mid-April. Cllr Fovargue to provide further traffic data to the next meeting.
156. Cllr Clark reported on the Parish Council Liaison Meeting of 8th March. Jim Newton has been appointed as the Acting Assistant Chief Planning Officer and the City Council will no longer provide strategic support to other areas and are wanting to streamline the enforcement process. Work on the new Local Plan will start on 1st April. Until the new local plan is complete there is no point in doing anything in relation to Neighbourhood Planning - the Liaison Group are objecting to the City Council about this. Members were advised of the Climate Change Conference to take place via Zoom on 29th March and a city-wide spring clean on the parkways.
157. Councillor reports not covered above: Cllr Tuley advised that she had been to Peakirk-cum-Glinton Primary School to speak to the children about climate change and the environment. A poster competition had been held and 2 prizes to be awarded. Digital copies of the winning entries requested. It is intended that photos of the awards will be submitted to The Tribune.
Cllr Tuley to submit expenditure claim to the Clerk.
158. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 17th April.

There being no further business the meeting finished at 8:50pm.