

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PEAKIRK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 17TH JULY 2023, IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STARTING AT 7:30PM

Present: Councillors Henry Clark (Chair), Emma Crowson, Sarah Smith and Anne Tuley.

Also in attendance: Angela Hankins (Clerk) and one member of the public (item 33 only).

33. Public question time: Dr Avril Lumley Prior spoke of the intended archaeological survey to be undertaken on the Village Green in October in conjunction with Fane Road Archaeology Group. (FRAG).
34. Apologies received from Cllrs Sisodia, Fovargue and Jackson.
35. There were no declarations of interest.
36. The minutes of the previous meeting dated 19th June 2023 were approved as a true record and signed accordingly.
37. Correspondence:
- 37.1 Clerks & Councils Direct, July edition – circulation to Cllrs Crowson, Tuley and Fovargue.
- 37.2 Members were reminded of the Parish Councillor Code of Conduct online training to be held on 28th September.
Councillors not previously having undertaken Code of Conduct training encouraged to attend this online event.
- 37.3 Members noted the 7th of October for defibrillator training in the Village Hall.
- 37.4 Other correspondence received: details had been received from Peakirk Archaeological Survey Team (PAT) and FRAG for a single test pit excavation on the village green showing the proposed location and programme of activities to be undertaken between 23-27 October 2023. A copy of liability insurance held by FRAG to the limit of £5,000,000 was also received. Advice given to liaise directly with the Village Hall Committee in relation to any use of the Village Hall and Car Park.
Clerk to confirm adequacy of insurance liability to Dr A Lumley Prior and the need for a risk assessment and method statement prior to the event.
38. Planning:
- 38.1 Members noted the permission given to application 23/00252/HHFUL for Addition of 'The Coach House' within the courtyard, attaching to the existing single storey building at Peakirk House.
- 38.2 Members noted the permission given to application 23/00449/HHFUL for erection of a single storey rear extension at 2 The Sanderlings.
- 38.3 Other planning matters:
- 38.3 (1) Members noted the permission given to application 23/00743/CTR, work to Horse Chestnut tree at Rookwood, 7A Chestnut Close.
- 38.3 (2) Application, reference 23/00262/LBC, received for replacement windows and doors at 1 Chestnut Close.
Planning subgroup to consider and send comments to the Clerk for submission.
- 38.3 (3) No progress made on Asset of Community Value (AOCV application).
Cllr Clark to refer to CAMRA website. Councillor Crowson willing to re-write as appropriate.
39. Finance:
- 39.1 Approval given for payment of invoice from PCVS for payroll services for April-June in the sum of £36.
- 39.2 Approval given for payment of salary and home working allowance to Mrs A Hankins for July.
- 39.3 Members considered the adoption of NALC Model Financial Regulations, 2019 to replace the existing financial regulations. The Clerk advised that the model regulations were much longer and more complex than the existing financial regulations and would need to be changed to suit local circumstances before adoption.

Clerk to circulate existing and proposed versions of the Financial Regulations. Councillors to respond with comments by the end of August. Cllr Smith and the Clerk to consider comments and bring recommendations to the September meeting.

40. Maintenance:

- 40.1 Resistograph Testing – the Clerk advised that this should be carried out during the week commencing 24/7.
- 40.2 Members noted correspondence from Mr R Harding and considered the implications for the grass cutting contract. It was agreed that modifications to the contract could be made if that helped him continue to the end of the season.
Clerk to have further conversation with Mr Harding.
- 40.3 No quotes yet received for the trimming of the yew hedge or strimming underneath.
Clerk to seek alternative quotes for yew trimming.
Cllr Clark to trim underneath the hedge.
- 40.4 Folly Bridge update – a positive response had been received from the City Council in relation to repainting the bridge with the existing colour scheme retained. Members felt the colour scheme could be challenged. Permits may be required from the Environment Agency before any work can take place.
Clerk to request Peter Tebb at the City Council to proceed with enquiries with the Environment Agency.
- 40.5 It was noted that an oak bollard adjacent to 2 Chestnut Close has been removed from the Village Green.
Cllr Clark to investigate cost of replacement and installation.
- 40.6 Verge encroachment at 46 St Pega's Road: the Clerk reported that no further update had been received from the City Council and Cllr Hiller has been advised accordingly.
- 40.7 Updates received in relation to:
- i) Retouching of St Pega Village Sign – the work has been undertaken by Mr Moss. Thanks expressed.
 - ii) Village Gateways – still to be cleaned by Cllrs Crowson and Tuley
 - iii) Bus shelter – outstanding re-staining to be undertaken by Cllrs Crowson and Tuley
 - iv) Shrubbery adjacent to the substation site by the bus shelter – to be cut down and removed by Cllrs Jackson and Crowson
 - v) Repair to village monument step – Cllr Clark to re-set a piece of stone from one of the steps that had been previously damaged.
- 40.8 Any other items of maintenance – it was noted that a tree was down in the permissive footpath opposite Fox Covert Road near to the hardstanding. Cllr Clark to investigate.
It was agreed that it would be good to have an agreed procedure for reporting any issues to the landowner.

41. Speed Watch / Road Safety:

- 41.1 Cllr Crowson reported on the latest speed data from the Vehicle Activated Signs on St Pegas Road, with a speed of 78mph recorded. Another Speed Watch to be arranged. Cllrs Crowson and Fovargue had met with a councillor from Bainton parish council regarding autospeedwatch.org - at present it is not recognised by the police and must be checked daily, cost in the region of £600 for 2 speed cameras. It can be set up to find persistent offenders, but is solar powered and does not work at night.
All councillors to look at autospeedwatch.org website.
- 41.2 Members agreed that Lewis Banks from the City Council should be invited to meet with councillors during an afternoon, including a walkabout, to discuss the speeding problem.
Clerk to arrange.

42. Climate Emergency Group:

- 42.1 There was no report in Cllr Jackson's absence, however the recent talk arranged by Lorna Richardson was considered a positive event.

- 42.2 Members agreed to invite Rowan Rumball from the City Council to attend a walkabout within the village to assist with improving biodiversity. His advice and ideas could then be used to update the Peakirk Neighbourhood Plan.

Clerk to arrange.

43. Councillor's reports: young people had been playing in the crops in the field adjacent to the Old Rectory.
Cllr Tuley to notify the farmer.
44. The date of the next meeting was noted as Monday 18th September. Prior to that meeting, members were reminded of the police engagement event arranged for 29th July at 3.00pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:55pm.

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