

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

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

Also in attendance: Angela Hankins (Clerk)

78. Public question time: there were no members of the public present.
79. Apologies: none received.
80. No declarations of interest were recorded.
81. The minutes of the previous meeting dated 16th October 2023 were approved and signed as a true record.
82. Correspondence:
- 82.1 Good Neighbours Rural Peterborough - a request for flyer circulation had been received to promote awareness of the charity operating in the area. It was agreed that a Christmas Newsletter from the parish council would be beneficial and the Good Neighbours flyers could be distributed at the same time.
Councillors to send items for inclusion to Cllr Clark. Clerk to obtain Good Neighbours flyers and co-ordinate distribution prior to Christmas.
- 82.2 Clerks & Councils Direct – November edition. Taken by Cllr Crowson for onward circulation to Cllrs Tuley and Fovargue.
- 82.3 Allotment Society Magazine – taken by Cllr Jackson for onward circulation to Cllr Smith.
- 82.4 Consideration was given to a request for funding from the Deepings Leisure Centre Community Group. A motion to donate £100 was defeated, the Chairman using his casting vote.
- 82.5 Members considered a donation request from MAGPAS. A sum of £50 was proposed, to be included on the agenda of the next meeting.
- 82.6 Other correspondence – the Clerk advised that a complaint concerning the state of Meadow Road had been received. Cllr Sisodia to provide further information.
83. Planning:
- 83.1 It was noted that no objections were submitted on planning application 23/01202/HHFUL for a single storey house extension at 4 Rectory Lane.
- 83.2 Members noted approval given to 23/01155/HHFUL for a single storey rear extension at 33 St Pega's Road.
- 83.3 Members noted approval given to application 23/00951/LBC, single storey extension to rear of dwelling and replacement doors and window to rear elevation at 5 Chestnut Close.
- 83.4 Other planning matters: consideration given to planning application 23/01493/HHFUL for extensive landscape and garden development plans at Greystones (Peakirk House), 16 St Pega's Road. Members had no objections.
Clerk to respond.
The clerk advised that Parish Site Nomination information for inclusion in the new Local Plan had been received from the City Council.
Clerk to circulate email received.
84. Finance:
- 84.1 Members noted payment of invoice from Woodcraft Trees for tree works on the Village Green in the sum of £800+VAT.
- 84.2 Approval give for payment of annual membership renewal of The National Allotment Society in the sum of £55+VAT.
- 84.3 Members approved payment of salary and home working allowance to Mrs A Hankins for November.

- 84.4 Approval given for increase to Clerk's salary as per NALC recommendations effective from 1st April 2023, with back payment.
- 84.5 Members noted the budget review to 31st October 2023, circulated prior to the meeting.
- 84.6 Consideration was given to the first draft budget for 2024/5. Refinement of figures was suggested.
An amended version to be brought to the next meeting by Cllr Clark.

85. Maintenance:

- 85.1 Updates were provided on road sweeping, dog poo signage and Electricity Substation site fencing: A request for road and gulley sweeping on St Pega's Road, especially near to Peakirk House, had been made but no action yet taken by the City Council.
Clerk to monitor.
Additional dog poo signs have been placed near the stone wall on St Pega's Road.
Cllr Jackson to provide Cllr Tuley with the template for message marking on the pavement.
Thanks were expressed to David Hankins for repainting of the fence exposed by the removal of the ceanothus by the substation.
- 85.2 Cllr Clark advised that seven oak bollards around the Village Green need replacement. Amount of £400 to be authorised for expenditure at the next meeting. Cllr Fovargue offered to assist.
- 85.3 Best Kept Village Sign – Cllr Clark to remove the plate of the sign for refurbishment. Cllrs Clark and Fovargue to check whether the post should be removed. It was noted that the Village Hall Committee would consider mounting the plate on one of the metal gates at the front of the hall.
- 85.4 In the absence of Cllr Sisodia it was agreed that the item relating to the impact of works to residents of Meadow Road from the Water Pipeline and any action required should be held over to the next meeting.
- 85.5 Other items of maintenance reported: the waste bin adjacent to Thorney Road near the entrance to Corporation Bank has been removed.
Clerk to investigate.
Rowan tree on St Pegas Road near to the post box has been cut down to a stump by the City Council.
Clerk to query reason with the City Council.

86. Speed Watch / Road Safety:

- 86.1 Information on Speed Watch and speed data was provided by Cllrs Crowson and Fovargue. More volunteers are needed as the team is now down to six. A further speed watch is planned for 18th. During the period 20/09/23 -02/11/2023 26,418 vehicles were counted leaving the village on St Pega's Road (speed limit 30mph) with speeds recorded over 60mph, one recorded as 93mph. Between 02/11 and 20/11 10,903 vehicles were recorded, one at 69mph. The local police officer is aware of the speeding problem.
- 86.2 The item to receive a report from Cllr Clark in relation to Helpston PC traffic calming is held over to the next meeting.
- 86.3 Members advised that there was a good walkabout of the village with Lewis Banks, but as yet no further information has been provided in relation to costings for a 20mph speed limit.
Cllr Clark to chase.
Further consideration to be given to a 20mph zone which will be mentioned in the next newsletter.
- 86.4 Cllr Fovargue advised that he had sent Cllr Sisodia information on the cameras used by Bainton. It was felt that these would only be of use if the police will accept the data recorded.
Cllr Fovargue to send chaser to Bainton PC for feedback of their meeting with the Police & Crime Commissioner to recognise the cameras.

87. Climate Emergency:

- 87.1 Cllr Jackson advised that the PCEG would meet every 2 months with effect from January. She had met with Tony Cook from PECT regarding possible project funding applications to the 30 for 30 fund. Cllr Jackson suggested an ecology survey of various areas within the village to set a baseline for biodiversity. Cllr Smith offered her assistance with the funding application forms.

It was agreed that maintenance of the nettle area to the rear of the village hall should not be at parish council expense.

87.2 Cllr Jackson had participated in an on-line event and was eager to seek assistance for residents wishing to improve the energy efficiency rating of their property. To obtain support for this she requested the parish council become a member of Community Energy England at a cost of £165. Members requested further clarification regarding the cost, capacity to undertake projects and engagement with the village.

It was agreed to defer any decision to the next meeting.

87.3 It was noted that Cllr Jackson has joined NALC's free Climate Emergency Network.

88. Cllr Jackson asked whether replacement "Cold Caller" stickers could be provided to residents.
Clerk to investigate.

89. Following consideration of three quotes received for grass-cutting of the Village Green and other areas within the village for the 2024/25 season it was agreed to appoint Peterborough Gardening Services.
Clerk to confirm with contractor.

90. Councillors' reports:

Cllr Jackson expressed a wish to undertake training on Engaging with Communities and Action Plans, provided by CAPALC. Cllr Smith also wished to participate in the engagement training.

Approval given.

Cllr Tuley advised of a free pack obtainable from Anglian Water relating to water usage efficiency in the garden.

Cllr Jackson advised that comments on the Local Draft Plan are now available on the City Council website.

91. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 18th December.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:40pm.