

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PEAKIRK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024, IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STARTING AT 7:30PM**

Present: Councillors Henry Clark (Chair), Emma Crowson, Sally Jackson, Kam Sisodia, Sarah Smith and Anne Tuley.  
Also in attendance: Angela Hankins (Clerk). Two residents.

- 50. Public Question Time: none present.
- 51. Apologies were received from Ward Councillor Boyce.
- 52. No declarations of interest were recorded.
- 53. The minutes of the previous meeting dated 15<sup>th</sup> July 2024 were approved and signed as a true record.

Two residents arrived so the meeting was suspended to allow for a return to item 50. Concerns were raised in relation to fly-tipping in Meadow Road with 3 incidents reported in the last 5 weeks. Cllr Clark advised of the funding received by the City Council to assist with combatting fly-tipping and the use of tape to mark areas of rubbish. Cllr Jackson offered to obtain the tape. Problems with speeding traffic were also raised with Cllr Sisodia keen to set up a team for covering Meadow Road. The meeting resumed at 7:49pm.

- 54. Correspondence:
  - 54.1 Clerks & Councils Direct – September edition given to Cllr Crowson for Cllr Tuley.
  - 54.2 The landlord of the Ruddy Duck had made a request for a letter of support for the Ruddy Ducks' application to Pub-is-the-Hub for improvement of the garage building for community use. Support was agreed.  
***Cllr Smith to provide draft letter to the clerk.***
  - 54.3 Litter – correspondence from resident of Meadow Road. Covered above.
  - 54.4 Combined Authority Bus Franchise Consultation – information was circulated prior to the meeting.  
***Members to respond individually.***
  - 54.5 VE 80-year Anniversary – members were made aware of the date, 8 May 2025. It was agreed that this should be included in the budget setting for next year.
  - 54.6 Parish Carbon Literacy – details of the free training course provided by the City Council had been circulated. It was felt that a group session would be preferable.  
***Cllr Jackson to contact other local parish councils with regard to a group session.***
- 55. Planning:
  - 55.1 The approval given to application 24/00947/CTR for felling of Leyland Cypress, row of mixed Cypress & Pyracantha and hawthorn and re-pollarding of Goat Willow at 18A St Pegas Road was noted, the work having now been carried out.
  - 55.2 Members noted the 'No objection' response submitted in relation to application 24/01036/TRE to section fell Alder (subject to TPO) as close to ground level as possible at 2 The Sanderlings.
  - 55.3 The refusal of application 23/01462/HHFUL for the proposed demolition and full re-build of the utility building at Peakirk House, St Pega's Road by the City Council was noted.
  - 55.4 Correspondence from Planning Enforcement relating to Meadow Road 22/00043/ENFOTH was noted. Councillor Sisodia expressed frustration with the process involved with the repeating breach. Consideration to be given to escalating the problem to the relevant director should this continue to happen.  
***Councillors were reminded to copy the clerk into all correspondence.***
  - 55.5 Affordable Homes/ Rural Exception Sites - correspondence was received from Cambs ACRE. Members expressed an interest in finding out more.  
***Clerk to send an invitation to attend a meeting.***

- 55.6 Other planning matters: it was noted that the City Council's draft Local Plan has been put back to Feb/March 2025 due to the changed increase in housing targets. Proposed number of new dwellings per year increased from 936 to 1,068, an increase of 132 new dwellings per year.
56. Deeping Patient Participation Group: a report of the Q&A Forum for Parish Councils with the Deepings Practice, attended by the clerk, was circulated prior to the meeting.
57. Maintenance:
- 57.1 Grass cutting: the clerk advised that Mr Harding was willing to resume grass cutting within the village. Terms as per the previous contractor.
- 57.2 Folly Bridge re-painting: nothing further to report at present.
- 57.3 Monument repair: Cllr Clark advised that the piece of stone which had come adrift has been reset by the stone mason.
- 57.4 Village History Information Board near to the bus shelter: the original remains on the frame but is very crazed. The replacement artwork appears to be welded to the plastic cover and is no longer legible.  
**Cllr Jackson to take a photo of the discoloured artwork for Cllr Clark to contact I-Signs.**  
It was agreed that the frame also requires repainting.
- 57.5 Peakirk duck sign at Glinton end of St Pega's Road: Cllr Smith advised that the original image could be transposed onto canvas or an image recreated in the essence of the original and then painted. The painted interpretation was considered preferable with no funding required.  
**Cllr Clark offered a sheet of polycarbonate for the protective cover. Cllr Smith to provide a template to allow cutting to size.**
- 57.6 A quote for trimming of the yew hedge on the Deeping Road boundary of the Village Green had not yet been received.  
**Clerk to chase. Councillors reminded that weeds etc need to be removed before the work can be undertaken.**
- 57.7 Replacement dog signs: Cllr Crowson advised that replacement heavy PVC A4 size signs would cost £6 each. Consideration given to more substantial signs, 2 being required.  
**Cllr Crowson to circulate details of types and costs of signs for consideration. Proposed that £50 be earmarked to cover the cost.**
- 57.8 Village Walkabout: Cllr Crowson reported that this is work in progress. Cllrs Crowson and Jackson to meet with the clerk to completed the walkabout.
- 57.9 Other items of maintenance: Cllr Smith expressed concern about branches overhanging the highway on St Pega's Road.  
**Consideration to be given during village walkabout.**
58. Finance:
- 58.1 Approval given for payment of salary and home working allowance to Mrs A Hankins for August and September.
- 58.2 Members authorised payment of invoice from Mr Harding for grass-cutting in August.
- 58.3 Members authorised payment of SLCC subscription in the sum of £112.
- 58.4 Approval given to authorisation of reimbursement to Cllr Jackson in the sum of £25.90 for noticeboard for use in the bus shelter.
- 58.5 Authorisation given for payment to HMRC for PAYE July-September.
- 58.6 The budget review to 31 August 2024 was noted.
- 58.7 Review of Financial Regulations: Cllr Tuley commented on the complexity and length of the new model financial regulations produced by the National Association of Local Councils.  
**Cllr Clark to provide a further copy including only the legal requirements.**
59. Road Safety / Speed Watch:
- 59.1 Visibility of VAS on Deeping Road – Cllr Clark has lopped several of the lower branches.
- 59.2 Response from Police Commissioner – after much chasing a limited response was received. Cllr Clark hoping to speak with the Commissioner and Chief Constable at the upcoming CAPALC conference.

- 59.3 Speed Watch – Cllr Crowson advised that this will be resuming following a break over the summer.
60. Climate Emergency/ Biodiversity:
- 60.1 Biodiversity Policy – Cllr Jackson continuing to work on this to ensure that there is no conflict with the policy of the City Council.
  - 60.2 Solar Wizard – a website that calculates where to put solar panels on a property and how much can be saved on submission of a postcode. It was suggested that this could be promoted on the PCEG noticeboard in the bus shelter.
  - 60.3 The Great Collaboration – a bottom-up local action plan using advice and good practice from other areas which is only just getting going in East Anglia. Cllr Clark is on the steering group but as yet there has been little action.
  - 60.4 Environment Bank – Cllr Jackson spoke about this initiative for identifying land suitable for biodiversity net gain, but members were uncertain as to whether this was the role of the parish council.
61. Emergency Plan – it was agreed to postpone this item to the October meeting.
62. Councillors Report: it was suggested that awareness of cyber-crime could be improved within the village. ***Clerk to investigate.***
63. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October. (Apologies given by Cllrs Crowson and Sisodia.)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.14pm.