

# HERRINGSWELL Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Herringswell Parish Council  
Held at the Village Hall on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 at 7:30pm

**Councillors present:** Cllr. S. Boyce, Cllr. G. Hicks & Cllr. G. Brown.

**Present:** Clerk – Vicky Bright. Cllr. D. Dicker – WSC & Cllr. A. Drummond – SCC.

No Members of the Public were in attendance.

## **Meeting opened at 7:30pm**

23/01/1

### **Chair's Welcome & Acceptance of Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972, Section 85(1) & (2)):**

In the absence of the Chair members voted and agreed for the Vice Chair to assume the role of Chair for the meeting *pro tem*.

The Vice Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

**Apologies:** Cllr. L. Marchington & Cllr. S. Griffiths.

23/01/2

### **Members Declaration of Interest (for items on the agenda) – LGA 2000 Part III:**

Cllr. G. Hicks declared an interest in Item 7 (i).

23/01/3

### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022 - LGA 1972, Schedule 12, para 41(2):**

#### **Resolved 23/01/3.01**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022 were adopted as a true statement and signed by the Vice Chair (SB).

23/01/4

### **To Receive County, District and Community reports:**

#### **WSC – Cllr. Dawn Dicker;**

- The Council has been given a £227,000 grant by the Government to assist vulnerable people with their council tax. This means that those on the Council Tax Reduction Scheme will now get 100% reduction.
- Energy Bill Support Scheme available for those with no direct relationship with energy companies i.e., caravan parks, houseboats etc.
- 8 new charging points have been agreed for WSC car parks, locations to be agreed.
- Warm Spaces are now open throughout West Suffolk i.e., Red Lodge Millennium Centre
- Devolution Deal currently being agreed, this will allow district councils in Suffolk to have more control to improve local priorities i.e. adult education, affordable housing.
- Electors will need to show Photo ID for the Elections on May 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Funding is still available from Locality, deadline for submissions of applications by 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

#### **SCC – Cllr. Andy Drummond;**

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- A Devolution Deal worth half a billion (£480 million over next 30 years) has been preliminary agreed, to improve the lives of Suffolk residents and local priorities, such as; affordable housing, education, transport settlement, key infrastructure priorities and environment.

23/01/5

**Planning Applications:**

None.

23/01/6

**Highways/Footpaths & Trees:**

i)

**Flooding Issues within the village**

Anglian Water has now resolved the flooding in The Street and the flooding at Tuddenham Road.

ii)

**Highways Investment Fund Update – Crossroads/Warren Road**

The site did not meet the eligibility criteria, so was unsuccessful for funding. However, the HIF team arranged for Enforcement to visit the site, to see if any action could be raised for landowners. The Clerk is to follow up with Denise Mortimer from the Team to get an update on any action agreed or taken.

23/01/7

i)

**Parish Matters:**

**Update on Village Hall Management and Trusteeship**

The Clerk advised she is still waiting on the signed authority from Dave Ebbs, to agree the Parish Council to take over as Trustees; the Clerk is to write formally to Mr Ebbs. Once all trustee authorities are received the Clerk can submit the change of trusteeship application to the Charity Commission. The Clerk is still working on Marketing.

ii)

**Update on War Memorial repairs and Insurance Claim**

The Police have advised that the case has been submitted to their Roads Collisions Support Team for a decision on whether they will prosecute for any driving offences. The Insurance Company have been provided with the driver's insurance details and a quote for the works. The Clerk is to clarify with Mildenhall Monumentals whether the dowel is like for like or an improvement and whether the steel pin is a like for like replacement, per the request from the insurance company. The LPA Conservation Officer has confirmed that the works do not require Listed Building consent.

Cllr. Drummond (SCC) has offered to pay the Insurance Excess and any difference in the like for like quote, that the insurance company will not pay, from his Locality Budget.

The Clerk is to source quotes to replace the picket fence posts around the memorial.

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23/01/8

**Correspondence:**

None.

23/01/9

i)

**Finance & Policies:**

**Parish Council Bank Reconciliation from list of payments/receipts**

The Payments and receipts were scrutinised and approved. The account balance was confirmed as £10,596.68 as of 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

**Resolved 23/01/9.01.**

That the Bank balances and reconciliation of payments & receipts be received and adopted and initialled as such by the Vice Chair of the meeting (SB).

ii)

**Payment Schedule for signing and approval for payment of outstanding invoices**

**Resolved 23/01/9.02**

Payee	Details	Invoice number	Payment Option	Total	Power to pay*
V Bright	Defib session hours		BACS	£34.88	4
SALC	Payroll	26485	BACS	£54.00	3
Budget Computers	Laptop Hard Drive Upgrade	61933	BACS	£92.00	
V Bright	Expenses		BACS	£16.37	
				£197.25	

\*Power to pay

1.	<i>Local Government Act 1972 S.112</i>
2.	<i>Local Government Act 1972 s.137</i>
3.	<i>Local Government Act 1972 S.111</i>
4.	<i>Local Government Act 1972 S.133</i>
5.	<i>Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908 ss.23,25</i>
6.	<i>Public Health Act 1875 s.164</i>
7.	<i>Public Health Act 1980 ss.43, 50</i>
8.	<i>Local Government Act 1972 S.142</i>
9.	<i>Litter Act 1983 ss. 5,6</i>
10.	<i>Post Office Act 1953, s.51;</i>

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- iii) **To Adopt the 2023/24 Budget**  
**Resolved 23/01/9.03**  
It was agreed to accept the projected budget, with expenditure of £7,222.00 for the 2023/24 financial year and this was duly signed by the Vice Chair (SB).
- iv) **To Agree & Adopt the Precept Figure for 2023/24**  
**Resolved 23/01/9.04**  
It was unanimously agreed to go with option 2, and request a precept of £7,890.00, which is a 0% increase to residents tax bills.
- v) **Notification of external auditor appointment for the 2022-23 financial year**  
The Council have been appointed PKF Littlejohn LLP as their external auditor for 2023/24. The Clerk is still trying to find a reliable Internal Auditor for the end of year audit.
- vi) **Agree the costs of repairs the PC Laptop**  
**Resolved 23/01/9.05**  
The cost of £92, to upgrade the PC Laptop's hard drive to an SSD was unanimously agreed.

23/01/10

## **Councillor's Reports & Items for next Agenda**

### **Next Meeting to be held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7:30pm in the Davies Memorial Village Hall.**

Meetings thereafter to be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday every other month at 7:30pm; (March, May, July, September, November)

Meeting closed at 8:28pm

Signed: *L. Marchington*

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Chair, Herringswell PC