

MINUTES 15th March 2016 7.30pm at Colkirk Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllrs Colin Barron, Charles Joice (in the chair), Nick Loades, Steve Mulford, Bernard Smith, Michael Stamford and John Whiteside were present.

The clerk Charles Brindley was in attendance. County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris and District Councillor Trevor Carter were also present. There were no members of the public present

- 16/013 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: There were no apologies for absence. County Councillor Kiddle-Morris had advised that he would be late arriving
- 16/014 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were no declarations of interest
- 16/015 MINUTES OF MEETINGS DATED 19 JANUARY 2016: as previously circulated, draft minutes were considered. Cllr Loades questioned whether the Council had agreed to apply for the Crown Public House to be listed as an Asset of Community Value. Members confirmed that the minute was correct and by resolution proposed by Cllr Mulford and seconded by Cllr Smith, it was unanimously **AGREED that the minutes were a true record and were duly signed by the chairman**
- 16/016 CLERK'S REPORT:
Village Hall Roof Repairs. The clerk expanded on the situation with the village hall roof and its need for repair. He had met with a member of the hall management committee who had shown him the extent of the problem. As, at this time, it was stated that the repairs weren't needed urgently, the clerk proposed that the council should target having the works done in Summer 2017. A proposition to this effect was considered as well as a proposal to engage Community Action Norfolk to investigate funding streams and by resolution proposed by Cllr Loades and seconded by Cllr Stamford, it was unanimously **AGREED to put a project together to have the repairs completed in summer 2017 and to utilise Community Action Norfolk to investigate funding streams.**
Asset of Community Value - The Crown Public House. The clerk advised that the application had been made to Breckland Council in early February and acknowledgement of the application had been received. Subsequently, a request had been received from Breckland for further detailed justification support the application and several members of the community responded to this request. Notification has now been received back from Breckland that the application has been successful and the Crown has now been placed on the register of assets of community value.
Cllr Loades advised the Council that he understood that a couple from Whissonsett were looking to take on the lease and it looks positive at the moment that it will reopen as a pub although there is much work that needs doing to the property. The clerk's report was **NOTED.**
- 16/017 MATTERS RELATING TO THE PLAYING FIELD: Cllr Loades advised the Council that he had gone thro' the records that he had and provided the following as a list of assets that are owned by the playing field. *Tractor, gang mowers, container, cricket equipment, Hayter mower.* It was queried as to when the mowing contract would start and the clerk **UNDERTOOK to find the answer to this. Cllr Joice undertook to have the field cut in the meantime.**
The Council considered what to do with the main asset, the tractor, and **AGREED to solicit offers and make a decision at its next meeting as to whether to dispose of it.**
- 16/018 MATTERS RELATING TO THE VILLAGE HALL: In the absence of a formal report from the village hall committee, the clerk reported that he had been advised that the committee were planning to apply to Awards for All for a grant towards the replacement of the lighting in the main hall with LED lights.

16/019 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

District Councillor Trevor Carter reported that Breckland had agreed a balanced budget through to 2020 and this included non-reliance on any government grants from 2019 onwards. He stated that past prudent asset investment made this possible as assets now generate £2.5M per annum. No services will be cut and the council is investing a further £1M into broadband which will enable new ways for its provision to be investigated. It is hoped that 98-99% of residents will have provision within the next year.

He then went on to outline the situation with devolution of powers to the Eastern Counties group of Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, stating that this is very much a moving feast at present.

Finally, he advised that a Clean for the Queen grant had been awarded to a community group in Colkirk.

County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris advised the NCC had agreed a budget for 2016/17 at a consensus meeting to late February. Council Tax will rise by 3.99% with 2% of this ring fenced for adult social care - raising £6.1M additional for that service. He stated that NCC has a low council tax base of only 50.1% of total revenues and is paying for a lack of past increases in council tax.

He was asked whether the additional funds would mean that there would be no cuts in adult social care. He confirmed that would be the case and that NCC had been awarded additional funding from government of £4M in 2016/17 and £3M in 2017/18 to make up for previous shortfalls.

Cllr Smith reported a missing cul-de-sac sign at Jarvis Close and he was advised that this should be reported to Breckland Council as they are responsible for street signs.

16/020 CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT OF CLERK: It was proposed by Cllr Barron and seconded by Cllr Stamford and **AGREED unanimously that Charles Brindley was appointed as clerk to the council and its responsible finance officer with effect from 1 February 2016.**

16/021 PLANNING: The Council **NOTED its responses to recent planning applications as follows:**

PL3/2015/1491 Oak Trees, Dereham Rd objection	No
PL3/2016/0090 School House, School Rd	No objection
PL3/2016/0029 Denton Lodge, Market Hill objection	No
PL3/2016/0117 Oak Trees, Dereham Rd objection	No

The Council **NOTE the following decision notices received:**

PL3/2016/0029 Denton Lodge, Market Hill	Permitted
PL3/2016/0090 School House, School Rd	Permitted

16/022 FINANCE:

The Council **NOTED the following receipts in January/February**

Allotment Rents	£ 215.00
Playing Field Hire	£ 100.00
Refund of War Memorial Post Repairs	£ 88.79

Bank balances were reported at 26 February 2016 as:

Business Premium Account	£ 4423.21
Community Account	£ 7602.11

Reconciliation with the cash book was confirmed against a cash book balance at 26 February 2016 of £ 12025.32

16/023 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: By resolution proposed by Cllr Smith and seconded by Cllr Mulford, the following payments were unanimously **APPROVED for payment**

100754	T RAND	Clerks salary April 2015 - Jan 2016	£ 1957.98
100755	T RAND	Final expenses	£ 29.70
100756	J WHITESIDE	Replacement padlock for allotment gate	£ 25.53
100757	C BRINDLEY	Clerks salary Feb 2016 - Mar 2016	£ 400.22

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16/024 CHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS: It was **AGREED that the correspondence address for the bank should be changed to the new clerk's home address**

16/025 NORFOLK ALC: No nomination was to be made

16/026 BRECKLAND COUNCIL - VOLUNTARY NO SMOKING SIGN IN PLAY AREA: By resolution proposed by Cllr Whiteside and seconded by Cllr Loades, it was unanimously **AGREED that the offer of a free sign would be accepted on the understanding that the installation of the sign would be at the parish council's cost**

16/027 SMALLER AUTHORITIES AUDIT APPOINTMENTS LTD: The council **NOTED the contents of the letter and most particularly that Colkirk Parish would fall into option 3 that being an authority that had opted in to the scheme and having an income or expenditure less that £25K per annum**

16/028 CLERKS AND COUNCILS DIRECT: Receipt of the March issue was **NOTED**

16/029 ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS: Nothing was put forward at this time. Cllr Loades reported that the path on Timberley Estate was programmed to be resurfaced and that he was meeting with NCC about the hedges on School Rd later that week. Cllr Smith advised that he had been asked by residents if the council could write to Flagship about the need for maintenance of the two car parks on Dereham Rd that were breaking up. The clerk agreed that he would write a letter.

16/030 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 24 May at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

16/031 DATE OF ELECTORS MEETING: Wednesday 20 April at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

There being no further advertised business, the Chairman closed meeting at 20.39

Signed as a true record

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Date

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