

MINUTES OF AILSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 20th FEBRUARY 2023

at the Cedar Centre, Castor

Present were Councillors: Dr M Ellershaw, Mr S Langston Jones, Mr R Moon (arrived 19.33), Mrs A Perkins (Vice-Chairman), Mrs J Pickett (Chairman), Mr M Samways (arrived 19.48, left 21.40 at 131.2) and Mr M Stalley. **Clerk** Miss J Rice

Members of the public: 3, Mr N Boyce (Castor Parish Council), Mr J Hodder (Neighbourhood Plan) and Mr A Nash (Climate Action Group, arrived 19.40)

22/122	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. To receive and record apologies sent to the Clerk. Apologies were received from Cllr Samways for arriving late.	
22/123	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST To receive all declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda. (Members should disclose any personal, prejudicial or pecuniary interests in the business to be discussed and are reminded that the disclosure of a Disclosable <i>Pecuniary</i> Interest will require that the member withdraws from the meeting room during the transaction of that item of business). There were no declarations of interest made.	
22/124	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION Arrangements will be made for the public to join the meeting and a shared maximum of 15 minutes will be permitted for members of the public to address the meeting on any item on the agenda. Mr Nash explained that the draft Climate Action Strategy document has been shortened and circulated for adoption in the future by APC, after CPC request. This is under item 130.3. He also explained the need for a community notice board to show such other information as this, and for more nature recovery information, as explained by Cllr Stalley, see item 131.4. Mr A Nash also expressed his concerns about the Woodlands planning application, in particular the lack of "green/environmental" considerations, for the PC to note.	
22/125	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (previously circulated) and matters arising To confirm as correct the record of the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16th January 2023, Chairman to sign, previously circulated. Motion: to agree accuracy of minutes and sign. The minutes were agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.	
22/126	GOVERNANCE, FINANCE AND TRAINING	
	126.1	To receive and note current finance report to end of January 2023 to inform expenditure decisions, herewith. The report was noted.
	126.2	To re-visit internal communications, including setting up of new email addresses on Outlook etc, herewith, and discuss other changes needed. Motion: decide on an action plan to improve effectiveness. This was discussed again as all councillors were present. The feeling about the email accounts is that they are more tricky to operate, although the clerk had circulated some instructions on how to use Outlook. One Councillor requested a gmail method instead due to workplace firewalling and different laptops to use. The clerk will investigate. It was confirmed that the working groups need to be more effective and appoint a lead role person to arrange meetings. The group members were confirmed and Cllr Ellershaw agreed to chair the PLMG and arrange a meeting. Action Clerk/Cllr Ellershaw.
	126.3	To receive and note Civility and Respect Pledge document, herewith, and decide whether to adopt, along with Dignity at Work policy. This was agreed and adopted. Action Clerk
	126.4	To receive update on archiving of old files and documents as necessary and agree action. It was confirmed that this is still in progress. Action Cllr Stalley/Cllr Pickett
	126.5	To note next Councillor drop-in session date of 7/3/23 at 7-8pm zoom, from CAPALC. This was noted.
	126.6	To note bus shelter payment due and resolve to ask for invoice/agreement for payment. It was agreed to ask the internal auditor if a chairman's allowance can be used or for another suggestion. Action Clerk
22/127	ALLOTMENTS, PARISH LAND MANAGEMENT GROUP (Cllr Ellershaw, Cllr Samways, Cllr Moon and Cllr Pickett)	

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____

	127.1	To note farmers use of Station Road field allotment. Resolve any more action needed. It was agreed to approach the tenant again as the large farm vehicles have ruined the verge and field edge again. It was further agreed to ask Nene Park if they are claiming for damaged verges. They noted his swift action previously. Action Clerk
	127.2	To note hedges cut, branch damage and agree payment for recreation ground. This was noted and payment agreed. The damaged tree will be inspected with the tree surveyor due soon.
	127.3	To receive and approve quote for tree survey by Rebecca Peace at £250. This was noted and resolved to appoint again. Date to be confirmed to Cllr Stalley to accompany. Action Clerk
	127.4	To receive update from metal detectors and resolve any action. It was noted that they are continuing successfully with interest from residents and some good finds, to be displayed in church by the SKBPT and school.
	127.5	To receive verbal update from land management group on tenancies and future use. Station Road tenancy due to be advertised in March 2023. The group has not met and so a proposal will be brought to the next Parish Council meeting. Action PLMG
22/128	FUTURE/SALE OF METHODIST CHAPEL/MEETING VENUE	
	128.1	To receive and note update circulated regarding sale of chapel following open session on 29/1/23 and Property Records return to PCC. Resolve next steps and setting up of a working group. The update was received and noted, in particular the community hub/space ideas suggested at the meeting, although attendees not generally in favour of the Parish Council purchasing the building. It was noted that shared ownership may be a more sensible option and that the CIL monies can be used for this purpose. It was agreed to await further communication from PCC Property Records and/or the chapel management before any more can be done by a task and finish group.
22/129	PARISH PROJECTS	
	129.1	To receive update from Nature Recovery Group and agree expenditure from budget. Cllr Stalley updated the members on the recent, positive meeting to discuss cluster groups now set up to support NRGs, with Nene Park Trust, Oliver Burke being the co-ordinator for APC. The intention is to grow the volunteers and extend the group round the village. Cllr Stalley asked for approval for 5 apple trees and the 400 bulbs planted, all within the budget. There will be consideration to a Coronation plaque and information on the new notice board. It was further noted that M’Lady’s pond is in progress and a discussion and decision regarding a water harvester is to be proposed at the next meeting. Action Cllr Stalley/NRG.
	129.2	To receive and note update regarding Augean grant agreement requirements for quotes and resolve action, including decision whether to waive tender process as per financial regulations and setting up of a working group. The situation regarding the need for 3 comparable quotes was explained and arrangements are being made for different companies/contractor to quote, plus the group will then assess whether different pieces of equipment from different companies is still required. The decision to waive the financial regulations regarding going to tender was agreed. Action group/Clerk
22/130	VILLAGE GROUPS	
	130.1	To receive grant application from Celebration Group and agree donation, herewith. The application was received and noted. It was agreed that a forecast of expenditure was required before a decision can be made as it seems a high donation amount requested. It was confirmed that clarity on the balance of monies from previously is required and whether an amount could just be underwritten instead. Mr Boyce explained an idea for the Parish Councils to purchase Coronation mugs for the school children, amounting to £690 total. This idea was not supported however alternatives might be supported eg seeds or coins and can be discussed at the next joint PCs meeting. Action Clerk
	130.2	To discuss The Big Help Out volunteering day of Monday 8/5/23 and decide on Parish Council involvement. It was agreed to put this on the next joint PCs meeting. Action Clerk
	130.3	To receive an update on the Climate Action Group and review PC objectives/declaration and note PCC PC Climate Change summit on 29/3/23. This was noted and see public participation above.

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____

22/131	PARISH LIAISON/COMMUNITY/JOINT		
	131.1	To agree/add to the draft agenda for the next JPLG meeting on 16/3/23 and agree attendance. This was discussed earlier with Mr J Hodder. The draft agenda as was circulated was agreed.	
	131.2	To receive and note draft Bus Strategy document and resolve response. Deadline 24/2/23 5pm. This was received and noted. Mr N Boyce explained an alternative survey that has been devised just for the villages, to see if a contract can be made with Vectare if the residents want a bus service reinstated. It will be shared online and on paper and completion encouraged. Action Clerk re facebook	
	131.3	To receive and note approach from police sergeant and agree date/joint visit. This was noted and it was agreed to ask him to attend on the day of the village fete, 8/7/23, and also every 2 months if possible. Action Clerk	
	131.4	To receive proposal for a new community notice board near existing board. Cost £200 approx. See public time also. This was agreed, with around £200 costs, once permission is obtained from PCC. Action Cllr Stalley.	
	131.5	To receive proposal to site old chapel bench near notice boards and renovate to be a “chatty bench”. It was agreed to site this there and £30 renovation paint costs. Action Cllr Stalley	
	131.6	To receive and note update on Woodlands/village meeting. It was noted that Castor Parish Council objected to this and will ask for it to go to Planning Committee for a decision. A date for a public meeting is to be arranged.	
	131.7	To note next Parish Council Liaison meeting on 8/3/23 at 6.30 pm via zoom and agree attendance. This was noted and Cllr Perkins can attend. Action Cllr Perkins	
22/132	PARISH MAINTENANCE ISSUES		
	132.1	To receive and note information regarding old Helpston sign refurbishment, Cllr Langston-Jones The information was received and noted and a donation of £50 towards laquer costs agreed. Action Cllr Langston Jones.	
	132.2	To receive and note any other issues and resolve action, including Maffit Road flooding update. There were no new issues reported and the flooding is resolved.	
22/133	PLANNING; TO NOTE LATEST APPLICATIONS AND RESOLVE RESPONSES TO NEW ONES		
	133.1	22/01655/HHFUL erection of single storey rear extension, with raising of eaves and ridge to form new rooms within attic space at 15 Holme Close. Permitted 31/1/23. This was noted.	
	133.2	22/01538/HHFUL erection of single storey side extension at 25 Maffit Road. Response sent awaiting decision. 22/01538/HHFUL revised plans received. Response sent. Permitted 20/1/23. This was noted.	
	133.3	23/00080/CTR Fell Fir tree and replace with Acer at The Steadings, Main St. This presented no issues.	
22/134	CLERK REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE: To receive and note any correspondence and decide whether to bring to future meeting. a) Village Tribune article and village newsletter submitted. This was noted. b) New id requirement for voting, note and advertise/posters. This was noted and posters to be put up. c) Defib activation process, circulated, and training opportunity. This was noted for the joint meeting. d) Cambs and Peterborough Parks Partnership event 14/3/23 6-7pm via zoom. This was noted.		
22/135	ORDERS FOR PAYMENT; To note and agree payments/ transfer to be made and already made as follows; Payments were noted and agreed as follows:		
	135.1	Clerk new pay £391.27 (includes A/L) plus home office £26 – PAYE £78.20 payable	£339.07
	135.2	Reimburse ink shared pm J Rice paid February	£5.80
	135.3	Clerk mileage Jan/Feb	£14.85
	135.4	Employer HMRC payment for February to be deducted from salary	£78.20
	135.5	Cedar Centre for meetings	£45 and £30
	135.6	Hedge cutting D Burton	£480
	135.7	Donations - donation to contractor for sign renovation	£50
	135.8	Tree survey	£250
	135.9	M Stalley, Nature Recovery	£205 plus apple trees
	135.10	Plumb Web to fix light in defib box	£46.99
	135.11	M Stalley for bench paint	£30
22/136	INCOM	½ rent received from New Close tenant	£150

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____

22/137	DATE OF NEXT MEETING Tnoted that the next Parish Council meeting is Monday 20th March 2023 to be held at 7.30pm, venue Cedar Centre, Castor.
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Signed by Chairman_____ Date_____