

MINUTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD MONDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 2021, 6.30PM, AT THE RAMSDEN VILLAGE HALL, OLD BOLINGBROKE

Present: Cllr Powell (Chair) Cllr Routh Cllr Godsell Cllr Coates Cllr Makins
County Cllr Gray

Also present: clerk, Jane Slaymaker

1.11/21 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2.11/21 Apologies

Apologies were received from L Creedy.

3.11/21 Declaration of pecuniary interests

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

4.11/21 To witness the signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

The co-opted Councillor, Meg Coates signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was welcomed to the Parish Council.

5.11/21 Open Forum

There were no members of the public in attendance.

6.11/21 To approve draft notes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23rd September 2021

It was resolved to accept the notes as a true record.

7.11/21 To consider any urgent business under item 15

No urgent items were declared.

8.11/21 To receive reports from the District and County Councillors

The District Councillor was unable to attend. County Councillor Gray gave an overview of his report, previously circulated and available on the Parish Council website. Cllr Gray thanked the Chair and Cllrs Godsell and Makins for attending a site meeting with the Highways Manager Kyra Nettle. Kyra had responded to some of the highway issues and an update is provided under the item 12. Cllr Gray confirmed that the installation of granite setts are scheduled for 6/7th December and he will provide further updates on other issues as dates become known. It was suggested that some of the information contained in Kyra’s report would be useful in a Parish Council newsletter to residents. Cllr Gray was thanked for his support and presence at the meeting.

9.11/21 Finance

a. To note the financial position.

The balance in the Treasurer’s account is £19,360.82

b. To approve any payments since the last meeting:

25/09/2021	bulbs	Klss My Grass	29.16	5.83	34.99
30/09/2021	Wreath	Poppy Appeal	30.00		30.00
17/10/2021	Grass cutting	Andy Jackson	265.00		265.00
11/11/2021	Internal audit	Clark’s Clerical	50.00		50.00
12/11/2021	Salary	salary	542.88		542.88
20/11/2021	Grass cutting	Andy Jackson	140.00		140.00
22/11/2021	Earthworks survey	PCAS Archaeology	950.00	190.00	1,140.00
22/11/2021	Geophysical survey	PCAS Archaeology	725.00	45.00	870.00
22/11/2021	Field cut	K Jackson	150.00		150.00

c. To note any income received since the last meeting:

24/09/2021	Transfer	Ramsden Memorial Hall SCT	175.00
19/10/2021	Transfer	King George V Village Field SCT	420.00
19/10/2021	Transfer	King George V Village Field SCT	45.00
19/11/2021	VAT refund	HMRC	256.01

d. Quarterly figures for payments and receipts and actual figures against budget

The information, previously circulated, was noted.

e. To consider and approve the budget for 2022/23

The proposed budget (total £11,052) was approved. The full budget will be made available on the Council's website.

f. To consider and approve a precept demand for 2022/23

Following a discussion, it was resolved to increase the precept by 2% to £11,424.

g. To consider and approve allocation of money for the Reserves Fund

It was resolved to accept the Reserves Fund figures, which will be made available on the Council's website.

h. To receive a report from the Internal Auditor and note requirements

It was noted that the ELDC website lists the members interest forms under 'Bolingbroke'. The link from the Council's website is now on one page only, to avoid confusion. The accounting package used does have a separate entry for s.137 payments. The Asset Register and Asset Inspection Record are due to be updated at the next Council meeting. A copy of the insurance certificate needs to be placed on the Council's website.

10.11/21 Planning

a. To consider any planning applications since the last meeting

No planning applications have been submitted.

b. To note any planning decisions and/or appeal notifications since the last meeting

There are no outstanding planning decisions.

11.11/21 To receive and note Neighbourhood Watch report

The Neighbourhood Watch report was received and will be placed on the Council's website.

12.11/21 To discuss village issues

a. To receive a Highways report

Cllr Godsell reported that the issues affecting Back Lane and Moat Lane have been marked out for patching. Hareby Hill is planned to be evened out in parts. During the walkabout with Cllr Gray and the Local Highways Manager it became clear that some issues will need to be resolved at a local level. Guidelines have been provided about involving residents to help improve drainage, signs and verges. It was established that LCC own the triangles which currently the Parish Council maintains. Cllr Gray will clarify the position with Kyra Nettle. It was noted that: residents are responsible for any trees/hedging growing on their boundary and must ensure that they don't encroach into the highway; the placement of objects on highway verges can be considered an obstruction, and in the case of any damage to person or property resulting, the person who placed the items may be held responsible.

b. To receive a report concerning a Village Heritage Survey

Cllr Powell reported on a walkabout she attended with Bruce Talmage and Felix Mayle who is leading a project to encourage residents to submit records of buildings and structures in their locality that they feel are important to the area. It is hoped that a group will be formed to record potential buildings and structures. The full report will be placed on the Council's website.

c. To discuss and approve items from the Village Plan Delivery Group marked for closure by the Delivery Group

The following comments were made:

- i. Children Playing sign: resolved to close, however sign near Ramsden Hall needs replacing
- ii. Parking and traffic control during events: resolved to close
- iii. Meridian trail revision: resolved to close
- iv. Provision of dog poo bins: resolved to leave open until application for a bin at Hareby is completed
- v. Provision of public toilets: resolved to leave open
- vi. Funding of public newsletter: resolved to close
- vii. Provision of new play equipment: resolved to close

d. To receive an update on the provision of the defibrillators

Cllr Routh reported that grant funding was difficult to obtain; British Heart Foundation funding is suspended at the moment, but it is hoped that they will pay up to £600 towards a defibrillator, a cabinet would still need to be purchased. Other options for funding were discussed.

e. To receive an update on the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations

Cllr Powell reported that the band booking had been confirmed. There was a discussion about marquees. Progress had not been made regarding the lighting of a beacon. Cllr Gray commented that he was aware in other parishes that, bonfires were being planned.

13.11/21 To discuss Internal Parish Council issues

a. To review and approve the policies and agree next review date

It was resolved to approve the following policies, to be reviewed in 3 years, or sooner if regulations change: Playground Inspection Policy, Privacy Notice, Disciplinary Policy, Grievance Policy

14.11/21 To receive correspondence and resolve action if required

A letter had been received from Citizens Advice asking for a donation. It was decided that, on this occasion, not to make a donation.

15.11/21 Urgent business

There was no urgent business to discuss

16.11/21 To note any communications from the Police since last meeting

No reports had been received from the Police. The latest newsletter is available on the Council's website.

17.11/21 Items for next agenda

Asset Register, Asset Inspection Record, Play Inspection Schedule, defibrillator, maintenance of village planters.

18.11/21 If required, to consider excluding the public and press under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the confidential nature of the items to be discussed.

It was not necessary to exclude the public.

19.11/21 To note the date of the next Parish Council meeting: Thursday 27th January at 6.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.05pm