

ADDLETHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Addlethorpe Parish Council held on Tuesday 13th February 2024 at St. Peters Hall, Ingoldmells

Councillors present: Cllrs Neville Towers (Chair) (NT), Roger Dawson (Vice Chair) (RD), Gavin Escott (GE), Lorna Hand (LH), Michael Holyer (MH), Anthony Stubbins (AS), Carole Clark (CC)

Public Forum

There was one member of the public in attendance at the meeting.

RD reported that Council had been successful in obtaining higher priority for the investigation of its application concerning the footpath from Rectory Lane to St. Nicholas Close. This investigation has been moved up from 158th to 21st place on the list of investigations, based on information collected from residents and extensive documentation compiled by the former parish clerk, Maggie Boughton. RD acknowledged Cllr Davie's advice to apply for higher priority.

Chairman's Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting at 19.37 hours.

Ongoing Business

- 149. To receive any apologies for absence:** none received
- 150. To receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and to consider any requests for dispensation:** LH declared an interest in the grounds maintenance item #159.
- 151. To accept the Minutes:** the minutes of the 23rd January 2023 Extraordinary Meeting were accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chair
- 152. To receive reports from outside bodies and from other meetings:**
 - a. Reports from LCC and ELDC councillor:**

Cllr Davie provided an update on National Grid's proposal to construct new pylons across Lincolnshire from Grimsby to Walpole. He explained that it was very important that letters of objection are sent by 5th March 2024 as the consultation closes on 13th March 2024. The National Grid will submit a national planning application in a year's time. Properties close to the works could lose 25% of their value.

New pumps have been sourced for the Environment Agency to try to stop flooding from exceptional rainfall. However river maintenance budgets have been cut. Some ELDC planning applications for solar panel farms have been refused. The electricity generated by new solar panels and pylons benefits London and the south east rather than our area.

Potholes due to excessive rain and frost are being repaired over time.

b. Reports from Parish councillors concerning external meetings or correspondence:

i. Poplar Farm Bar and Restaurant: RD and CC reported that they had visited Poplar Farm Bar & Restaurant to assess its suitability as a possible venue for Parish Council meetings. The Bar and Restaurant is a completely separate business being run independently of the caravan park, and the young couple who own and operate the business are enthusiastic about welcoming Parish Council. It would be a more comfortable venue and might encourage more residents to attend Council meetings.

RD noted that the Local Government Act, section 14 (5) allows a parish meeting to be held in licensed premises provides that, where no other suitable room is available, a parish council meeting may be held in licensed premises.

Motion: next Council meeting be held at Poplar Farm Bar and Restaurant as a trial. Moved RD, seconded AS, approved: 5 for, 1 against, 1 abstention.

153. Financial matters, current:

a. accounts paid: no bank statements available; based on cheque book stubs there had been no further payments since payment of Cloudnext invoice as approved at last meeting;

b. cheques outstanding: none;

c. income and expenditures, current:

- i. Kerry Culley, former parish clerk, 5 months back pay for retroactive increase in pay schedules, £100 approved;
- ii. Julie Rock, secretarial services, January meeting, £45 approved;
- iii. Alan Vassar, parish clerk, amount to be ascertained;
- iv. due from LCC for bus shelter, £3,000, requires invoicing.

d. bank account balances: no bank statements available;

e. precept: precept of £6,195 for 2024/25 year agreed at the January Extraordinary Meeting has been approved by ELDC;

f. internal auditor: it was agreed to appoint the same auditor as last year.

154. Fundraising and financial planning:

- a. UKSPF Grassroots fund;
- b. ACRE rural development fund;

No report; carried forward to next agenda.

155. Planning:

a. Planning application updates, if any:

i. recent application by Coastfields for holiday cottages at Chapel Lane site: although the consultation closing date has passed, motion that Council object to application on grounds set out in recent objections to caravan applications; moved RD, seconded MH, passed unanimously;

b. Neighbourhood Plan: no report; carried forward to next agenda.

c. ELDC Local Plan:

RD reported that Addlethorpe has been assessed as being a 'small village', only 2 points above a 'hamlet' under the revised sustainability scores in ELDC's emerging Local Plan; this revised categorisation will only become the mandatory starting point for future planning decisions once the emerging Local Plan has been *adopted* by ELDC. In the meantime, it is a material factor to be considered in planning decisions.

156. Monthly Inspection Report: CC reported that there were no changes from the previous Inspection Report;

Current Business

157. Councillor grant application:

CC and LH provided an update on the project to improve the village green by installing a picnic table and a name sign on the village green.

Cllr Davie indicated that will be pleased to approve a £500 grant towards the cost of this project. The clerk will complete the application form and submit it to Cllr Davie in time for him to forward it to ELDC by the deadline of February 29th.

CC and LH proposed that an application be made to Cllr Davie for a 2024-25 grant towards the cost of renewing the posts and installing a gate and gravel path at the south entrance to the village green. GE proposed that the notice board at Willow 3 Farm on Chapel Lane be moved to the north entrance to the village green for greater visibility. Carried forward to next agenda.

158. Road signs proposal: carried forward to next agenda.

159. Parish trees and hedges maintenance: GE, MH and NT will cut and clear when drier weather.

160. Churchyard trees:

a. one of the trees in the churchyard has been cut down - GE will enquire with the St Nicholas Church for information;

- b. estimates will be requested from Welton Garden Services and Hand Brothers to lop an overhanging branch from the tree in the northwest corner of the churchyard complained about by Colin Cleary;
- c. a letter will be sent to the Diocese of Lincoln and copied to the Parish Church Council, requesting confirmation that the trees in the churchyard are the property and responsibility of the Diocese, and that Parish Council is only responsible for their maintenance.
- 161. Replacement bin for village green:** an application will be made to ELDC for installation of a better rubbish bin at the village green entrance as the current bin, which is a rusted hoop, requires replacement.
- 162. ELDC PRIDE work programme:** ELDC will be asked to add clearance of the Mill Lane dyke to their list of work required in Addlethorpe.
- 163. Skegvegas Race Track problems:** CC reported that she will follow up the noise, damage to grass verges, illegal parking and traffic safety issues once the new season starts.
- 164. Lincolnshire Police engagement programme:** to be removed from the agenda.

New Business

- 165. Parish clerk position:** NT reported that Pauline Murray has been appointed as temporary parish clerk in the absence of Alan Vassar due to ill health. NT had made several recent attempts to contact Mr. Vassar regarding his absence from duty but he had not responded and it is presumed that he is unable to resume the duties of parish clerk. Motion to write to Mr. Vassar in order to formalise the situation: moved MH, seconded LH, passed unanimously.
- 166. National Grid pylons:** a letter will be prepared by RD based on a precedent to be provided by Cllr Davie objecting to National Grid's proposal to construct new pylons across Lincolnshire from Grimsby to Walpole.
- 167. Outer Dowsing Wind Farm:** to be removed from the agenda as the consultation period ended in January.

Next Meeting

- a. Additional agenda items:
- i. D-Day event;
 - ii. Call Connect bus stop pole.
- b. Date and time: 19.30 hours, Tuesday 12th March 2024
- c. Location: Poplar Farm Bar and Restaurant, Chapel Lane