

ASLACTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – Parish Council Meeting 6th May 2022

Venue: St Michael's Church, Aslacton

Commencement: 9.00 p.m.

Clerk: Peter Robinson, The Old Rectory, Aslacton

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Present:	Geoff Gamble (Chairman); Cheryl Shulver (CS)(Vice-Chairman); Keith Broomhall (KB); Janine Jarrett (JJ); Christine Kinge (CK); Louise Thurgar (LT) and 7 members of the public
1. Apologies for Absence	Charlotte Bennett
2. Election of Chairman for 2022/23	KB proposed Geoff Gamble for the position of Chairman. This was seconded by CK and unanimously approved by the Members.
3. Election of Vice Chairman for 2022/23	GG proposed Cheryl Shulver for the position of Vice Chairman. This was seconded by KB and unanimously approved by the Members.
4. Minutes of the Meeting of 4th March 2022	The Clerk pointed out that the circulated minutes were silent on the subject of the Jubilee gift for schoolchildren at Aslacton School and proposed a paragraph which summarised the discussion to be added to the minutes <i>'Queen's Jubilee gifts to the schoolchildren of Aslacton were discussed and it was decided to pursue the idea of a postcard pack depicting photographs taken during the Queen's reign. These were designed to be educational and could be used within the school. The cost was quoted at £324 and it was agreed that both Tibenham and Great Moulton Parish Councils should be asked to contribute as Aslacton School takes pupils from both these parishes'</i> This was approved by the Members and with this addition, the minutes of 4 th March were approved by the Members.
5. Matters Arising from the Minutes	Before the formal matters arising were discussed, the Members confirmed that Aslacton Parish Council would not be making a donation to the gift of jubilee mugs to village children which was being organised by the Coronation Hall Committee.
	At this point Jill Webb joined the meeting
5a. Clerks retirement & appointment of a new Clerk	The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Jill Webb, the previous Parish Clerk, who had been in office for 40 years. He then welcomed Peter Robinson as the new Parish Clerk
6. Approval of Parish Council Accounts for 2021/22	This agenda item was taken out of order so that Mrs. Webb could present the 2021/22 accounts to the Members The accounts, having been previously circulated to the Members, were approved and relevant copies of the statutory documents were signed by the Chairman and by Mrs. Webb, who was the Responsible Financial Officer of the Parish Council (PC) for the period covered by the accounts.
	Mrs. Webb then left the meeting.
5b. Western Farm	The Chairman reported that Western Farm have appealed the planning decision to not allow 10 workers caravans to be maintained on the site, although they have not yet provided any reasoning. This will stay any enforcement action until the appeal is decided, which could take two years. He also reported that his approach to the Great Yarmouth Borough Council to try to find alternative accommodation for the workers was met with some animosity. The Members asked the Chairman to find out whether there was a

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	specific time limit placed on the furtherance of the appeal.
5c. Village newsletter	LT reported that the Spring edition had been well received and that the next one would be the Summer edition, scheduled for June. It was agreed by the Members that the £200 previously provided as a contribution to the now defunct AM Link, should be paid to the Newsletter team to cover production costs
5d. SNC restructure and move to Horizon House	The Chairman reported that the details of the move have not been decided and there are concerns about a resulting lack of localism if the SNC centre of operations is moved to the Broadland Business Park in Postwick. These concerns may be addressed by providing local offices in South Norfolk but there have not been any decisions made on the matter.
5e. Village sign	JJ asked for a closing date to the competition for a village sign design and it was agreed that 1 st October 2022 would be appropriate. Secondly, although the triangle at the bottom of the hill to The Street had been suggested as a suitable site for the sign, it had been reported that the telegraph pole which lies on that triangle had more than once been demolished by tractors so it may be better sited elsewhere. This was left for future consideration. The Chairman said that the sign would not be cheap but may be a suitable subject to be funded from CIL monies.
5f. Cleaning of road signs	JJ said that she had received an e-mail from the Highways Department stating that the whole of the Norfolk County road signs will be cleaned in the coming weeks. They will be confirming more specific timescales to JJ.
5g. Parish footpaths	A report on the current state of the village footpaths had been provided by Jill Webb and she is pursuing the points for attention with the relevant responsible persons. JJ pointed out that the Ramblers Association may well be able to assist with details of contractors willing to carry out any necessary work if the PC covered the cost of materials but the Clerk advised that although this option should be considered there seemed to be no current necessity for the PC to have to pay for any repairs as responsibility lay with either landowners or the Highways Department.
7. Planning applications	
7a. 2022-0715 Fence at Woodlands, Sneath Road	The Chairman said that he had spoken to the planning officer concerned with this application and he will be making a site visit to consider the traffic visibility issues which the fence may raise. The Members expressed opposing views on these issues but decided that the fence was visually acceptable. A vote was taken on whether retrospective permission should be granted with the result of 3 votes for and 3 abstentions.
8. Confirmation of how to claim Councillor's expenses	The Chairman said that when expenses are seen likely to be incurred, the Member should report these to the PC for provisional approval and receipts should be presented to the next PC meeting for final approval and payment by the Clerk
9. Discussion about village notice board	JJ said that she thought that there was a health & safety concern about the positioning of this notice board and suggested that it should be moved. The Chairman reported that, although the notice board had been financed by the PC, this was a parish notice board and it had been installed particularly substantially. Moving the notice board would be difficult and may not be well received as successive notice boards had been so positioned for a considerable time. It was thought that the situation should be monitored but that no immediate action was necessary.

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10. Speed limit change to top of Church Road	JJ stated that Norfolk Highways Department were promoting the view that roads around schools should be subject to 20 MPH speed limits and she thought that the PC should seek to achieve such a limit on Church Road. It was suggested that a 30/20 MPH sign may be suitable, where the limit is altered to the lower figure during school delivery/pick-up times. JJ was asked to make enquiries of the Highways Department as to how this could be achieved.
11. Matters arising from the Annual Parish Meeting	The Chairman said that he thought that the Members needed to consider what they had heard earlier in the evening in respect of the proposed Church Road development but that there was no immediate need for any action until the next plan phase was announced.
12. Other matters	
12a. GREEN pylon plans	LT said that she had been looking into this and it seemed that the only way to challenge the HT pylons would be through the courts. LT said that she would continue to follow the ongoing campaign to oppose the route and she was asked by the Members to pass on information and advice when available.
12b. PC payments	The Clerk asked for approval from the Members to pay the annual subscription of £134.45 to the Norfolk Association of Local Councils. This was approved.
12c. Tivetshall Neighbourhood Plan	JJ said that she found the plan to be very interesting in light of the proposed development on Church Road. She wondered whether the PC could increase its share of the CIL payments by writing its own neighbourhood plan. The Chairman cautioned against this as he had previously attended a seminar on the subject and it was not an easy thing for a small parish to achieve.
	The meeting was closed at 10.05 pm