

ASLACTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES – Parish Council Meeting 1st July 2022

Venue: St Michael's Church, Aslacton

Commencement: 7.30 p.m.

Clerk: Peter Robinson, The Old Rectory, Aslacton

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Present:	Geoff Gamble (Chairman); Keith Broomhall (KB); Christine Kinge (CK); Louise Thurgar (LT) and 4 members of the public
1. Apologies for Absence	Cheryl Shulver (CS)(Vice-Chairman); Charlotte Bennett (CB), Janine Jarrett (JJ)
2. Minutes of the Meeting of 6th May 2022	The approval of the minutes was proposed by LT and seconded by KB. The minutes were unanimously approved by the Members.
3. Matters arising from the Minutes of 6th May 2022	Before the formal matters arising were discussed, the Members were informed by LT that the next village newsletter would be delivered at the weekend. It was further acknowledged that the SNC move from Cygnet Court, Long Stratton to Horizon House would be taking place with a satellite office being established in Diss to cover local requirements. The Chairman also informed the Members that the previous Clerk was waiting for a response from the Highways Department before sending a summary of the village footpath situation to the Parish Council.
3a. Western Farm	The Chairman reported that there had not been any movement on the appeal lodged by Western Farm against the refusal of permission to allow workers' accommodation on the site.
3b. Village Sign	LT reported that the cut-off date for the competition for sign design had been set at 1 st October but that there had not yet been entries. LT will be trying to stimulate some interest from Aslacton School through the headteacher
3c. Woodlands, Sneath Road	The Clerk reported that Highways had preferred the view that there was an issue with the visibility between pedestrians on the footpath and vehicles emerging from the driveway of the house and that the planning application had been altered to a 1.3m height with the front fence being replaced accordingly.
3d. Church Road Development	The Chairman said that there was nothing new to report and that nothing further could be done until a formal consultation is announced. It was expected that the relevant documents would not be published until Autumn.
3e. Speed Limit Change on Church Road	In an e-mail report, JJ had confirmed that she had received 2 quotations for the relevant signage but was waiting for a final cost of Highways Dept. involvement to be received before making any recommendations. The Chairman reported that he had spoken with Martin Wilby and that a grant of 50% of the costs would be available through a highways infrastructure grant. The Chairman was now looking for funding for the remaining costs.
3f. GREEN Pylon Plans	Apparently National Grid had been surprised by the local depth of feeling against the project and LT reported that there had been a letter in The Times which had been signed by six MPs and which recommended an undersea route. A well attended meeting in Tibenham had expressed the same view and both SNC and Norfolk County Council were against the Pylon route.
4. Village Defibrillator	LT reported that she had spoken to the headteacher at the school and that they were happy to allow the installation on the school railings to the East of the car park entrance. They were prepared to cover the costs of the electricity

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	supply to the device as long as the Parish Council cover the installation costs. It was confirmed that CB was looking into the costs and suggested that these were considered at the next meeting .				
5. Clerk's Report	In order that actions which had been taken since the last meeting were reported to the Members, the Clerk reported on the following matters:				
5a. Planning 2022-0812 Coopers Site	The Clerk reported that a letter had been sent to the Planning Dept. To confirm the view of the Parish Council that a delay was acceptable but that it was imperative that the planned footpaths were constructed				
5b. Planning 2022-0946, Supply Stores, The Street	The Clerk reported that the Councillors had confirmed by e-mail that the plans were acceptable and no objection had been raised with the Planning Dept.				
5c. Give Way sign, Sneath Road	The Clerk reported that he had reported the disappearance of the Give Way sign at the Station Road end of Sneath Road. This had now been replaced and the corner tidied up by the Highways Dept.				
5d. Highways & Planning Issues, Maranello, Mill Lane	A letter of objection had been received by the Clerk and he had sent requests for further advice to both the Planning Dept and the Highways Dept. As Mill Lane is an unclassified road the Planning Enforcement Dept. had replied that there were no planning issues with the changes. It was unclear whether Highways would be taking any action as, despite a follow up e-mail, they had not yet replied to the Clerk.				
5e. Accounts 2021/22	The Clerk reported that the Parish Council accounts for 2021/22 had been posted on the notice boards and website along with a relevant Notice of Inspection.				
5f. Payments made	The Clerk reported outgoings of: <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">NALC subscription</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£134.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Charge for hire of Coronation Hall on 31st March</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 14.00</td> </tr> </table>	NALC subscription	£134.45	Charge for hire of Coronation Hall on 31 st March	£ 14.00
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5g. Receipts	The Clerk reported receipts of: <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Precept (50% 2022/23 precept)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1043.75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CIL payment for Coopers site</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£4318.46</td> </tr> </table> <p>The Chairman informed the meeting that there would be a further CIL payment for the Coopers development as the houses were completed. He understood that this would be in the order of £13,000</p>	Precept (50% 2022/23 precept)	£1043.75	CIL payment for Coopers site	£4318.46
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5h. Parish Council Insurances	The Clerk explained that although he had received a quote of £131.75 for the the normal insurance requirements for the Parish Council, the figure had been increased to £296.59 when cover had been requested for the two new notice boards and the new speed sign. This seemed excessive as the insurers operated a minimum risk policy where many other things were covered as part of the Property Insurance extension – to a total of over £150,000. After brief discussion the members agreed that the Clerk should pay the increased amount and it was recognised that other assets were expected to be acquired which would make the expense more acceptable.				
5i. Parish Minutes Books	The Clerk reported that he had scanned and digitised the parish minute books which the previous Clerk had passed over and asked the members whether the older book should now be handed over to the Norfolk records Office. This was agreed.				
5j. Predicted Spending & Accounts	The Clerk presented a predicted spending and accounts spreadsheet for 2022/23 which had been previously sent to the Members. This showed an expected end of year cash availability of £21,117.92 and a potential expenditure of £15,439.18 (inc. VAT), the two main outgoings being for the defibrillator and the village sign. It was pointed out that these projects may not				

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	<p>come to fruition within the accounting year but that there may be additional expenditure on 20 mph signs outside the school. It was noted that the Parish Council should have plans in place to account for its future needs otherwise both the ability to collect a precept and to hold CIL monies may be affected.</p>
<p>5k. Parish Rangers Visit</p>	<p>The Clerk asked for a list of jobs which the Rangers could be asked to carry out during their planned visit in July. The following jobs were noted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cleaning the road signs - Cleaning out the road drains which clog up on Wash Lane, Pottergate Street and the Church Road/Muir Lane/Woodrow Lane crossroads - Cleaning out the spillway feeding from The Street into the ditch between Matchbox and Street Farms - Cleaning out the water runoff path into the culvert at the bottom of Mill Lane - Cutting back the overgrowing branches on the footbridges over the village fords <p>The Clerk said that he will relay these to the Highways Dept.</p>
<p>5l. Police Clinic, Aslacton</p>	<p>The Clerk notified the Members that the Police would be holding a clinic in the village on 5th August between 10.30 am and 12.00 noon. This would be in the lay-by outside the Church. Notices would be put on the notice boards nearer the date.</p>
<p>6. Planning Application 2022-1117, New House, Church Road</p>	<p>The Members did not have any objections to the development as shown in the plans presented to the Planning Dept. and in the absence of any objections, it was agreed that it was not necessary to notify the Planning Dept. of this.</p>
<p>7. Other Matters: The Condition of Hedges and Verges along Low Common</p>	<p>The condition of the roadside verges along Low Common was reported as being potentially dangerous to traffic with overgrowing hedgerows and objects being placed on the verges to prevent drive-over. It was also reported that there was a potential visibility problem at the bus stop outside Downlands on the Aslacton side of the road with an overgrowing hedge obscuring people standing at the bus stop. The Clerk said that he would speak to Highways Dept. To find out what can be done about the issues and how to report such problems.</p>
	<p>The meeting was closed at 8.35 pm</p>