



GELDESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Parish Council

Minutes

**Held in the Village Hall
Wednesday 8th May 2024, 7.30PM**

Parish Councillors present: Cllr I. Ansell, Cllr J. Ashfield, Cllr P. Cracknell, Cllr R. Fogerty, Cllr T Morton, Cllr S. Salt and Cllr A. Wade

Also present: Tina Newby

- 1. To elect a Chairman and the signing of the DAO:** Cllr Fogerty was nominated. (Prop: JA; Sec: PC) all agreed.
- 2. To elect a Vice-chairman:** Cllr Wade was nominated. (Prop: IA; Sec: SS) all agreed.
- 3. Chairman's Welcome**
 - a. To receive apologies for absence. None
 - b. To receive declarations of interest and dispensations:
 - To receive declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other interests for councillors on items on the agenda: None
 - To receive and consider written requests for dispensations for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and those previously granted. None
 - c. To record the number of members of the public present. 11

- d. To adopt the General Power of Competence. (Prop: JA; Sec: IA) all agreed. This action was missed in May 2023.

4. Minutes of last meeting

To approve minutes of the meetings held on 13th March 2024. Minutes were approved as an accurate record: (Prop: PC; Sec: IA) All agreed.

5. To Discuss any working group and committees to be set up or continued.

No committees or working groups were needed at the moment.

6. Matters arising from last meeting and outstanding actions, discuss and agree:

- a. Environment Agency issues: There are various breaches on the riverbank. These could cause flood or pollution problem. Cllr Ansell reported that he had EA team down from Haddiscoe, they have factored work in 18 months – 2 years. Problem is down to the budget being tight.
Sluice Gate there is a bolt out.
Flood defence Structures and banks, major incident of footpaths.
Public footpaths are down to Norfolk Highways. Cllr Fogerty has logged a number of items regarding footpaths, stating location where possible.

Owners/Residents will cut their footpaths and keep them maintained. Those residents that walk their dogs, please let the parish know of any problems with footpaths.
- b. Update on Yarmouth Road pavement: This is still ongoing. It has been confirmed by a member of public at the meeting, that this is a highways pavement.
- c. Update on the war memorial condition: Ongoing.
- d. Update on the Highways and entrance signs. LL would like the Parish Clerk to chase this, she has asked for a site visit. **Action Clerk** to chase.

7. Chairperson's report: Nothing

8. New issues

- a. Suspend Standing Orders for Reports from the County Councillors and District Councillors. No District or County Councillors present.
- b. **Parish 10** - The meeting will be adjourned for public participation, 3 minutes per member for items to be discussed on the agenda only.
 - LL Reported that she would like a Bus box on the road by the village hall, to stop cars parking there. If agreed the Parish Council does not need to pay for it. This will be part of the traffic calming process. LL would like the Clerk to arrange a site visit. **Action Clerk** to chase highways for a site visit.

- The footpath at the Boundaries is blocked by a fallen tree. This is on an unadopted road and is not part of Gillingham. **Clerk** to contact the owner and see if he would be able to remove the tree.
 - There was a query on the Stockton Road traffic mirror and why it wasn't replaced. It is illegal and highways will not allow on their verges.
 - Could a mirror be put at the end of West End Entrance from Yarmouth Road. **Action Clerk** to ask for a 'concealed Entrance' sign.
 - Grass is growing back at West End.
 - Another concern about public and dogs using the allotment area. All the individual allotments should be fenced and then this issue would not happen. The land is the GREEN Project and is there for the public to exercise their dogs and relax.
 - Request for a 30mph sign when turning out of Locks Lane. Perhaps just move the original sign down a little. **Action Clerk** to log for an additional one speed sign.
 - There was a question regarding the outstanding correspondence needed. **Action Clerk and Cllr Fogerty** to resolve this.
 - The dog bin at the Church car park will be moved to the bottom of Snakes Lane.
- c. Resume Standing Orders. Report from Locks Inn Management Committee:
- The Pub is now open as usual after a long period of operating difficulties during the extensive flooding. However, thanks to the dedication of supports and contractors, a number of useful jobs could be done during downtime. The most significant is the installation of more solar panels. Norfolk County Council also plans to make Bridleway repairs to the track.
- d. To discuss and agree the insurance for this year. (Prop: IA; Sec: SS) all in agreement. Clerk has asked the Councillors to check the asset register.
- e. Clerk's report

9. Finance

- a. To review and approve AGAR Annual Internal Audit Report. (Prop: IA; Sec: SS) all in agreement.
- b. To review and approve AGAR Annual Governance Statement. (Prop: IA; Sec: SS) all in agreement.
- c. To review and approve AGAR Accounting Statement. (Prop: IA; Sec: SS) all in agreement.

- d. To review and agree the recommendations from the Internal Audit Report of received. (Prop: IA; Sec: SS) all in agreement. **Action Clerk** to note the recommendations and rectify this year.
- e. To agree the dates for the Notice of Public Rights for Inspection. Agree to the default dates of the public rights Monday 3rd June to Friday 12th July 2024 (Prop: IA; Sec: SS) all in agreement.
- f. To approve the Asset Register for accuracy. (Prop: IA; Sec: SS) all in agreement, but the Councillors have agreed to review between meetings.
- g. To approve invoices for payment

Geldeston Parish Council

Statement of Account @ 08/05/2024

b/f from 31/03/2024

GPC Community Account	£8,089.04	*
Village Park	£9,325.67	**
	<u>£17,414.71</u>	

Running total £17,414.71

Statement of Account 8th May 2024

Bank Balance @ 08/05/2024	£12,521.04	*
	£9,325.67	**
	<u>£21,846.71</u>	

Payments to be approved	REF	Payment		
Waveney, Lower Yare and Lothingland IDB	101122	11.97		
Heelis and Lodge	101123	240		
Norfolk PTS 52.00 + 48	101124	100		
Clerks Wages April	101125	372.25		
			<u>£724.22</u>	To be approved
Cheques for May/June 2024				
Clerks Wages May	101126	£351.95		
Wix Domain (payable to T Newby)	101126	£12.46		
Wix Website subs (payable to T Newby)	101126	£288.00		
			<u>£652.41</u>	To be approved
Insurance for PC		£472.78	£472.78	To be approved
Peter Cracknell fencing at village green	101127	£85.58	£85.58	To be approved
		Total to be approved 8/5/24	£1,934.99	

Payments totally £1934.99 were approved for payment. (Prop: JA; Sec: IA) all in agreement with 1 abstention.

- h. To note Bank balances will be reported at the meeting. See above.
- i. It has agreed that we would use the same Internal Auditors for 2024/2025, with Heelis and Lodge.

10. To discuss and agree village matters:

- a. Trees on Heath Road: The Parish Council agreed that Cllr Cracknell and a small team will work on the dead trees along Heath Road and any other parish council areas. (Prop: IA; Sec JA) All in agreement. Risk Assessment will be completed first.
- b. Inspection of pine tree on the green. Mr C Ansell climbed the pine tree and took photos of the cavities. One is 19" deep. Cllr Cracknell to report back to the Tree Surgeon. **Action Cllr Ansell** to provide Cllr Cracknell with the photos taken.
- c. Update on the insurance for the private function on the green: All sorted. All events on the village green will need to be booked with the Clerk. Village Hall to provide a copy of the Events insurance.
- d. Update on footpaths. Cllrs Fogerty volunteered to be the point of contact for all footpaths in the village. There is a definitive map. **Action Clerk** to provide a large map for the meetings.
- e. Update on the park, sensory garden: Sensory Garden is now finished. The RoSPA report has been completed for 2024. There is need to purchase some bird spikes for the equipment. In the Summer the Sensory Garden will need watering. Lenny has offered his services and his water. He has a water meter and will calculate what has been used. Proposed that this gets paid for from the remains of the lottery and the fund-raising money. (Prop: AW; Sec: TM) All in agreement.
- f. Agree a way for with Working Party/Committees and maintenance routine. The Working Party is now disbanded as no longer needed. The maintenance of Geldeston Village Park will come under the Parish Council.
- g. Update on the Lottery and the money that is left, £1015.52. Jodie is buying that last few items which will be claimed from the money that is left. **Action Clerk** to ask if the rest could go to maintenance for the first year?

11. Updates from village committees & groups

- a. Village Hall Management Trustees. Nothing to report.
- b. GREEN project: The GREEN Project looks lovely at the moment. It is a lovely space to relax in. Currently we have 13 allotments and would like a few more.

The Clerk expressed her thanks to ML for all the help she does with the GREEN Project and the allotments.

Could the Parish Council pay for some manure from Mandy? £10 per trailer, the Parish Council stated that the budget is tight this year.

5 trees in the orchard have died. Would like these replaced, Cllr Morton will advise with the species of fruit tree.

Discuss the issues with some of the allotment plots and the need for new ones.

Allotment water. The Parish Council is still paying for the water. The Poores Trust has suggested the Parish Council talk to them before we rent out any more allotments. The Parish Council has a duty to provide allotments in the village.

- c. Conservation Area and the Churchyard Conservation Area. Nothing to report.

12. Planning applications and other planning matters

- a. South Norfolk District Council Planning applications.
- b. Village Clusters – no update
- c. To discuss any SNC additional planning applications, received before the meeting.
None
- d. Broads Authority Planning Applications. None
- e. To discuss any additional planning applications for BA, received before the meeting.
None
- f. To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan. Gillingham Village and Geldeston Village Boundaries are up for public consultation. There is a link on the Parish Council website.

The application to South Norfolk DC to develop a joint Neighbourhood Plan with Gillingham is currently out for consultation. For the details, please follow this link: <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plans>.

The consultation, a significant opportunity for your input, ends on Wednesday, 29th May.

13. Other business:

- There is a car parked along Kells Acre, there is difficulty when cars want to pass and drive down the road. Ask Saffron for a Yellow Box to stop cars parking there. Action Clerk to look into this.
- Thank you to those that helped Cllr Cracknell erecting the posts along the village green.
- The Parish Council needs to find a new Tree Warden. **Action Cllr Wade** to provide the Clerk with an advertisement to go in the Tidings.

- Thank you to Cllr Ansell for all the work he has done as the Chairman for many years.

Meeting closed at 9.36pm

Date of next parish meeting: 10th July 2024, 7.30pm