

ANNUAL MEETING OF WEASENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday 18th May 2023 AT 7PM

WEASENHAM COMMUNITY BUILDING

Councillors Present: Mr R Atterwill, Mr M Romanovsky, Mr T McClenaghan and Mr C Donachie

Also in attendance: Mrs K. Pickard (Clerk) and 10 members of the public

Matters Raised Under Time Allocated to the Public

A member of the public asked why it had taken a while to receive the cleaning supplies for the building. The clerk responded that an account had to be set up with a supplier to be able to pay on invoice for the audit trail.

A member of the public apologised for not spraying the footpath to the community building yet with weed killer but he will carry this out shortly.

An issue was raised regarding a pile of shingle deposited in the car park area. Information supplied by the public resolved this query.

Concerns regarding the footpath were raised, Councillor Atterwill stated this would be addressed during the meeting.

District Council report

Councillor Atterwill reported that there is a new District Councillor for Weasenham however due to family matters he will not be contactable for a short while.

At the Annual meeting of Breckland District Council a new leader and Chairman was elected and members were appointed for the committees.

The Meeting Went into Session

Councillor Romanovsky, Councillor Donachie and Councillor McClenaghan signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and handed them to the clerk to forward to Breckland Council

1. To elect a Parish Council Chairman for the forthcoming year

Outgoing Chairman Councillor Atterwill opened the meeting and thanked Weasenham for his time over the last twelve months

Councillor Donachie proposed Councillor Romanovsky is elected as Chairman seconded by Councillor McClenaghan

Councillor Atterwill stepped down and joined the public

Councillor Romanovsky then read out a statement on behalf of the new Parish Council

"Opening Statement by Weasenham's Newly Appointed Parish Council 18th May 2023

Parish Councillors: Tom Mc Clenaghan, Crawford Donachie & Martin Romanovsky

We fully understand and acknowledge that there have been, and probably still are, tensions and frictions within our community. In that respect, it is no different from many other communities across the country. We also acknowledge that some decisions have been made in the past that didn't sit easily with everyone, but again, that's not unusual in any walk of life.

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As your new councillors, we are seeking to 'look forward' in all that we do rather than be held back by old issues that may never be fully resolved for everyone. We hope to be able to put all our energy and experience into improving facilities and responding to the current and emerging needs of the community without having to comment on, or to be involved in, previous disputes that has sapped so much goodwill. In this we ask for a new and positive response from everyone in the parish to fully support us as we work on your behalf to build a better future for the village.

Our individual and combined aim is to always be forward looking. Mindful to avoid errors, we will do everything in our power to serve you well. We will try not to make important decisions that impact you, without first seeking your views, wherever possible. We fully appreciate that we are here as your voice to organise and facilitate positive actions for the benefit of everyone in the parish.

But what we all need to do from this point onwards is refrain from negativity and stop looking backwards. Instead, we should try to bury old tensions and disagreements and look forward with a positive view to improve what is already a very good community. In short, we all need to work together.

We would like to thank the interim Parish Council for all their work over the past year which has resulted in the resolution of many issues. This now enables us as a new Parish Council to move forward ideally with no need to look back at the past"

2. To accept apologies for absence

County Councillor Kiddle-Morris sent his apologies

3. To Receive Declarations of Interest

None were received

4. Election of Vice Chairman

Councillor Donachie proposed that Councillor McClenaghan is Vice Chair seconded by Councillor Romanovsky

5. Appointment of Council Representatives and Councillors with Special Responsibilities

a. Member to be responsible for Churchyard inspections

Councillor Donachie was appointed

b. Member to be responsible for the Community Building and Recreation Ground

Councillor McClenaghan was appointed

c. Member to be responsible for the Village street furniture

Councillor Donachie was appointed

d. Member to be responsible for the SAM2 sign

Councillor Donachie was appointed

e. Members to carry out Internal Control checks

Councillor McClenaghan was appointed

6. Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting of 25th April 2023 to be Accepted, Initialled and Signed

Councillor Donachie proposed the minutes were accepted seconded by Councillor McClenaghan and carried

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For the purpose of the minutes it was noted that Councillor Romanovsky was not present at the April meeting

7. Matters Arising from Minutes of 25th April 2023 (For Exchange of Information Only)

The issue of the tyres was raised and Councillor Atterwill offered to look at the options with Breckland Council.

It was also suggested that a working party could be formed to carry out simple repairs around the Green.

8. Finance

a) Accounts to approve for payment

The Clerk confirmed that there was an additional payment of £5 for a customer refund.

Councillor McClenaghan proposed the payments are made seconded by Councillor Donachie and carried

Payee –	Detail	Payment Method	Total Amount Payable	Of Which VAT Reclaimable
Staff payroll	April	BACS	£613.70	
Clerk expenses	Mileage (1 journeys)	BACS	£13.05	
S2	Monthly subscription	DD	£59.28	£9.40
E-On	Electricity	DD	£85.80	£4.09
Shoreline	Grass cutting	BACS	£690.00	
Frog & Froglets	Coronation	BACS	£250.00	
R Atterwill	Expenses – Interim Chair	BACS	£13.05	
R Beavis	Refund	BACS	£5.00	
		Total	£1729.88	£13.49

b) Income to be reported

The Clerk reported that the VAT claim has now been actioned and will be credited to the account shortly

Payee- March	Detail	Payment Method	Total Amount Received
Regular hirers	Hire fees		£25.00
Breckland Council	50% Precept		£8388.12
		Total	£8413.12

c) To receive an update on the Public Works Loan

The Clerk reported that this is still ongoing as the PWLB has requested further information

Councillor Romanovsky reported that even though the PWL is still being investigated, he is aware that there may be more cost effective options to have the work carried out.

Therefore before the Parish Council commit to the loan and the terms, the Council will be looking at other options with the support of the residents

d) To agree the bank account signatories

It was agreed that Councillor Donachie and Councillor Romanovsky will be bank signatories.

9. Land and Planning

a. To consider responses to Breckland District Council for any planning applications

No applications received.

b. To Receive Report on Planning Decisions by Breckland District Council

None received.

10. Policies

None for consideration

11. To discuss parish assets

a. To receive an update on the Community building

Councillor McClenaghan then read out a comprehensive written report produced by Mrs Judy Grimwood including a summary of the many uses of the Community Building (F.R.O.G.'s Quiz events, Polling Station, Birthday parties, etc) and subsequent feedback. Councillor McClenaghan reported that a sum of £250 will be reimbursed to Mrs Grimwood from money that was budgeted for the Kings Coronation event. He also reported that Mrs Grimwood no longer wishes to be a key holder and has handed back her set of keys.

A plumber will be appointed for the toilet and there was miscommunication with the keyholder for the elections.

Thanks were placed on record for Mrs Grimwood for her help with the Community building.

b. To receive an update on the repair to the Village pump

The Clerk reported that this is still ongoing, a telephone appointment was being carried out with the contractor to report at the next meeting.

12. Highways

a) To Receive Reports of Highways Faults / Matters for Attention

Flooding and damage to Low Road

Potholes

b) To receive an update on the drainage work at the Village Green

Councillor Kiddle-Morris has sent an update that the LLFA and highways are still in discussion on the way forward on any flooding issues on Lamberts Lane and Low Road. They will report to me on any outcome. I will let them get their "ducks in a row" before arranging a site meeting.

c) To receive an update regarding the safe crossing of children to access the school

Councillor Kiddle-Morris has nothing further to report as the survey is ongoing while they are collecting the data.

13. Correspondence (For Exchange of Information Only)

None was raised

Meeting to Be Suspended for Further Time Allocated to the Public

A member of the public reported that there was also flooding at Rougham end outside Moat House. Another member of the public raised the issue of the speed sign at the end of Dodma Road being buried in the hedge at the A1065 end.

Another member of the public asked if Breckland Council will be invoiced for use of the building for elections? The Clerk reported that an invoice will be sent.

Another member of the public reported recent a recurrence of flood water on the road opposite the Fox and Hounds pub on the A1065 during the last heavy downfall. Additionally, the drain on the A1065 opposite School Road is ejecting water during downpours because a large pipe is still feeding into a much smaller pipe. A meeting with Mark Kiddle Morris, Highways and Norfolk Flood Team still hasn't happened and this needs to be expedited. This will be reported to the Flood team to investigate,

Another member of the public raised a concern regarding the public works loan pointing out that the Solar Farm money is not guaranteed year on year, and stating that the Parish Council should avoid being reliant on the Solar Farm Fund to repay the PWL.

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14. Any Item to be Reported for the Next Agenda

Annual accounts

Village Pump

Working party for the Green

Agree meeting dates for 2023/2024

15. To Confirm the Date & Time of the next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 20th June at 7pm

The meeting closed at 8.38pm

_____ (Chairman) _____ Date