

MEETING OF DIGBY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held in Digby War Memorial Hall on Wednesday 17th July 2019 at 7pm.

PRESENT Parish Cllrs. James Bourne (JB) Chairman, Tracy Bourne (TB), Gerald Garton (GG), John Fry (JF), Colin Harvey (CH) and Amanda Redsell (AR)
District Cllrs. Steve Clegg (SC)
County Cllr. Rob Kendrick (RK)

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present

DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS' MATTERS**District Council Report.**

District Councillor Steve Clegg (SC) reported NK unanimously agreed to invest £4million in Sleaford for a new cinema and to regenerate the heart of Sleaford.

The cut-off date for comments on the review of the Local Plan is 18th July.

District Councillor Jim Clarke (JC) arrived at 20.30hrs after attending a prior meeting and confirmed the report given by SC. He also added the house building rate is increasing in the district.

County Council Report.

County Councillor Kendrick had sent a report earlier in the month and added the resurfacing of Metheringham High Street is still progressing. The speed limit between Woodhall and Martin has been reduced to 40mph.

The Chairman thanked RK for assisting in getting the Beck bridge wall repaired.

The Chairman thanked the councillors for attending our meeting.

POLICE

There was no report provided from the PSCO. CH has spoken to the PCSO about the parking issues on North Street and agreed they will monitor the situation.

1. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS. (19/100)**
 - a) The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **APOLOGIES and CO- OPTION (19/101)**
 - a) Apologies.
There were no apologies, all councillors were present.
 - b) Co-option.
There is still one vacancy for a parish councillor. There were no applications for the position.
Action: The Clerk to advertise the vacancy
3. **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST & APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION (19/102)**
 - a) Declaration of Interest.
None
4. **SIGNING OF THE MINUTES (19/103)**
 - a) It was proposed by GG , seconded by CH and RESOLVED to accept the notes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19th June 2019 as a true and accurate record of that meeting.
5. **PLANNING MATTERS (19/104)**
 - a) Planning Applications Received
Nil to date
 - b) Decision Notice.
Nil received to date.
6. **GENERAL PARISH MATTERS (19/105)**
 - a) Distribution of e-mails within the Council.

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JF reminded the council to address emails to all councillors to help keep everyone informed and prevent the same issue being reported more than once.

7. **HIGHWAYS (19/106)**

a) Potholes or Highways Issues.

not The surface of junction of the Ashby road at the Digby end is breaking up. The top dressing works did go as far as the junction.

The Temporary Road Closure notice of North Street from 20th Aug has been placed in the notice board.

Action: The Clerk to report the junction for repair

b) Loose Coping Stone on the Bridge over the Beck.

Highways have now repaired the damage done to the bridge and the coping stone has been reset.

8. **THE VILLAGE HALL (19/107)**

a) Village Hall Committee Meeting Notes.

AR reported there has been no meeting. The Digby Fayre has received good comments and the committee are pleased with the money raised. There are already plans for some changes to next year's Fayre to make it better.

The Chairman asked JF to help AR complete a grant application form to help with improvements to the Hall.

b) Boundary Work between the Village Hall and Neighbour's Property.

The Chairman and Clerk have met with contractors to consider the work required. It will involve the removal of 3 trees that are damaging the fencing right on the boundary and the removal of the ivy from the fencing and seats. Care will be taken to protect the existing wisteria. Quotations are still required before a contractor can be selected.

It was also agreed to ask the Village Hall gardener to remove the self-seeded Ash trees and prune back the over-hanging shrubs from the footpaths.

Action: JF to request the gardener carry out the issues raised.

9. **DRAINAGE (19/108)**

a) Updates from IDB or the Environment Agency.

No update to report

b) Update on Digby Flood Alleviation Scheme from LCC.

A meeting with LCC Flood Officer, Paul Brookes, has taken place. He confirmed the flood alleviation scheme is well on its way. Currently an Ecology report of the area is being carried out and work should commence before the end of the financial year.

c) Weeds in the Beck.

The IDB have been and cut the weeds in the Beck but because of the high water level they could not get into the bottom, it was agreed to ask them to come back now the water level has reduced to complete the work.

Action: Clerk to ask IDB to return and complete work.

10. **PLAYING FIELD, PLAY AREAS AND VILLAGE GENERAL (19/109)**

a) Monthly Inspection of Play Equipment.

AR provided a copy of the latest inspection, there were no new issues to report.

JF confirmed he has cleaned off the green algae from the bar over the toddler swings and the top of the multiplay equipment. He will clean in the bar of the other set of swings shortly.

b) Larger Parish Notice Board.

It has been noted that the amount of information the council must legally display is more than can fit in the current noticeboard in the grounds of the village hall. The Council were in favour of providing a larger noticeboard, AR agreed to find a selection of boards for consideration. It was suggested the new board could be wall mounted.

Action: AR to source noticeboards. The Clerk to contact the Village Hall Committee to discuss wall mounting the board.

c) Weed Killing on Footpaths.

As the LCC are not spraying the footpaths as often the weeds, nettles and brambles are spreading. It was agreed to have the weeds along the path between North Street and Harrowby Close strimmed back.

Action: The Clerk to ask our Litter Picker to carry out the work.

11. ALLOTMENTS (19/110)

a) Allotment Association Meeting.

JB reported the Open day at the Allotments on Sunday 14th July was a great success. The sensory garden was opened and the event was well attended.

The outstanding rent owed by the previous allotment field tenant was discussed. JB to see if he can speak to the gentleman concerned.

12. FINANCE (19/111)

a) Bank Balances and Approval of Bank Reconciliation.

The bank balances were reported as:-

Parish Council Account	25,478.04
Allotment Account	4,050.61
Mary Gresswell Trust	5.45

The bank reconciliation was distributed and approved.

b) Income Received.

Income received during June and July

VAT Return £828.79, this amount is accounted for in the current bank balance.

c) Approval for the following payments.

It was proposed by GG, seconded by JF and RESOLVED the following payments be made

	<u>Invoice</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
Salaries/Expenses	598.03		598.03
MalcFirth – Parish Grass cutting	351.63	70.33	421.96

d) Internal Auditor for 2019/20.

We are still looking for an Internal auditor.

e) Update on the Bank Signatories.

The mandates have been sent to the bank and we are now awaiting confirmation from them that all is in order.

13. CORRESPONDENCE (19/112)

a) LCC promoting broadband improvement grants. Distributed to councillors 2.7.19

b) LALC are promoting the Local Council Review magazine, a sample copy was distributed to councillors 9.7.19

c) County Cllr Kendrick's monthly report. Distributed to councillors 9.7.19

d) LALC Weekly newsletter. Distributed to councillors 2.7.19, 9.7.19

e) Notification of Temporary Road Closure – North Street 20th Aug to 22nd Aug – Anglian Water. Distributed to councillors 9.7.19

f) LCC Mobile Library Service – Smaller vehicles are to be used, the days and times of the stops may need reviewing by the Library Service. Details will be notified in due course. Distributed to councillors 15.7.19

g) Request to hire the playing field for a Charity Car Show. Distributed to councillors 16.7.19. It was agreed to permit the use of the field. Proof of Liability Insurance and a site Risk Assessment must be presented to the council and confirmation of the date of the event. It was agreed to invite the hirer to the full council meeting on 21st Aug to confirm all safety issues had been actioned.

Action: Clerk to notify hirer of conditions and invite them to the next full council meeting.

h) NKDC Tree Survey – Notification received of the three yearly routine tree inspection is due.

Action: Clerk to confirm cost of inspection and add to the next agenda.

14. DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS (19/113)

a) Change of Meeting Date – Nov.

261.

The Village Hall committee have requested the November meeting be moved to hold an event. It will now be held on 13th Nov.

- b) Dates of Parish Council meetings for 2019
21st Aug, 18th Sep, 16th Oct, 13th Nov and 18th Dec

15. **ANY BUSINESS TO NOTE FOR THE NEXT AGENDA (19/114)**

Planting Daffodil bulbs
Asset Risk Assessment inspection
Tree Survey
Paint seat in Bus Shelter
Village Gateways
Payment of Bus Shelter Rent
Council Tax – Closed Session
Mary Gresswell Trust – closure

20.30 – District Councillor Jim Clerk arrived from a prior meeting and gave his report.

16. **CLOSED SESSION** (for confidential items in accordance with the Public Bodies Act 1960) If required. **(19/115)**

- a) Quotes for the work on the Village Hall Boundary.
All the quotes had not arrived and therefore this item was not discussed.

20.45 There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed.