

MINUTES of the meeting of the GRASSMOOR, HASLAND AND WINSICK PARISH COUNCIL held on 8 March 2023 at the Grassmoor Community Centre.

PRESENT

Councillor P J Hemsley (in the Chair)

Councillors M Durrant, J Hartshorne, L Hartshorne, and J Wood.

Also in attendance – County Councillor J Woolley.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no matters taken in public participation.

POLICE/PARISH LIAISON

Concern was expressed at the problems of speeding vehicles on Birkin Lane. The Clerk agreed to contact the Police and ask them to give the problem attention.

COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

County Councillor J Woolley attended the meeting to update the Parish Council on matters relating to the County Council.

Councillor Woolley reported that he agreed to provide funding for the new Chat Group which had recently formed and was meeting in the Pavilion. He had also agreed to provide funding for a recently established group providing football training for young people in the village. Both he and Councillor Cupit also had around £200-250 in funding available per parish to support activities relating to the Coronation.

Councillor Woolley reported that the County Council would be undertaking a highways inspection survey although the date of the inspection was not known.

The County Council's budget meeting was held on Wednesday 15 February and a Council Tax increase of 3.75% had been agreed. Councillor Woolley was unaware of any specific budget cuts to be made.

DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

Councillor L Hartshorne reported that at the recent Council meeting, the District Council had agreed to adopt a Talent Pipeline to provide a more sustainable and workable approach to workforce planning going forward.

Councillor Hartshorne also reminded the Parish Council that voter ID would be used in the upcoming District and Parish Council elections for the first time. There were concerns that this would lead to significant numbers of people missing the opportunity to vote and there were also concerns for the potential extra stress placed on staff working in polling stations on election day. Older persons travel cards could be for ID purposes but not younger persons cards.

It was also reported that the issue of dog waste on Opal Street at Winsick had been raised as an issue again. Councillor Hartshorne had asked the District Council Dog Wardens to give the problem some attention.

3971. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors A H Booker, E A Hill, S Hinds, J Marriott, R W Marriott and B Uknighted and County Councillor C Cupit.

3972. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

Councillors P J Hemsley, L Hartshorne and J Wood declared personal interests in the item relating to Grassmoor Community Centre as members of the Community Centre Management Committee (Minute no. 3976 refers).

3973. MINUTES RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 8 February 2023 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3974. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The Responsible Financial Officer presented for information, details of receipts and payments to 28 February 2023 which showed an overall balance of £136,704.92. The bank reconciliation had been circulated to every member by email.

It was agreed that payments be authorised as detailed below:

Date	Details	Method	TOTAL	VAT Inputs
21.02.23	Bolsover Woodlands Enterprise Ltd	113BACS	£560.00	£93.33
27.02.23	R Ackrill - Zoom fee	114BACS	£14.39	£2.40
27.02.23	A Ward -Timpson key cutting	115BACS	£54.00	£9.00
01.03.23	Staff Salaries - February	116BACS	£2,147.71	£0.00
01.03.23	HMRC - PAYE Feb	116BACS	£516.19	£0.00
01.03.23	GCC - Grant & Room Hire	117BACS	£2,032.50	£0.00
01.03.23	BT - Pavilion	DD	£98.28	£16.38
01.03.23	PWLB Loan Repayment	DD	£2,672.03	£0.00
01.03.23	TV Licence - Pavilion	DD	£41.00	£0.00
01.03.23	A1 Garage Doors – Pavilion Shutters	119BACS	£149.00	£24.83
01.03.23	Cathedral Leasing – Pavilion Hygiene	120BACS	£42.12	£7.02

RESOLVED to (a) note the report;
 (b) agree the bank reconciliation and the summary of receipts and payments to 28 February 2023; and
 (c) approve the payment of accounts as detailed above.

3975. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members of the Parish Council were reminded that the District and Parish Council elections were to be held on 4 May 2023. The pre-election period or Purdah rules came in to effect on 27 March. The Clerk would circulate guidance to all councillors.

3976. GRASSMOOR COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Clerk reported that members of the Management Committee had been invited to attend a meeting on 28 February 2023 with Rural Action Derbyshire (RAD) on to discuss the creation of a new Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) to manage both the Community Centre and the Community Pavilion and to ensure that Committee members were fully aware of the process involved.

A potential issue regarding the ownership of the Centre had arisen. It was clear that the Parish Council owned the "old" part of the building. However, the "new" part of the Centre built with funds raised by the Management Committee, appeared as an asset of the Charity in its accounts. This may well be a technicality but legal advice was being sought to clarify the position.

At previous meetings, the Clerk had referred to the Association Model as being the preferred model CIO to be adopted. This was incorrect. The preferred model was the Foundation Model. The Clerk apologised for the error.

As previously mentioned, separate solicitors would be required to represent the Parish Council and the Management Committee. As a result, he had arranged for Elliott Mather to represent the Parish Council and for Banner Jones to represent the Management Committee.

Arising from the fire safety risk assessment, it had been identified that the Inspection Test Condition Report was out of date. The Community Facilities Manager was arranging for a new report to be undertaken.

The Responsible Financial Officer expressed concern over the current state of the Centre's finances. The issues arose mainly from works required to ensure the Centre to ensure that the Centre was compliant with health and safety regulations etc and also increased running costs, particularly, heating. It was agreed that the level of support for the Community Centre be increased to £3k per month with effect from April 2023.

Obviously, staff needed to be made aware of the need to reduce heating bills where possible by turning the heating off or down when not needed. At present the rooms were controlled by thermostats on individual radiators and it was suggested that consideration could be given to looking at introducing a zoned heating system which could be controlled remotely.

RESOLVED to (a) note the report;

(b) agree to increase the monthly support to the Centre to £3k per month from April 2023; and

(c) look at the costs of introducing zoned heating in the Centre to reduce costs.

3977. BARNES PARK COMMUNITY PAVILION

The Clerk reported that a positive meeting of the Operational Management Group (OMG) had been held on 27 February 2023.

The current position relating to the creation of a new Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) was noted as per Minute no. 3977 - Grassmoor Community Centre above.

There had been a problem with the shutters not closing properly. The problem had been sorted out and the Community Facilities Manager had entered in to a regular maintenance contract with A1 Garage Doors.

There was still some confusion over the water meters and billing for the water supply which the Responsible Financial Officer was trying to resolve.

The Cricket Club were suggesting a revised charging system for their use of the Pavilion which was based on actual usage rather than per match. This was being looked at to see if it was feasible. It was agreed that the Cricket Club be asked to provide a copy of their accounts for the last financial year for information. The Cricket Club were also putting on coaching sessions for 5-8 and 8-11 year olds as they had done last year.

Val Livesley was setting up football coaching sessions for children which would be based at the Pavilion. Councillor Woolley had also agreed to assist with funding the new chat group which was meeting in the Pavilion.

RESOLVED to note the report.

3978. PARISH COUNCIL AND SOCIAL MEDIA

The Clerk reported that he had circulated a slightly amended version of the draft job description and person specification for the Assistant Clerk post. The job description and person specification were approved and it was agreed that the post be advertised.

RESOLVED to (a) approve job description and person specification for the Assistant Clerk post; and
(b) advertise the post.

3979. BARNES PARK AND WINSICK PARK

The Clerk reported that he had been approached by Lee Cuttsbland who was interested in quoting for work to maintain the Park in general, the football and cricket pitches and also the inspection and maintenance of the play equipment. The Clerk had asked for a quote to be provided in order that a comparison with the costs of the District Council could be made.

The Clerk reminded the Parish Council that he had submitted a bid to the NEDUKSPF funding stream for new play equipment of around £135k with match funding from Big Local of £15k. Three outline quotes had been obtained from Hags, Playdale and Kompan. The Clerk had circulated details of the suggested equipment to be purchased should the grant application be successful, and this was agreed. It was noted that

should the full amount of grant not be allocated, the list of preferred equipment would need to be reviewed accordingly.

The Jubilee seat had still not been installed and the District Council could not give a date when it would be. The Clerk had therefore asked Lee Cuttsbland to do the installation.

The District Council had identified a problem with the teen shelter whereby the legs were beginning to rust at the base. This was not a serious issue at present, but the matter would need to be monitored. A replacement could potentially be included as part of the new play equipment project. The Council had also identified an issue with the pipes on the skatepark which were coming loose. There were uncertain however, as to how to resolve the problem. The Clerk had asked Hags, who installed the park, if they could assist with the solution.

The Clerk reminded the Parish Council that they had previously agreed to replace the fencing to the rear of 71 Norfolk Avenue. A quote for the work had been received in the sum of £1,500.00. It was agreed that the work be undertaken.

Councillor Hartshorne reported that it was proposed to dedicate the two oak trees as "Queen Elizabeth II memorial in the coronation year of King Charles III".

RESOLVED to (a) note the report;
(b) approve the list of items of new play equipment;
(c) approve the fencing works in the sum of £1,500.00 and
(d) note that Lee Cuttsbland would be fitting the Jubilee seat.

3980. COST OF LIVING CRISIS

There were no matters on the cost of living crisis to report.

RESOLVED to note the report.

3981. CCTV

The Clerk reported that he had now received a response from Derbyshire Support and Facilities Services (DSFS) regarding the camera issue at the Grassmoor Surgery. The camera had been removed in error as they considered it to be interfering with the receiver of their system. DSFS were not willing to have the camera located at the surgery in the future as they were concerned about storing the footage. The Clerk felt that they did not realise that the Parish Council system was stand alone.

DSFS had indicated that they were willing to cover the costs of providing a replacement camera at an alternative location provided the Parish Council used their approved contractor. The Clerk pointed out that this would not be possible as the system needed to be linked to the NW Systems system. The Clerk had responded on these points to DSFS and also indicated that the Parish Council expected them to cover the costs of the £400.00 call-out charge.

RESOLVED to note the report.

3982. MILL LANE ALLOTMENTS

Following the resignation of the Allotment Committee reported to the last Parish Council meeting, the Clerk had arranged for notices to be displayed on the allotments seeking nominations to form a new committee. The closing date for nominations was 11 March. The Clerk had also called a General Meeting of allotment holders for 12 March where hopefully a new committee would be elected.

Three people had come forward seeking plots. The Clerk had not allocated these as it was hoped this could be done by the new Committee once formed.

Once the new Committee had been elected and was up and running, it was suggested that the Parish Council work with them to develop new and more robust rules including rules relating to the keeping of animals.

RESOLVED to note the report.

3983. GILL LANE ALLOTMENTS

The Responsible Financial Officer reported that rent of £106.00 had been received from the Allotments as one member had given up their plot.

RESOLVED to note the report.

3984. GRASSMOOR LAGOONS, AVENUE WASHLANDS AND COUNTRY PARK

Councillor L Hartshorne reported that the official opening of the Don Catchment Rivers Trust "Slow the Flow" project was to be held on 15 March 2023. In addition, on 15 April an event was to be held in the Country Park for the sowing of wildflower seeds. Grassmoor Primary had been invited to be involved. On 4 May, the Trust would also be undertaking its Waterblitz Wildlife Survey.

As part of the Covid Memorial Wood, 400 trees were to be planted in the area with around 50 in the lower field. It was also planned to have a new interpretation board for the Memorial Wood.

The bench on the viewing area which the Parish Council had agreed to donate would be in place in the near future.

RESOLVED to note the report.

3985. BIG LOCAL

The Annual Open Forum had been held on Saturday 4 March 2023 which included a talk from the Men in Sheds Group. The membership of Big Local from Grassmoor remained unchanged.

RESOLVED to note the report.

3986. CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY

As reported under the Community Centre (Minute no. 3976 refers), the Community Centre were looking at ways in which it could reduce its energy usage by possibly installing zoned heating.

RESOLVED to note the report.

3987. ADDITIONAL LIGHTING - DOCTORS PATH

The Clerk reported that the Safer Streets funding programme was not an option for funding the additional lighting. It was agreed that the Clerk proceed with procuring the additional lighting column.

RESOLVED to proceed to procure the additional lighting column.

3988. KING'S CORONATION

It was noted that the Community Facilities Manager was looking at planning activities for the Coronation in the Community Centre and possibly the Pavilion. It was also noted that County Councillors Cupit and Woolley had funding available to support the celebrations.

RESOLVED to note the report.

3989. PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning matters to report.

RESOLVED to note the report.

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Chair

Meeting finished at 8.35pm.