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CAWSTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 23 JUNE 2021

MINUTES

At the meeting of the Cawston Parish Council held at the Bowls Club, Norwich Road, Cawston on Wednesday 23 June 2021, the following members were present:

J. Buttifant – Chair

T. Carman, T. Durrant, A. Hellewell, C. Monk,

V. Purdy, S. Reckert, G. Sinclair, P. Soanes.

**In Attendance**

County and District Cllr G. Peck, L. Mills (Clerk of the Council)

and one member of the public

**103/018 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from J. Livingstone, S. Spencer

**103/019 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**

 G. Sinclair and C. Monk declared their ongoing interests in windfarm matters.

**103/020 MINUTES**

 The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 6 May 2021 having been circulated to all members, were confirmed as an accurate record with the following change:

103/006(iii) replace *‘Spanish Laurels’* with *‘Memorial Avenue’.*

 With this change they were signed by the Chair.

**103/021 MATTERS ARISING NOT LISTED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA**

1. J. Livingstone had spoken with his neighbour who was willing to install the litter bin on the field. It was **AGREED** with an upper limit of £75.
2. A new neighbour had moved into a house bordering the churchyard and wanted to know if the churchyard wall was the responsibility of the Parish Council. Council **AGREED** that it is and they are happy for her to affix a trellis to it on her side. Also the Council is content for her oil tank to be accessed from the boundary wall.
3. The Council had read the report from D. Gillett re the yews in the churchyard and would like to receive a quote for costs. The Clerk will contact Mr Gillett.
4. The Chair reported that she had held a meeting with interested parties in the cemetery to agree the location of Spanish Laurels to replace the original Memorial Avenue.
5. Resident Mr Spencer wishes to run a fun cricket match on the playing field as he has done previously. This was **AGREED** providing he follows the protocol laid down previously.

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**103/022 ADJOURNMENT TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK**

A resident raised a series of questions and comments regarding the alleged behaviour of the Clerk on Sunday 15th March 2019.

The Chair responded that she would investigate his questions and comments.

**103/023 COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT**

 County: Mr Peck reported that the proposed cable routes are a major issue and he commended Mr C Monk on the excellent job he is doing in this regard.

 The NDR Western Link was approved by the Scrutiny Committee at the County Council and the business case will now be submitted to the government.

 He has had correspondence and discussion with a resident regarding traffic through the village.

 He confirmed that he has a budget of £10,000 to spend on highway issues (to be shared amongst the parishes he represents)

 District: The Build Back Better fund is available for local businesses to help them get back on their feet after the Covid problems. He said there are also many other grants out there for small businesses at the moment.

**103/024 AGAR: INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT**

The Council reviewed the Internal Auditor’s Report for 2020-2021, considered the recommendations and **ADOPTED** it.

**103/025 AGAR: GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

The Council **APPROVED** the Annual Governance Statement for 2020-2021

**103/026 AGAR: ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS**

The Council **APPROVED** the Annual Accounting Statements for 2020-2021

**103/027 FINANCE**

1. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

T Durrant and P Soanes having checked the invoices against the payments it was **RESOLVED** that payment of the following accounts totalling £2038.32 be approved and the necessary cheques signed by two authorised members.

 Garden Guardian Ltd, grounds maintenance, £835.99

 URM(UK)Ltd, recycling, £63.00

 E.On, street lighting electricity, £56.31

 M E Anderson-Dungar, internal audit, £75.00

 Administration, £1008.32

1. It was **AGREED** to set up a Direct Debit Mandate to pay URM(UK)Ltd for glass recycling collection
2. Mr Soanes requested a budget analysis to be provided at the next meeting.

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**103/028 PLANNING**

App no 20191426, Land at Haveringland Hall Park, Construction of holiday and leisure park comprising an additional 98 units of holiday accommodation; Landscaping, drainage and associated infrastructure works (amended plans)

The Council **OBJECTS** to this application due to traffic issues both during construction and after. Many of the local roads are single lanes with infrequent passing places

 20210821, Garden Cottage, 22 High Street: replacement roof (listed building)

 The Council **SUPPORTS** this application.

 The Clerk to inform Broadland District Council of the Council’s views.

**103/029 WINDFARMS**

Mr Monk updated the meeting:

Equinor - SEP/DEP

Wind farm issues have been dominated by Equinor this month. Their statutory consultation period was scheduled to end on 10th June. The PEIR is of limited benefit; for example they haven’t decided on compound locations and it uses a lot of generic traffic numbers.

Equinor held two PC forums and a number of Q&A sessions for residents, all on Zoom. Quite a few of our residents joined in the Q&As; the overall feedback was of disappointment that replies tended to be bland and some items were not addressed. In the forums much of the time was taken by Equinor people giving presentations on PowerPoint, and then we were split into groups led by “facilitators” which led to a dilution of points being made.

The Offshore Transmission Network alternative was raised at all events and they can be in no doubt that parishes and residents want them to go down this route. They promised to organise a special workshop on the OTN, with representatives from other key stakeholders like National Grid. This has yet to happen.

In response to a forum answer, we requested a meeting for parishes around Cawston, to focus on our particular issues and cumulative impacts. This was agreed for the afternoon of Monday 7th, then at the very last minute Equinor demanded a list of specific questions; we worked over the weekend to provide this and waited for the meeting to be called. Silence from Equinor.

After a frosty exchange of emails I registered a complaint, which was escalated to the “Head of Renewables - North Sea Area Development”. The outcome is that they have now provided written responses to our questions, which our 7 parishes are now assessing. Equinor have agreed to keep the Consultation period open until this exchange is completed, together with any subsequent meeting.

While I was away, James kindly hosted a visit from Mulbarton and other parishes who had been to Necton and also wanted to view and discuss the Salle substation. My thanks to James.

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**103/029 WINDFARMS**

Vattenfall - Vanguard & Boreas

The Sec of State set a deadline of 20th May for comments on his plan to re-determine Vanguard after the JR decision. Responses, including our one and a very good, detailed one from the lawyers who represented Ray Pearce at the JR, can be seen on the PINS website.

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/norfolk-vanguard/

Just about everyone apart from Vattenfall argues for a complete reopening, this time taking both schemes together.

We await the SoS announcement. Meanwhile the deadline for an SoS decision on Boreas has been put back again, this time to December.

Orsted - Hornsea 3

I’ve been trying to get an update from Orsted, with no success. Also contacted NCC to see if they could help; they replied quickly saying they hadn’t heard anything themselves since November.

**103/030 TRAFFIC AND HIGHWAYS**

S Reckert had previously distributed a report from her meeting (along with the clek and C Monk) with the NCC Highways Engineer.

The traffic working group will meet again to discuss the way forward

**103/031 PLAYING FIELD**

The clerk updated the meeting regarding the recent spate of spray-painted graffiti on the play equipment. The police have been informed, they are treating it as criminal damage and have provided the council with a crime number.

It was **AGREED** to employ a firm to clear the recent graffiti as soon as practicable. Clerk was empowered to appoint a professional cleaning company.

It was also **AGREED** to further investigate the updating and/or refurbishing of the play equipment at the next meeting

**103/032 COUNCIL MEETING VENUE**

It was **AGREED** to hold the next meeting at the Bowls Club on Monday 12th July 2021. It is hoped that the availability of the Village Hall will be clearer by the

**103/033 PARISHIONERS’ CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Two emails form a resident were discussed regarding the Memorial Avenue of Spanish laurels. The Council are aware of his views.
2. *the clerk stated that correspondence had been received from a parishioner regarding the state of some unkempt allotments, the parishioner in question called out so every member could hear put a S on it as it was my wife who had sent the complaint, not me. After discussion, the council then* ***AGREED*** *for the clerk to contact those at the top of the waiting list and in view of the state of the allotments offer rent free for a year*

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**103/034 BENCHES OPPOSITE VILLAGE HALL**

It was **AGREED** that the site needs some freshening up. To be discussed further at the next meeting.

**103/035 ITEMS OF INFORMATION / FUTURE AGENDA**

Agenda:

Windfarms

Churchyard

Playing Field

 Cemetery improvements

 Bench

 Churchyard wall

 SAM2

**103/036 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

MONDAY 12th JULY 2021 at the BOWLS CLUB

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR THANKED EVERYONE FOR ATTENDING AND DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 20.30