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CAWSTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 16 SEPTEMBER 2021

DRAFT MINUTES

At the meeting of the Cawston Parish Council held at the Village Hall, High Street, Cawston on Tuesday 16 September 2021, the following members were present:

T. Durrant, J. Livingstone,

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

**In Attendance**

G. Peck (County / District Councillor), three members of the public,

L. Mills (Clerk of the Council)

**103/059 ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR MEETING**

It was **AGREED** that Mr P. Soanes chair the meeting in the absence of Ms Buttifant

**103/060 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from J. Buttifant, T. Carman, C. Monk

**103/061 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**

G. Sinclair declared an ongoing interest in windfarm matters.

S. Spencer declared an interest in two matters raised by her husband.

**103/062 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 12 July 2021. Mr Soanes explained that the agreed revised version for 103/033 (23 June 2021) had not been included. It was therefore **AGREED** that the minutes for the meetings held on 23 June 2021 and 12 July 2021 could not be approved until this was actioned.

It was **AGREED** that the following text

*It was* ***AGREED*** *to amend 103/033(ii) by removing the name of the resident so it reads “Mr \*\*\*\*\*\* then shouted across the room” and inserting* *“it was my wife who had sent the complaint” immediately following.*

should be replaced with

*It was* ***AGREED*** *to amend 103/033(ii) to “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.”*

With these changes they will be signed by the Chair at the next meeting

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**103/063 MATTERS ARISING NOT LISTED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA**

1. J Livingstone reported that following a stress test he had removed a piece of timber from the play equipment.
2. J Livingstone reported that he was still awaiting a response from Norfolk County Council Highways regarding the installation of the Village Gates that the Council had agreed as part of the Parish Partnership Scheme.
3. The Clerk reported that he had contacted NCC Highways regarding the wash boughs on Aylsham Road (re min 103/040[i])
4. The Clerk confirmed that all volunteers installing SAM2 unit on behalf of the Council are covered by the Council’s insurance (re min 103/051.) He also confirmed that any persons working on the Jubilee Seat are also covered (re min 103/052.) However, this insurance is dependent on a proper Risk Assessment being undertaken in both instances. The Clerk also advised that in the case of the Jubilee Seat that this should include an assessment of working close to the road and that NCC Highways advice should be sought.
5. S Reckert reported that she had met with the NCC Highways Engineer and she would provide a full report to the next meeting.

**103/064 POLICE REPORT**

None

**103/065 COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT**

Mr Peck reported that £1500 was available to spend on trees. He recommended the NCC Scheme to plant one million trees. He also understands that a scheme may be forthcoming to mark the Queen’s jubilee next year.

He has £10,000 available to share between his 21 parishes on highway schemes.

He has a further £500 from Broadland District Council for ‘community schemes.’

County Council is now looking at its budget. Adult Social Care requires much work. He guaranteed that library provision will not be cut.

He is continuing to work for a decent traffic management scheme for the windfarm cables.

**103/066 ADJOURNMENT TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK**

1. Two residents of Holt Road spoke regarding the speed of the traffic along the stretch before, over, and past the bridge just north of the B1145 roundabout. They are concerned because there have been accidents in the recent past and they feel the speed limit should be reduced from 50mph.

Council **AGREED** to write to NCC Highways explaining their concerns.

1. A representative from La Ronde Wright made a short presentation regarding development at Cawston House, Holt Road. This is at a very early stage and they are interested in peoples’ responses.

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**103/067 FINANCE**

1. Payments: T Durrant having checked the invoices against the payments it was **RESOLVED** that payment of the following accounts totalling £1794.61 be approved and the necessary cheques signed by two authorised members.

Garden Guardian, grounds maintenance, £835.99

Administration, £777.31

Jonathan Bundock, install litter bin on playing field, £75.00

Cawston Bowls Club, room hire, £50.00

1. Grant application: it was **AGREED** to make a grant of £500 to the Village Hall towards the installation of a staircase.

**103/068 PLANNING**

1. 20211522, The Old Rectory, Ames Court; installation of black metal estate railings and matching motorised gates.

The Council **SUPPORTS** this application. Clerk to inform BDC.

1. 20202085/20121396, Autumn Cottage, Back Lane Removal of condition 3 (holiday let restriction.)

As this was only received by the Clerk on the day of the meeting it was **AGREED** that councillors will view the documents online, inform the clerk of their opinions, and if there is a majority consensus he will inform the Planning Inspectorate of the Council’s opinions.

**103/069 WINDFARMS**

Mr Monk had updated via email prior to the meeting:

We are trying to work as far as possible now as a group of parish councils, which gives added weight to submissions.  Nearly 50 Norfolk PCs are involved and detailed submissions have been made to the Ofgem OTN Review.  There is also an ongoing challenge to the SEP/DEP consultation process which is being copied to PINS.

I am also in contact with Jerome Mayhew, MP, when appropriate and he has been very helpful in promoting our interests.

**Orsted Hornsea 3** – still waiting for a reply to my latest request for an update on progress, especially the abnormal loads issue.  I chase this at regular intervals.

**Vattenfall – Vanguard & Boreas** – still waiting for the Sec of State’s decision on redetermination of Vanguard.  No news on the archaeological dig at Salle, which is ongoing.

Boreas decision has been put back to December.

**Equinor – SEP & DEP** – continuing to engage with them both on Cawston specific issues and the wider challenges noted above.  Unable to get any substantive replies out of them, and we are now waiting for them to announce their proposed compound sites, which could have significant impacts here.

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**103/069 WINDFARMS (continued)**

**Solar Farm** – After our meeting with Savills none of the promised information has been received here, although they did find time to submit a further document to BDC after our own BDC deadline had passed.

James and I drafted our objection letter, which was submitted to BDC on time.  We expect this application to come up at the October Planning Committee meeting.

**103/070 CLERK REPORT**

1. Price for street lighting electricity rose on 1st September from 22.10P per kWh to 25.40p per kWh. *Noted*
2. I have spoken with the contractor
3. Grass cutting at the Toddlers Area is undertaken as the same time as the Churchyard cut
4. The contractor was involved in a serious road traffic collision recently in which one of his two main trucks was written off and he was injured. He therefore has had to rearrange his schedule slightly until he is fully recovered and he can obtain a new truck. He will continue with the grass cutting at all three sites as usual. However at the cemetery he is contracted to remove the cuttings and he asks that he be allowed to pile the cuttings where the soil heap is and remove them all once he has obtained a new vehicle. *AGREED*
5. BDC Accommodation Consultation: it was **AGREED** to make no response.

**103/071 PARISHIONERS’ CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Request for Playing Field entrance signs: these are not felt necessary at the present time.
2. An email had been received from a resident of Chapel Street who requests that the speed limit is lowered to 20mph for the safety of pedestrians. Clerk to respond that the Traffic Working group is working to review traffic speeds in the village. Also to point out that this matter has been considered many times over the years.
3. Request for use of Playing Field for a wedding reception in 2022.

This was AGREED providing there is no parking on the field, that nearby residents are taken into consideration considering music volume, and that music finishes by midnight. Clerk to inform applicant.

**103/072 COUNCIL MEETING VENUE**

It was **AGREED** to hold future meetings at the Village Hall

**103/073 CHURCHYARD MATTERS**

1. Yew trees: Council considered the quote from the tree surgeon and AGREED to engage him at a price of £1200.
2. Wall: Clerk has contacted four companies but has yet to receive a reply.

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**103/074 TRUSTS**

Following contact from the Charity Commission Councillors asked the Clerk to supply them with all relevant information so they can properly discuss this matter at the next meeting.

**103/075 LITTER PICK**

This matter is deferred to next Spring

**103/076 ITEMS OF INFORMATION / FUTURE AGENDA**

INFORMATION:

S Spencer reported that the school lights were now flashing

AGENDA:

Women’s football

Trees

Data Backup

Highways report

SAM2

Cemetery Upkeep

Defibrillator Training

**103/077 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

THURSDAY 21st OCTOBER 2021.

**103/078 To exclude the press and public under the Public Bodies (Admission of Strangers) Act 1960 during discussion of the following confidential items relating to a series of complaints, and employment matters.**

**103/079:** The Complaints Working Group has met and a final report will be readied for the next meeting.

**103/080:** The Clerk made a statement regarding his employment.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR THANKED EVERYONE FOR ATTENDING AND DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 20.50