

Minutes of the Brookenby Parish Council Meeting held at 7.00 pm

at the Community Centre, Kent Road, Brookenby on 4th February 2025

Present: Cllr R. Purdy, Cllr B. Preece, Cllr N Tracey, Cllr S. Sumnall, Cllr S. Coulam, Cllr L Fraser
(Ref 3052 and 3053 only)

In Attendance: Chris Bowles (Clerk), Cllr T. Smith (LCC and WLDC)

Members of public present: 4

Public Session – 15 Minutes

A member of the public asked if arrangements were in place for the ongoing upkeep of the new play equipment. It was confirmed that there were.

A member of the public asked what could be done about possibly dangerous trees in Javelin Avenue. They were told that trees on private land affecting the highway should be reported to the County Council. This was also the case with hedges encroaching onto the highway raised by another individual.

A representative of WCAG informed the meeting about funding bids and asked for letters of support which could be both personal and collective support.

Ref 3040 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr S. Turnbull

Ref 3041 To receive declarations of interest under the Localism Act 2011- being any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in agenda items not previously on members' Register of Interests

None

Ref 3042 To receive any reports from external organisations to include Ward Councillor Allotments Association and Wolds Community Activity Group

Cllr T Smith (WLDC & LCC) spoke about the dumped mound of material off York Road. and said there would be no enforcement action by the council as it was private land. Work continued with potholes as and when they were reported.

Cllr Sumnall reported that the previous month's Wolds Community Activity Group meeting had been cancelled. Funding bids were going forward for the exercise equipment and she echoed the earlier comment that letters of support were welcomed to use supporting grant applications.

Brookenby Allotments Association reported that it was the wrong time of year for working on allotments. The site was reasonably tidy and the association had retained all its members although one was expecting to emigrate.

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Parish Council

Ref 3043 To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 7th January 2025

Proposed: Cllr Tracey, Seconded Cllr Coulam. All In Favour

Ref 3044 To approve the minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 15th January 2025

Proposed Cllr Tracey, Seconded Cllr Coulam. All In Favour

Finance Matters

Ref 3045 To approve payment of the Schedule of Payments

Resolved to approve a Schedule of payments of £2,090.40, Proposed: Cllr B Preece, Seconded Cllr R Purdy. All in favour.

Ref 3046 Receipts

The RFO stated that receipts in January 25 to time/date of Bank reconciliation totalled £1013.49

Ref 3047 Bank Reconciliation

The RFO disclosed a Bank Reconciliation of £47,957.27 which was approved and signed by the Chair

Ref 3048 To discuss the frequency and responsibility of Full Council and Committee meetings and resolve any action to be taken and resolve on any action to be taken.

As Cllr Fraser, who had tabled the motion, had not arrived, the matter was deferred

Clerk's Report

Ref 3049 Community Centre

Aspects of Community Centre Management were on the Agenda to be discussed in closed session

Ref 3050 Correspondence

- Correspondence from the Council's insurers indicated that they would be denying the council's liability for an alleged incident in October
- Several communications had been received about the 80th anniversary commemoration of VE Day in May. The Clerk shared pictures of commemorative silhouettes and benches which councillors were asked to consider for a decision at a future meeting.
- An internal auditor had now been appointed, at the request of the Council, by LALC.

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- A letter regarding the 2025 Grass cutting agreement had been received from the County council just hours before the meeting. While there appeared to be no major changes from previous years it would be further examined before agreement
- Correspondence had been received about the RAF Ensign displayed in the Community Centre. Several Councillors stated that the matter had been considered, and decided, years before.

Ref 3051 To resolve to move into closed session in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed in relation to the following: -

- The new children's playground contracts and construction
- Community Centre Management

Proposed : Cllr Purdy, Seconded Cllr Sumnall All in Favour

Ref 3052 To discuss Community Centre management issues and resolve on any action to be taken.

Cllr Fraser arrived and took part in the meeting from this point on.

It was recognised that the Community Centre burden was a significant factor in the resignation of the Parish Clerk and that alternative arrangements were required.

It was resolved that:

The existing Occupation and Fees Committee and the Maintenance and Repair Committee be combined to form a single Community Centre Committee.

The Community Centre Committee would be responsible for all aspects of the Community Centre.

This Community Centre Committee would be comprised of the four (4) councillors presently making up the two existing committees.

The Community Centre Committee would meet every alternate month, with extraordinary meetings as required

Three (3) councillors would make a quorum.

The Community Centre Committee would have delegated spending powers of £2,500 per item provided there was the unanimous agreement of attending members.

If there was no unanimous agreement, the matter would be referred to the full council.

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The Clerk was asked, and agreed, in the absence of a suitable replacement, to remain in post for up to 3 months pending the success of the new Community Centre management arrangements

Proposed : Cllr Coulam, Seconded Cllr Sumnall. All in Favour

Ref 3053 To discuss financial contractual and logistical issues about the new Children's Playground and resolve on any action to be taken

A discussion took place on costings especially the breakdown of costs for particular items within the overall scheme. Cllr Preece undertook to obtain revised costs.

Questions were asked as to whether savings on some elements could be made available to install an additional item of play equipment. The possibility of reinstating the roundabout which was originally in the project was considered.

This would be explored.

It was resolved to adopt the policy that dogs would not be allowed in the Children's Play Area

Proposed Cllr Preece, Seconded Cllr Coulam. All in favour

The closed session ended at 2050hrs