

Minutes of the Meeting of Stokesby with Herringby Parish Council held on Wednesday 24th January 2024 at 7.30pm at Stokesby Community Centre

Present: Richard Youngs (Chairman)
Philip Crane
Dawn Lamb
Rob Lloyd
Leigh-Ann Medhurst
Stuart Ward
Ed Wharton
Catherine Moore, Parish Clerk

Also present: Borough Councillor Adrian Thompson and 2 members of the public were in attendance

1. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Public Forum

a. Public

It was noted that there were a lot of dead branches fallen from the high winds, it was confirmed that the trees would be inspected during the summer when they were in leaf.

It was noted that the geese had become vicious and protective around the Green and river area and it was felt that they were dangerous. It was felt that the problem was due to residents feeding them. It was suggested that if people insisted on feeding them, this should be done elsewhere. Faeces was also an issue in the play area and roads. Richard Youngs agreed to speak to the residents about this. **ACTION: RY**

It was noted that the entrance to Stokesby from the A1064 was a difficult junction, it was suggested that Highways should be approached to improve the visibility of this, and Fleggburgh Parish Council would be approached to support this. **ACTION: Clerk**

The 30mph post at the Acle end of the village had rusted through, the Clerk was asked to report this to Highways. **ACTION: Clerk**

b. County Councillor

Not present.

c. Borough Councillor

Adrian Thompson reported that the seesaw replacement was still in hand, this would be funded by the ShedShop and installed by Great Yarmouth Borough Council.

Highways had inspected the ditch near the Village Hall, a councillor had offered to clear part of the ditch down to the river however the digger would not go through the fence. The landowner was responsible for maintaining the ditch and had been approached about this. It was possible that a long reach digger would be needed. This was ongoing and Philip Crane would discuss this with the landowner.

ACTION: PC

The Saturday bus service through Filby had been approved and would begin shortly.

d. Police
Police reports were circulated as received.

3. **Declaration of Interest for items on the agenda**
None.

4. **Minutes of the last meeting**
The minutes of the meeting held on 8th November 2023 were **agreed** and signed by the Chairman, proposed by Stuart Ward, seconded by Richard Youngs, all in favour.

5. **Matters Arising**

a. Removal of Boat from Public Mooring
The Clerk reported that a letter had been sent to the owner of the boat requesting removal to their private mooring. It was noted that one boat remained in the mooring.

b. Tidying of Common Land at Riverside
The large boat had gone and some tidying had taken place, however there was a lot more to do. Richard Youngs would discuss this with the responsible people.

ACTION: RY

6. **Village Maintenance**

a. Quarterly Report
There were two bags of sand remaining, two further bags would be £100 plus VAT, it was **agreed** to order and pay for this for delivery. **ACTION: SW / Clerk**

There were a few wet dips in the village green roadway, Ed Wharton offered to put some more gravel down when it had dried out a little more. **ACTION: EW**

7. **Finance**

a. Financial Update 2023/24
The accounts for 2023/24 to date were **noted**, with £220.80 in the current account and £18,717.94 in the deposit account at 31.12.23. Of this, £16,025.21 was in reserves. Receipts since the last meeting were:

➤ £132.49 bank interest

b. Payments

It was **agreed** to pay the following, proposed by Stuart Ward, seconded by Rob Lloyd, all in favour:-

C Moore	Salary & Expenses Dec 23 – Feb 24 incl uplift	£599.85
HMRC	PAYE Dec 23 – Feb 24	£146.40
Stokesby PCC	Grass Cutting Grant	£800.00
The Broads Society	Subscription	£16.00

8. **Correspondence**

a. General Correspondence
The Harnser magazine was circulated.
A letter had been received from Centre81 regarding donations. The Clerk noted that Centre81 had not responded to an email asking about the number of users of their service within another parish.

9. Planning

a. Applications

BA/2024/0013/TCAA Environment Agent Maintained Floodbank, Between Stokesby and Old Hall Drainage Mill: G1 & G2: unidentified scrub and trees – Trim branches overhanging embankment to provide clearance height of 3.5m. Clear archway to clear path of approx. 2m width. Trim any scrub encroaching onto the flood bank on the rear (landward) slope by approx. 2m.

It was **agreed** to support the application, proposed by Ed Wharton, seconded by Richard Youngs, all in favour.

b. Applications Considered Between Meetings

BA/2023/0457/LBC and 0456/HOUSEH Martin Staithe, The Green, Mill Road (track), Stokesby: Replacement garden room with loggia and insert pedestrian access gate in existing internal garden wall. **NO OBJECTIONS**

c. Decisions

BA/2023/0361/CU Land adjacent to High House, 2 Mill Road, Stokesby: Change of use from garden to a mixed use for gardening, growing of vegetables & plants and day visits (personal use). **APPROVED**

10. Other Matters

a. SAM2 Sign – Deployment and Results

The device was currently with Adrian Thompson to look at as to why it has stopped working, it was thought that the data might be full.

b. Play Equipment – Risk Assessment and Inspections

Play inspection courses had been booked for May 2024. The risk assessments would be carried out shortly. **ACTION: Clerk**

c. Replacement Notice Board, Bus Shelter

Prices were discussed, there was £1,000 in the budget for this. Richard Youngs would get a drawing from a local person who had offered to make a notice board for the price of the materials. **ACTION: RY**

d. New Biodiversity Duties

A report outlining the new biodiversity duties was presented. Dawn Lamb had attended a meeting regarding biodiversity, who was trying to map b-lines around the country, and the stepping stones that were needed across the county for wildlife. The resident arranging this wanted to map who had what in the village, and would be prepared to put mitigation in place. Stokesby was a key hub for wildlife in the area. A policy would be brought to the next meeting for consideration, and this would be included. Richard Youngs would speak with the resident about this.

ACTION: Clerk / RY

11. Reports from Parish Councillors

Stuart Ward noted that a few people had raised a concern about speeding and had requested a 20mph limit through the village. The Clerk was asked to contact the Highways Engineer for his perspective on this, and what criteria / cost there would be. **ACTION: Clerk**

The footway near the bus shelter was overgrown with grass, it was **agreed** that this would be cleared. **ACTION: RY**

Concern was expressed regarding the high river levels, noting that it was higher than seen in the last 20 years. There were various working theories on the cause of this, and the knock on effect of new infrastructure further upstream. Urgent work was required on coastal defences otherwise the whole area would be flooded.

Leigh-Ann reported that the dog bin and litter bin needed to be emptied.

Philip Crane noted that a marina was being put in at Acle Bridge. A visitor centre was being built on the Acle side of the river, which would increase traffic on the bridge.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 8th May 2024, Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm followed by the Parish Council meeting, at the Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.

CHAIRMAN