

Minutes of the Meeting of Stokesby with Herringby Parish Council held on Wednesday 9th November 2022 at 7.30pm at Stokesby Community Centre

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

Also present: Borough Councillor Adrian Thompson and 6 members of the public were in attendance

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Dawn Lamb and Rob Lloyd.

2. Public Forum

a) Public

A member of the public reported that the geese at the river were a problem, this would be discussed later in the agenda. The member of the public noted that the geese were vicious and were in everyone's gardens, and that there was a member of the public feeding them.

A member of the public noted that on 16th November the Police and Crime Commissioner from 10am – 2pm at Gorleston Library; or 6-8pm at Great Yarmouth Town Hall.

b) County Councillor

Not present.

Borough Councillor

Adrian Thompson reported that two speed awareness signs had been supplied for the lampposts in Filby Road, these could be moved around.

Adrian had supplied 2,000 bulbs to be planted around the village.

Adrian offered another dog bin for the church.

The cost of living crisis was continuing to be a focus, with money being donated to food banks.

The bus services were being mapped for the hourly service between Great Yarmouth and Norwich, with a pick up at the top of Stokesby Road, which was progressing well.

Filby had opened a new reuse and recycle shop on a Saturday, which was putting money back into the community. All donations were welcomed, and grants were available for community organisations.

Adrian Thompson was asked whether he knew anything about the Warm Spaces, this was a Norfolk Community Foundation initiative.

c) Police

Not present – 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 10th August 2022 were **agreed** and signed by the Chairman, proposed by Stuart Ward, seconded by Leigh-Ann Medhurst, all in favour.

5. Matters Arising

a) Purchase of SAM2 Device

The Clerk reported that she had received the SAM2 device which was ready to go out at the agreed locations. The Clerk would ask whether the representative from Mautby would show councillors how it worked.

ACTION: Clerk

b) Play Area Annual Inspection Report

The annual play area inspection report had been received from Great Yarmouth Borough Council. It was noted that there were some medium risk items which needed attending to, the Clerk had asked three times for details on what had been done about these but with no response. Adrian Thompson offered to chase up a response from GYBC.

ACTION: AT

c) Hedge at Anglian Water Pumping Station

The Clerk confirmed that the hedge had been reported but it did not appear to have been cut yet. Ed Wharton had lopped some branches back. The Clerk was asked to chase Anglian Water about this (reference 22320225).

ACTION: Clerk

6. Village Maintenance

a) Quarterly Report

One bench seat near the play area needed to be removed. Some of the posts around the play area needed attention, and the play inspection report had flagged that the post and chain was sharp. The cost of replacement fencing was high, and there had been no reports or incidents in the last 50 years so it was not felt that this was anything more than low risk. This would be put onto the next agenda.

ACTION: Clerk

Richard Youngs would remove the bench, this was not a memorial bench. The Clerk was asked to get a price for a replacement bench.

ACTION: Clerk

It was suggested that a message could be put on the website asking whether anyone wished to donate a memorial bench.

7. Finance

a) Year End 2022/23

The accounts to date were **noted**. On 31st October 2022 there was £738.93 in Unity Trust Current and £19,519.00 in Unity Trust Deposit. Receipts since the last meeting were £4,199 – precept and concurrent functions grants; £1.15 – wayleave; £23.69 - interest.

b) Payments

It was **agreed** to pay the following, proposed by Ed Wharton, seconded by Leigh-Ann Medhurst, all in favour:-

C Moore	Salary & Expenses – Sept 22 to Nov 2022	£444.05
HMRC	PAYE – Sept 22 to Nov 2022	£107.20
The Poppy Appeal	Wreath	£40.00
Maple Tree Services	Grounds Maintenance 2022	£1,170.00
Westcotec	SAM2 Device	£4,014.00
Broads Society	Annual Subscription	£16.00

8. Correspondence

a) Broads Authority Local Plan and Design Guide

It was noted that there was a roadshow event coming up at Potter Heigham on 12th November. It was noted that boundaries had been moved in some areas. Richard would attend the consultation event to question plans for Stokesby.

- b) General Correspondence
A letter was received from Great Yarmouth Borough Council regarding the consultation on continuing the Public Space Protection Order relating to dog control. It was felt that this needed to be enforced, and was supported in its continuation.
ACTION: Clerk

9. Planning

- a) Applications
None.
- b) Applications Considered Between Meetings
None.
- c) Decisions
None.

10. Other Matters

- a) SAM2 Sign Results
The SAM2 sign results were noted. There had been a few speeding occasions but these had been around 45-50mph. The majority was in the 30mph bracket.
- b) Footpath to the River by the Old Candlemakers
The Environment Agency had been engaged again on this, and the netting underneath the soil was a problem as it should not be there. They wanted to take this up along a stretch together with the fencing panels along the riverside. A resident had put down shingle as a temporary measure, however the EA needed to find the funding for the works and that there would not be a quick solution.
- c) Geese at River
It was acknowledged that these were becoming a problem and there was the choice of removal or culling. It was noted that these were domestic white geese which had hatched off 9 young, who were used to being fed by humans. It was **agreed** that Richard Youngs would speak with the person who was feeding them, and would make enquiries for their removal to another location.
ACTION: RY
- d) Road Safety Community Fund
The Clerk noted that there was an opportunity to lobby the County Councillor regarding road safety measures, however this had not been promoted to the Parish Council. It was noted that a 20mph limit was required in the centre of the village, however there may be more information on this in the pipeline. The Clerk was asked to note this to the County Councillor.
ACTION: Clerk
It was noted that the willow trees at the Poors Marshes needed trimming, vehicles were struggling to get past. Ed Wharton agreed to cut this back.
ACTION: EW
- e) Play Equipment Project - Update
Leigh-Ann Medhurst reported that she was getting updated quotes for the equipment, and was trying other funding routes.
- f) Flooding Concerns and Coastal Erosion
The response was noted.

- g) Village Garage Sale
Not progressed.
- h) Painting of Village Sign
The person who had offered this was not currently in the village, this would be chased up.
- i) 2023/24 Parish Partnership Scheme
There was nothing to apply for this year.
- j) Draft Budget 2023/24
The draft budget was considered and **agreed**. It was **agreed** that the precept would be £5,422, Band D £46.34, 1.23% increase, proposed by Stuart Ward, seconded by Ed Wharton, all in favour. **ACTION: Clerk**
- k) Meeting Dates 2023
The meeting dates were **agreed**. **ACTION: Clerk**
- l) Civility and Respect Pledge
Councillors felt that this should not be necessary as it should happen anyway, but supported the concept. It was **agreed** to sign the Pledge, proposed by Richard Youngs, seconded by Leigh-Ann Medhurst, all in favour. **ACTION: Clerk**
A Dignity at Work Policy would be brought to the next meeting for agreement. **ACTION: Clerk**

11. Reports from Parish Councillors

Philip Crane noted that the Parochial Church Council were struggling to raise funds for the church repairs and highlighted that people needed to set up some form of support or fundraising for this, and asked members of the public to consider whether they could help. The church tower required between £200,000 and £500,000 of repairs as it was coming away from the main building. The roof also required re-thatching. Two bodies would support with funding but there needed to be public interest and support. It was noted that Historic England had just placed the church on the 'At Risk' register, and that it was a listed building. If anyone was willing to spearhead a fundraising campaign this would be welcomed.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 8th February 2023 at 7.30pm meeting at the Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

CHAIRMAN