

## KNODISHALL PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 25TH JULY 2023

**PRESENT:** Councillors J Mayhew (Chair), L Hayward, N Black, J Staff, J Clements, Clerk D Sanders, 5 members of the public, SCC TJ Haworth-Culf & ESC Katie Graham

The meeting commenced at 19.30pm

**1. APOLOGIES** – No Apologies

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** –Cllr Staff for item 6 play area

Meeting closed and opened at 19:30 for SCC TJ Haworth-Culf & ESC Katie Graham, TJ began reflecting on the common fire 1 year 1 day today and how things have changed over this period with new growth showing, TJ asked if our emergency plan has been revised, which was confirmed by Chair that this is underway. There has been a rapid increase in HGVs on roads which are not supposed to, so reporting this will help crack down this issue. A meeting took place with Highways and it was decided that everything should be reported through the reporting tool online. There is also free school transport the Alde valley for surrounding villages. It was confirmed the 4k grant for swing and Chair passed on thanks.

Cllr Katie Graham mentioned she has been looking into the recent requests by council and been working with Clerk to clear these matters.

- End of Judith Avenue cleaning after floods appear to be now complete however no confirmation, Clerk mentioned it is a lot better however not a fantastic job and unclear if rainfall has washed the dirt away or been cleaned.
- ESC wishes to give a grant of £1500 towards the new swing using the district enabling communities budget.
- The poor condition of hillcrest road is still unclear however it was reported that it was an unadopted road and forms part of Ad Medium Filum principle, which it may pertain to Hillcrest Road so no one actually owns it however some houses and garages are owned by new tyde housing in addition some houses are privately owned and Cllr Graham suggested to see if ongoing maintenance is on the deeds to the house. Cllr Graham is actively looking into this and will report back once clear.

In addition Cllr Graham read out the recent report.

- Community groups, organisations and town and parish councils are invited to apply for funding to help provide school uniform to East Suffolk families in need.
- A new scheme, which will help East Suffolk residents to better access private rented housing, has been launched
- As part of its commitment to seek the best possible value for money for residents, businesses and all local stakeholders, East Suffolk Council agreed to create a 'Local Authority Trading Company' (LATCo) in the Autumn of 2021, enabling it to play a more direct and influential role in how important services are delivered.
- Suffolk will be hosting a full stage of the prestigious Tour of Britain race, with Felixstowe seeing the start and finish of stage five on Thursday 7 September.

Should anyone want additional information on the above please contact Parish Clerk or Cllr Graham.

**3. MINUTES** – Approval of minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th June 2023

Proposed by Cllr Hayward, seconded by Cllr Clements and thus agreed by the Parish Council to accept the Minutes of the last meeting.

#### **4. CLERK'S REPORT ON MATTERS ARISING**

- 4.1. Followed up into the Woodland trust for fruit trees funding however no current available funding
  - 4.2 The only application since 2005 in Aldringham is plan for a barn conversion, no recorded housing estate.
  - 4.3 HLS Common Map – to include additional cover. I have been through the management plan and it shows instruction and descriptions of how it looked in 2013 and obviously not the same now so not happy to just change dates as provide false information, I have reported back to Natural England.
  - 4.4 Have more information on parish magazine, do we wish to use this for further information like agendas.
  - 4.5 I have been working with Cllr Katie Graham to clear some outstanding issues/requests like dirt on pavement by Judith avenue, Hillrest road condition and swing funding.
  - 4.6 New signs for no parking have been ordered from Leiston signs.
  - 4.7 Cllr Read Bench has been ordered, need to consider engraving message.
  - 4.8 Insurance renewal questionnaire has come through, will review our insurance requirements and discuss as an agenda item next month.
  - 4.9 Joss Mullet would like introduce herself as the new Communities Officer for the Saxmundham, Leiston and Aldeburgh Community Partnership area. I'm an existing officer and until recently I covered the Framlingham and Wickham Market Community Partnership area, so I already have some knowledge of the new patch.
  - 4.10 4k funding for swing from SCC – Thank you
  - 4.11 Register of interests not completed by Cllr Mayhew & Cllr Clements
  - 4.12 Annual inspection of play area is due to take place in September - £75+VAT
  - 4.13 Speed report from police for snape road B1069
  - 4.14 Consider swing specification from wicksteed
- Should anyone require further information the above please let the Parish Clerk know.

#### **5. PLANS** To review any planning – nothing

#### **6. PLAY AREA**

- 6.1 Clerk received updated quote which included a 15% discount and the removal of the old swing which made it cheaper than the initial quote approved at a total of £8729.73 + VAT
- 6.2 Clerk read out terms of swing installation and options which included a green colour as an option however council preferred the yellow/red. It was also mentioned about the condition of the grass and we must ensure the ground is in good condition, also council agreed there should be no issues due to the current swing in place.
- 6.3 Cllr Staff obtained 3 further quotes for the fence and it was agreed to replace all 33 posts with concrete post and the keep the chain link fencing – the total cost of this is £1992 from Crow handyworx – this was proposed by Cllr Hayward and seconded by Cllr Black. Cllr Staff will instruct Crow handyworx to carry out the replacement.

#### **7. ALLOTMENTS**

- 7.1 Cllr Mayhew said that the pump is now in possession of the allotment holders. Chair closed to open to Mr Naylor (representative of the allotments) at 20:22
- Mr Naylor said using the new pump at first was quite a struggle and doesn't appear to be long enough and when full it is quite difficult moving the hose pipe around and can be very heavy, also we found that the filter had broken so ordered a new replacement. We also found that when filling you have to stand there as flow can be quite powerful so purchased some further attachments to allow it sit there correctly.
- All in all very positive we have access to water and with these corrections will improve the process.
- Reopened Parish meeting at 20:38
- 7.2 Clerk ask Mr Naylor to provide receipt of expenses to ensure this is paid

7.3 Cllr Mayhew also mentioned we need to get a new metre for the pump and asked clerk to contact environmental agency to see what is required based on volume.

7.4 Clerk have asked for support from bidwells to speak to the landlord about having a water tap on site, Clerk was presented with a calculator which would cost around 2k, unfortunately £159 appeared to only be the application fee. Clerk have asked for help on funding and filing an application as only the land owner can do this.

7.5 Cllr Clements reported that herself, Clerk, Cllr Hayward and Cllr Mayhew carried out an inspection on the allotments and 50% of the allotments are in poor state and fail 7.1 on the rules and therefore it was agreed that letters will be sent out to remind them of the rule, another inspection to be carried out in September.

## **8. COUNCILLOR VACANCIES**

Cllr Mayhew stated we need to find more councillors, clerk confirmed we have 4 seats available and can co-opt.

8.1 Cllr Clements said we can advertise in the parish magazine.

## **9. MATTERS RAISED BY PARISH COUNCILLORS**

9.1 Cllr Hayward was asked by a resident on who own the land at end of Judith Avenue and can he cut down the trees, Cllr Staff confirmed the person cutting down trees on the land he owns who is a resident next door.

9.2 Cllr Staff said both bridges are looking bad, Clerk said he has reported but will chase this up with highways.

9.3 Grass is getting long – clerk will inform Blowers.

## **10. CORRESPONDENCE –**

10.1 Received Spam pretending to be from Cllr Mayhew

10.2 Resident asked for an update on Hillcrest road

10.3 Post office Road wildflower meadow which was received by a resident who was in attendance and will be given the opportunity at the end of the meeting to raise her concerns.

## **11. FINANCIAL To review the current financial position and approve.**

The July 2023 financial statement was reviewed and approved. Proposed by Cllr Clements and seconded by Cllr Hayward.

11.1. A total of £1062.33 for payments was approved.

11.2. Received 4k grant form SCC

11.3 Fees were received for uncontested election.

## **12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING Tuesday 15th August 2023**

Parish council meeting closed by Chair at 20:50H

Opened to Public at 20:50H

*A statement made by Resident:*

When coming home to BURRELLS COTTAGES this morning to see that the meadow flowers and grass on the teardrop common in front of our cottages had been cut. How very sad and shameful.

Here we are left with nothing but scorched grass (which may well grow quickly after tonight's rain.)The perfumed lady's bedstraw has gone, cut down before seeding along with the mallow, cranesbill, poppies, vetch and others. The swifts, who have come again from Africa this year, will subsequently have fewer insects to feed on along with the native British birds.

All evidence points to Not cutting these areas for sustainability. The time and money wasted and emissions produced by cutting are surely counterproductive? What evidence do you have that cutting is the right thing to do ? I should be grateful to hear it.

The rate of decline of pollinating insects is fast. The loss of indigenous species of flora is declining fast. Those of us who care about what happens now and in the future, want to do what we can to save our planet. Our children and grandchildren need the opportunity for sustainable lives even though I and my generation ( including your members) may be dead.

I call once more for the cutting regime of this area and others to be reconsidered. As I have mentioned before, to cut meadow grass at the end of July or early August would have generated a good meadow mix of plants the following year. This could be followed by an October cut. By cutting now, a good 3 .5 weeks too early, that opportunity has been squandered for another year.

It was put to council to reconsider the cutting regime.

Council had concerns that this has been discussed many times before and been included as agenda items and no residents attended to put the case forward so the item didn't not move forward, and the cutting regime reverted after changing it to not be cut to allow wildflowers.

Chair suggested to the residents to come up with a presentation to council for consideration for a further trial at the next meeting, therefore this will be an agenda item on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2023

