

Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council
Minutes of a council meeting of
Sporle with Palgrave Parish Council at the Community Centre, Sporle
On Thursday 11th April 2019 at 7.30pm.

Present

Gordon Burrows (GB)(Chairman)
John Barley (JB)
Helen Dye (HD)

Helen Bartley (HB)
Sue Clark (SC)

2 members of the public were present.

Elizabeth Durrant (ED)(Clerk)

1. **To receive and consider and vote on accepting apologies for absence.** Jacqui Howard: Peter Wilkinson. Proposed by Helen Dye seconded by Sue Clark agreed unanimously.
2. **To approve the minutes of the meeting of the council held on the 14th March 2019**
Proposed by Helen Dye Seconded by Sue Clark approved unanimously.
3. **To record any declarations of interest in any items discussed.** None
4. **To adjourn the meeting to allow members of the public, and councillors with a prejudicial interest, to speak on agenda items.** No-one wished to speak
5. **To receive updates from County and District Councillors.** Due to the purdah in place for the local elections neither of the Councillors were able to attend. Peter Wilkinson did supply a written report but councillors felt that it may be looked on as being electioneering if it was read out at the meeting so would be reported on in next meeting.
6. **To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of 14th March 2019 not covered elsewhere on the Agenda.** JB informed the meeting that he had contacted the Churchwarden and suggested that they should get in touch with at least one other contractor to obtain another quote before requesting help from the Parish Council in respect of the grass cutting at the graveyard.

The March cut had been completed in respect of the churchyard and the playing field. The grass had been left to go to hay and it was suggested that Andy Colman should be approached this year again to collect the hay. JH stated she thought this should be on a voluntary basis as the hay was then sold on and therefore payment may not be appropriate.
7. **Finance:**
 - a) To approve payments to be made as at Annex A. Proposed by HB and seconded by HD carried unanimously.
 - b) Finance and accounts report. Clerk stated that the council were within budget and that the cfwd figure from 2018/2019 was £6,000 more than expected.
 - c) End of Year Accounts
8. **Planning:** A Notice of Breach of Conditions had been served on the Brick Quarry as they were using diesel instead of electricity as fuel and not keeping the road clean, this did impact on surrounding roads. They were also not following the prescribed routes to and from the Quarry.
9. **Highways:**
 - a) Street Lighting report. JB suggested that as there had been a better than expected cfwd from 2018/2019 perhaps it could be used to replace the remaining sodium street lights with LED. This was agreed unanimously and the clerk was requested to contact TT Jones to see how many lights this would be and also the cost involved.
 - b) Councillors discussed the condition of the railings between Southfields and Bailey Row and all agreed these were in dire need of repainting. The clerk was requested to send an e-mail to Highways Department in respect of this.

- 10. The Pavilion and Playing field projects:** GB informed the meeting that the change suggested by JB to change the trustees of the playing field and pavilion to the parish council instead of individual councillors was still in hand but would be completed as soon as practicable.

The second meeting had taken place and a lot more of the trees, bushes etc had been cleared. While doing this it was discovered that there were two down pipes coming from the church about 10 to 12 feet into the playing field. One of them had been broken which was now sitting 6 inches proud but this will be cut off at the hedge line. It will be investigated further to see if it is flowing all the way as this could affect the moisture in the playing field.

The gap next to the building had been moved. Two gates were being put into the two gaps to prevent unauthorised access. One was going near to the house and the occupants would be liaised with in respect of this.

The Project Managers had suggested that rather than have another container for storage it would be beneficial to put a brick extension on the side of the pavilion.

A bar would be placed across the top of the gate to stop high vehicles such as caravans getting onto the playing field.

At this time there were no footings for the covered area and it had been suggested that Mr Harris would be approached to dig these out. Mr Harris would also be asked to clear pathway down to the road.

Estimate had been received from Jewsons regarding the materials for the work to be carried out on the interior of the pavilion. The estimate was £2059.08 of which £411.82 was VAT which could be reclaimed once the bill was paid. GB stated that the quote had come to the Parish Council meeting for authorisation. Proposed by JB and seconded by HD carried unanimously.

Consideration was being given to fencing off the play area.

- 11. SAM2 sign update.** Sam2 sign was back in the village and would be returned to Castle Acre at the end of April.

- 12. Forthcoming Local Election 2nd May 2019.** Election would be held at the Community Centre as usual and had been booked for this. Breckland District Council had advised the Parish Council that the election for the Parish Council would be uncontested as there had only been 3 nominations received within the time frame. HD had been too late with her nomination papers. In light of this and also to ensure that there would be 4 councillors at the next meeting it was proposed that HD should be co-opted onto the Parish Council subject to confirmation at the 9th May meeting which followed the elections. GB stated that he was trying to encourage some younger members of the village to become councillors as well as even with co-opting HD there would still be 3 spaces to fill.

- 13. Resignation of Parish Clerk.** GB advised the meeting that there had been two applicants plus a further applicant after the closing date. Councillors had been asked whether they wished to consider the late applicant and it had been decided unanimously not to. All councillors had received the CV's of the two applicants and GB advised that it had been decided to offer the position to the Temporary Clerk Liz Durrant from the next meeting as Murdo had said he would cover until then. Proposed by HD seconded by SC carried unanimously.

- 14. Bunkers Hill Garden Bench.** A proposal had been received from Pam Rodie of the gardening group for consideration to be given to putting a bench on Bunkers Hill next to the bus stop. After discussion it was decided that GB would liaise with highways re the positioning a bench in Bunkers Hill as they would have to give their permission and also about the possibility of positioning a bench to commemorate Monique at top end of the village.

- 15. Records Kept by Parish Council.** It was agreed this would be postponed until next meeting although it was agreed that in light of GDPR all paperwork would have to be examined.

- 16. To consider correspondence. (All circulated prior to meeting).** An email had been received about positioning a textile bank in the village but it was agreed that as the Parish Council already received income from the existing textile bank this should be turned down. Next SNAP meeting was Tuesday 16th April 2019 at 7pm at the Town Hall. GB stated he would endeavour to make this meeting.

HD advised the meeting that Martin Laing had died and that his funeral would take place at Castle Acre on 16th April. Martin had lived in the village from a number of years and even after his move to Castle Acre had continued as one of the Town Farm Trust trustees.

17. Date and time of next meeting.

Thursday 9th May 2019, 7.30pm at the Community Centre, Sporle

Elizabeth Durrant
Clerk to Parish Council

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