

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025

**Present:** Cllrs. D Spittlehouse. M McDaniel. K Smith. P Fotheringham. J Elvidge.

**In attendance:**

Clerk. Liz Holman.

Cllr Emma Bailey

Cllr Richard Butroid

**Also Present:** 2 Members of the public.

The Chairman paid tribute to Cllr Peter Rushton who sadly recently passed away and a minutes silence was held in respect for him.

**Matters Raised in the Public Forum.**

A member of the Community Speed watch raised a question as to when the next speed watch could be held. Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> March was agreed, weather permitting.

An appreciation to highways for filling the potholes was mentioned by a second member of the public.

The meeting commenced at 7.15 pm.

**14/25 To receive and resolve any apologies of absence:**

Apologies had been received and accepted from Cllr Waring.

**15/25 Minutes of the meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

It was proposed by Cllr Smith and seconded by Cllr Elvidge that the official minutes of meeting held 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025 are approved as correct records and signed by the Chairman. **Resolved.**

**16/25 To receive declarations of interest under the Localism Act 2011:**

No declarations of interest.

**17/25 Road Surface dressing issue Common Lane:**

The problem with loose chippings was reported on Fix my Street and has now been resolved.

**18/25 Pothole Corner Church Road:**

This was reported on Fix my street and has now been resolved.

**19/25 Tillbridge Solar Project:**

A rally has been organised in Lincoln on the 15<sup>th</sup> March to stop large scale solar farms.

Should anyone wish to attend they need to let the 7000 Acre group as soon as possible.

Cllr Bailey gave an update regarding the planning application for a battery storage area in Willingham by Stow, this was refused by West Lindsey.

**20/25 Bus Service:**

A member of the public raised concerns with Cllr Spittlehouse regarding the bus service through Upton. On several occasions the bus has failed to turn up. The member of public called Stagecoach and was given various reasons.

The Clerk contacted d Stuart Eccles at LCC who agreed to ask his team to engage with Stagecoach to understand what sits behind these instances and what can be done to ensure future issues can be prevented.

No further instances have been reported to the PC.

Cllr Bailey suggested putting something on the Facebook page asking if anyone else had experienced problems with the service.

Cllr Butroid will get an update from Stuart Eccles on some figures of the usage of the service. **Action by Cllr Butroid.**

#### **21/25 Footpath Sweeper:**

A footpath sweeper can now be hired by Parish Councils if requiring extra sweeping through the village.

This is at a cost to the Parish Council and would have to be budgeted for in the precept.

The hiring would be a minimum of 2 hours at a cost of £85.68 per hour x 2 operatives.

The precept has now been set for the current year but is something that could be considered sharing with Kexby in the future.

#### **22/25 Village Sign Update:**

The phone box has now been removed.

A grant of £300 has been received from Cllr Bailey's initiative fund towards the cost of the sign.

The Clerk had approached Grant White at West Lindsey who said that the only funding at the moment is the one obtained from Cllr Bailey. However, they are expecting other community grant schemes running again in the next financial year and that Upton Parish Council has been added to their contact list and will be in touch.

A suggestion was made by Cllr Smith to have a visit to the firm that make the signs.

Clerk to enquire if this is possible.

To get some idea on the measurements, Cllr Spittlehouse suggested taking the dimensions of the ones at Stow and Sturton. **Action required by Cllr Spittlehouse and the clerk.**

#### **23/25 National Spring Clean:**

Cllr Bailey is arranging for her 3 wards to do a litter pick.

Suggestion that Upton join Bloomers on their litter pick, date to be confirmed.

Clerk to inform the Parish Council WhatsApp group of the date.

#### **24/25 LCC Grass Cutting Agreement:**

LCC has increased the grass cutting areas this season.

One of the areas highlighted on the map for cutting has a large amount of overgrown brambles.

These are encroaching onto the verge. It was discussed that this should not be the responsibility of the grass contractor. Cllr Butroid agreed to bring this to the attention of highways as well as raise the issue of the hole on the verge on Church Road.. **Action required by Cllr Butroid.**

#### **25/25 Community Project Event:**

A Community projects event is being held on the 31<sup>st</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> April.

Cllr's Spittlehouse and Fotheringham and the Clerk volunteered to attend the meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> April to see if it will benefit with help regarding funding for projects for our village.

**26/25 To approve the Clerks salary and expenses for period January/February 2025:**

The Clerks salary for period January/February 2025 was proposed for approval by Cllr Fotheringham and seconded by Cllr McDaniel. **Resolved.**

**27/25 Payments made since 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025:**

Proposed by Cllr Elvidge and seconded by Cllr Smith to accept. **Resolved.**

**28/25 Planning application for consideration:**

**Planning application WL/2025/00235**

**Planning application WL/2025/00236**

**Both for 28 High St. The Old Vicarage. Rear extension with balcony and renovation of existing building.**

Both applications were added to the agenda at short notice, so the Councillors will make their comments/decisions when they have had time to read all the documents.

They will notify their decisions by email due to the closing date before the next meeting.

**29/25 Village Hall:**

The next meeting to be held on the 17<sup>th</sup> March. Cllr Fotheringham to attend.

The meeting ended at 8.30pm.

Signed.....Date.....