

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF OVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 17<sup>th</sup> JULY 2019 AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

**Present:** Cllrs Karen Weir (Chair) (KW), Tim Birt (TB) and Jeremy Woods (JW).

**In attendance:** The Clerk and three members of the public

**734. To receive any apologies.** Cllr David Welsted (DW)

**735. Co-option onto the Council**

Pete Bate (PB) expressed an interest in joining the Council. It was agreed that he should be accepted. Proposed: KW, seconded: JW. PB duly signed his acceptance of office form and will return his declaration of interest form within the necessary timescale.

**736. To accept any declaration(s) of interests.** None

**737. Minutes** of the meetings held in May had been circulated before the meeting and were **approved.**

**738. Matters Arising**

- None

**739. Correspondence**

- Notification from NCC of the opening of the Parish Partnership scheme for 2019/20. The Clerk informed the meeting that the scheme is open with a closing date in December 2019. **To be added to the September agenda for discussion.**
- NCC – Notification of the section of route C for the Norwich Western Link. Retained by the clerk.
- Letter from a resident regarding an Annual Parish Meeting report. The response from the Clerk was shared with Councillors, and the format of the website has been changed for clarity.

**740. To consider the view of the Council about the following planning applications**

- Planning Applications:
  - None
- Planning Applications received with no comments submitted:
  - 3PL/2019/0543/HOU: Water End Farm, Church Road – erection of single storey extension to provide entrance lobby and associated alterations.
  - 3PL/2019/0652/VAR: Pole Barn, Dereham Road – removal of conditions 3 & 4 of application 3PL/2009/1126/F – to allow holiday let to be used as principle permanent residence.
- Planning notifications:
  - 3PL/2019/0448/HOU: The Willows, The Street – Demolition of existing single storey conservatory, and replacement with a two storey extension to the rear of the property. APPROVED by Breckland Council
  - 3PL/2019/0543/HOU: Water End Farm, Church Road – erection of single storey extension to provide entrance lobby and associated alterations. APPROVED by Breckland Council

**741. Payment of accounts and precept update**

Payments Received

- Gravity Race entrance fee £5.00

Payments to be made

- Clerks Wages s/o £162.32
- Norfolk Pension Fund (July) chq 876 £60.12
- Norfolk Pension Fund (August) chq 877 £60.12
- HMRC chq 878 £121.60
- Clerks reimbursements chq 879 £28.25

Proposed: KW, Seconded: JW

**742. Agreement to transfer the Parish Council bank account from Barclays to Lloyds and introduce Internet banking**

It was agreed that due to regular issues with Barclays bank, the Parish Council account will be transferred to Lloyds Bank, initially via the closing of the Business Account and transfer of those funds, to be followed by the full closure of the accounts. Current signatories on the new account are TB, KW and the Clerk with JW being added. It was agreed that the Clerk would retain internet banking access until the account transfer is completed, then this will be reviewed. Proposed: TB, seconded: KW. **Clerk to action**

**743. Agreement of Internet Banking Policy, Complaints Procedure, Community Engagement Strategy and Media Relations Policy**

These had been circulated outside the meeting. It was agreed that the Internet Banking Policy be deferred until the banking arrangements have been finalised. It was agreed that the Complaints Procedure should be clarified. With these amendments the policies were agreed. Proposed: TB, seconded: KW

**744. Gravity Race Discussions**

There have been two entries to date and reminders have been sent to all previous competitors. The Village Hall have been approached for provide advertising prior to the event. It has been advertised on Social Media and George Freeman MP has agreed to attend and hand out the prizes to winning teams.

**Clerk to send the road closure information to TB.**

**745. Consideration of creating a Community Emergency Plan**

It was agreed that the draft questionnaire and letter be circulated for agreement and then distributed via The Oracle. Responses should be sent to KW or TB. **Clerk to action**

**746. Adjournment for Public Participation**

DC Birt informed the meeting that there is little hope of Breckland achieving the necessary five year land supply that they are expected to provide. This could affect the way in which planning applications are assessed in the future and the likelihood that sustainability arguments will carry more weight than other objections.

JW would like to donate a tree to Crown Crescent which will be planted in autumn.

There was discussion about the variety, and it was agreed that this was a very kind offer and there was discussion about suitable varieties. JW to finalise the variety and the Council to support the planting.

A resident reported that the verges are in need of a cut as the height is obscuring vision in certain places. The Clerk reported that the Highways cut us due at the end of July.

The 'Welcome to Ovington' sign is overgrown and in need of cutting back. This has been reported to the Rangers, however has not been completed.

The hedge near the playground is in need of a trim. **KW to arrange**

A visitor who is a previous Watton Town Council member informed the meeting that there is a four-by-four group who work across the Country and offer support to local communities if they are facing an emergency. He also suggested contacting Breckland Council to investigate the 'Breckland Rangers' scheme.

It was agreed that the Council should send a sympathy card to Mr Godfrey on the sad loss of his with Jan (Wayland Partnership). **Clerk to action**

**747. Future Business:**

None

**748. Date of Next Meetings:** 18 September and 20 November 2019

Meeting closed at 8.25pm