

# DROXFORD PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

#### **FULL COUNCIL MEETING**

# 6.00pm Thursday 21st March 2024

# **Droxford Village Hall**

PRESENT: Councillors: Matt Avison, Colin Matthissen, Janet Melson (Chair), Peter Richardson

and Lewis Smith

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ailsa Duckworth – Parish Clerk/RFO

PUBLIC: 2

**24.40** Apologies for absence: None received.

**24.41 Declarations of Interest:** None received.

**24.42** Requests for Dispensation: None received.

24.43 Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024.

**RESOLVED:** The minutes of the meeting, having been circulated prior to the meeting, were

approved, and signed by the Chair.

**PROPOSED:** Councillor Smith **SECONDED:** Councillor Matthissen

- **24.44 Public Session:** Two members of the public were present to observe the meeting.
- **24.45** Response to Public Participation: The Chair thanked the members of public for their interest in the Parish Council and councillor role.
- **24.46** Reports from County and District Councillors: A written report was received from both County Cllr Hugh Lumby, and District Cllr Malcolm Wallace, and these had been circulated prior to the meeting. Apologies had been received from County Cllr Lumby and District Cllrs Lee and Wallace.
- **24.47 Clerk's Report including updates on previous decisions:** Verbal report Noted. All items to note were due to be covered by the agenda points.
- **24.48** Finance Reports: Received and Noted
  - **a. NOTED:** Financial Status and bank balance. The HALC Conference fee was queried, and it was confirmed (post meeting) that the fee was £90 (£75 + VAT).

- **b. APPROVED:** Payments as per approval list.
- **c. APPROVED:** A monthly Standing Order (SO) for the Clerk's wages and Direct Debit for the HMRC PAYE payments was approved. Once a new tax code is issued, it may be that the monthly salary amount changes, and if this is the case a revised SO will be set up.

#### **24.49** Planning Report: Received and Noted

- **a. NOTED:** New applications and decisions. It was agreed to make a comment on the following application: SDNP/23/01722/FUL, for which the deadline is 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024. Previous comments would remain extant, and all areas of concern were considered covered by the responses of the expert consultees. It was agreed that representatives from the site would be invited to attend the APM.
- **b. NOTED:** The current open and closed enforcement cases were noted.
- **c. NOTED:** The Parish Priority Statement will be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting (APM), in order that residents' views are central to the Statement. A meeting prior to the APM will be set up to consider priorities.

### **24.50 Green Spaces Report:** Verbal report Noted.

- **a. Recreation Ground:** A third quote is being sought for improving/replacing the play equipment. The moss is being removed from the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA).
- **b. Pavilion:** A quote has been received from JT Carpentry and Building Ltd. regarding potential improvements to storage. A further two quotes will be obtained. The Cricket Club have expressed their support regarding the improvements.
- c. Cemetery: The regulations and prices require a review.
- **d. Garden of Reflection:** The war memorial has been cleaned and will be maintained by the PC.
- **e. Allotments:** New tenancy agreements are to be issued and the vacant plots are to be offered according to the waiting list.
- **f. Signage:** Safety and general signage is required.
- **g. Union Lane Car Park:** A quote had been received from Pimp My Paddock to mark out the parking bays, mend the drain and replace the broken fence surrounding the car park. There was a question as to whether this land is owned by the PC. A Land Registry search is to be undertaken to clarify the situation, prior to work being undertaken.

# **24.51 Highways Report:** Verbal report Noted.

- **a. NOTED:** The White Gates Initiative application was ready for signing and returning to HCC.
- **b. NOTED:** The Lengthsmen are due in Droxford on 17<sup>th</sup> April 24 and will be asked to clean the road signage, where safe to do so.
- **c. NOTED:** Cllr Smith is to source costings for batteries for the SLR and liaise with HCC Highways on placement.
- **d. NOTED:** Footpath 14 remains closed over the second bridge. Enquiries are to be made with HCC and the landowner on expected timescales for removal of the tree.

# 24.52 Sustainable Droxford:

The grant (SDNPA) application for the Palace Meadow project has been signed and first payment (80%) is due in April. The Bishops Waltham's Men's Shed talk is to take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> March. The last report for the Waste Prevention Grant (HCC) is due. The project has resulted in sustainable swap events to benefit the community.

EVCPs are being investigated, with the option to outsource everything to a third party. Cllrs are invited to review other options and quotes for comparison.

- 24.53 Correspondence received: None.
- 24.54 Agenda Items for next Full Council meeting
- **24.55** Date of the next meeting: 6.00pm 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024, Droxford Junior School