

Minutes of the Stanfield Parish Council Meeting held on Monday January 13th 2020 at 7.30 pm. in St Margaret's Church, Stanfield.

Councillors present: Cllr R Duffield, Cllr I Thompson, Cllr L Walker, Cllr D Britton and Cllr M Jenkins

Others Present: 4 electors

1. Welcome and to consider accepting apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence to be received as all Parish Councillors were present. The Chairman stated how good it was to have the two Parish Councillors return after their period of absence, due to ill health.

2. To declare any Interests re items on the agenda

Cllr Jenkins stated she wished to declare a Personal Interest in item 8, Finances, as Mr Jenkins was going to receive payment for grass cutting, but no discussion would be taking place.

3. To confirm minutes of the meeting held on November 11th 2019

The minutes had been circulated. The Clerk read out the minutes to those present. Then the Parish Council agreed the Chairman should sign the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. To discuss any matters from the minutes of November (not on the agenda)

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD

One of the electors present informed the Chairman that someone is coming into the Church and turning on the lights, thus wasting electricity. She also said that the Public footpath near her property is very uneven and needs to be levelled off, but Highways deal with Public Footpath issues. The original footpath was too wide. It is not as green as it should be but will no doubt improve when the summer comes. There is also a dog fouling problem and the Clerk will contact the Dog Warden at Breckland to see if it is possible to obtain some A4 Dog Fouling signs.

Another elector present stated that he felt some problems in the village have been overlooked, especially regarding illegal caravans. Much discussion ensued because he did not seem to think that the Parish Council were trying to deal with this problem efficiently and neither were the County Councillor or District Councillor. He felt it was not helpful that neither were present. He was informed that when the District Councillor was present there was often discussion regarding this problem but the problem cannot be sorted out by the Parish Council and they constantly asked for help on this problem from the District Councillor and Breckland. The Parish Council is usually informed that everything possible is being done, so the Parish Council feel they have done as much as they can actually do to resolve this problem.

The same elector questioned why Cllr Jenkins had not filled in an Interest form for Breckland stating that she had a Personal Interest regarding Mr Jenkins, who was the Grass Cutter for the Church. He said he had contacted Breckland regarding this matter as he felt it was unlawful.

Cllr Jenkins always declared a Personal Interest at the meeting if Grass Cutting was on the Agenda. As she had not filled in an Interest form she asked the Clerk to send her one so she could deal with this oversight and the elector making the complaint against her was asked to take whatever action he felt necessary regarding this oversight.

Another elector stated that verges on the boundary line have been cut into. As putting up posts is illegal, she and her partner would like to park a road worthy car on the road, outside her property, to prevent the problem from keep happening. There was also discussion as to whether there was any chance of making Church Lane a one-way system or installing Sleeping Policemen.

5. To discuss Correspondence

Email from Mr Steve Jackman, re Website work. The Clerk had received an email stating the website needs to be compliant with the new Public Sector Bodies Accessibility Regulations 2018 and it must be compliant by 23rd September 2020 to comply with the law and the website must show a Website Accessibility Statement. For a cost of £45.00 Mr Jackman will deal with the necessary work and the Parish Council agreed the Clerk should ask him to do this work.

6. To discuss any Planning Issues

3PL/2019/0498/LU The Cottage, Church Lane, repair works & remedial treatment to both internal & external to restore cottage to habitable residential building – certificate of Lawfulness. Application has been approved.

7. To discuss Highways Matters

There were some pot holes that needed attention but they have been dealt with.

8. To authorize financial payments –

Cllr Thompson proposed the following financial transactions be authorized for payment, seconded by Cllr Duffield and carried:-

Clerk's net salary for December/ January £228.60 HMRC tax for December/ January £31.40
Mr S Jenkins £504.00 (grass cutting)
Information Commissioner's Office £40.00 (data protection) The Clerk explained that if the Parish Council paid by Direct Debit they would receive a £5.00 reduction making the cost £35.00, so the Parish Council agreed to this and the Clerk will deal with the necessary paperwork.

9. To discuss the Charity Land situation

The current Tenant had received his termination Notice and the Agents will be dealing with the re-letting of the land. The fact that the land is available for re-letting will be advertised and anyone can apply to be considered as a Tenant, including the current Tenant. Someone has come and cut down some trees in the wood on the Charity land. It has been done with a chain saw. Cllr Duffield and Cllr Thompson will go and look at the situation.

10. To receive an update on the Notice Board

The notice board has not been repaired yet but will be done at some time.

11. To set Meeting Date for remainder of 2020

The dates of the meetings for the remainder of 2020 are as follows:-

Monday 9th March, Monday 11th May, Monday July 13th, Monday 14th September and Monday 9th November.

12. To receive items for the March agenda

No extra items were requested.

13. To confirm date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday March 9th at 7.30 p.m. in St Margaret's Church.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting finished at 8.20 p.m.

.....

Chairman

Date