

**Grimston Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Council Meeting on Monday 4 October 2021**  
**Grimston Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs Israel (Chairman) P Coleman, S Coleman, Coe, Barnicoat, Boldero and Shepherdly

**In Attendance:** C.Cllr N Daubney and 8 Members of the Public

**21.107 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AND TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Chairman welcomed new Cllr Lauren Shepherdly to the meeting and also parishioners for their regular attendance and support.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Pitcher, Fraser, de Whalley, Twite and B. Cllr Manning.

***Resolution to suspend business to receive Ward Reports and Parishioners' Questions***

**C.Cllr Daubney** reported that he had been unable to attend the last Council meeting where disappointingly the proposal to object to the Wisbech incinerator was not supported. On Covid the statistics showed that figures had been improving. The Fuel crisis had affected many NCC care workers, but he hoped that it had all been resolved. Local members had been awarded a budget of £10,00 to spend across their ward.

**B.Cllr de Whalley** had asked that his report to the Parish Meeting be reprised. There would be a new CIL grant scheme opening in January, the criteria had been changed to allow for bigger community projects to be supported. B.Cllrs had been given a small budget to support communities in their wards.

**B.Cllr C Manning** thanked the Council and community for the letters of condolence and messages of support.

**21.108 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

*Cllr Barnicoat declared an interest 21.118 as his wife was an employee of GFAT, he took part in the discussion and vote.*

**21.109. TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF 6 SEPTEMBER 2021 A TRUE RECORD**

- **Cllr Boldero proposed: Council to receive and accept the Minutes of 6 September 2021 as a true record, subject to two names changes in relation to proposals – Resolved**

**21.110 MATTERS ARISING (INFORMATION ONLY)**

**SAM2 unit:** The Council noted that the funding from NCC for 50% of the new unit had been received.

**21.111 TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE AS LISTED**

The Council confirmed the meeting dates for the next Committee meetings.

The Clerk would order a wreath to be laid on Remembrance Sunday.

Council noted that a plaque would be presented to mark the Community's efforts to support one another during Covid.

Council noted that the appeal on development on Land between number 200 Vong Lane and 84/94 Church Close had been dismissed.

The Clerk reported that there had been late correspondence from a resident regarding Sunday bus service and litter bins, this would be circulated for the next meeting.

## **21.112 FINANCE**

### **21.112.01 To approve payments due**

#### **▪ Cllr Barnicoat proposed: Council to approve payments as Listed - *Resolved***

<b>Payments</b>	<b>Heading</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>VAT</b>
Mrs P Sewell	Salary (September with HW All.)	504.06	0.00
PFK Littlejohn LLP	Audit	240.00	40.00
Norfolk Parish Training	Training	50.00	0.00
CGM	Grass Cutting	170.18	28.36
Pearce & Kemp	SL Maintenance (Sept)	85.20	14.20
Soc. Local Council Clerks	Subscription	112.00	0.00
EON	SL Energy (Sept)	140.91	6.71
		<b>1302.35</b>	<b>89.27</b>
<b>Receipts</b>		Nil	

### **21.112.02 To note External Auditor Response**

The Council noted that the External Auditor had signed off on the 2020 AGAR, the Clerk confirmed that the appropriate statutory notice had been published on the noticeboards and website.

### **21.112.03 To carry out Staff pay review (in confidence)**

This item was taken at the end of the meeting. The Clerk left the meeting room and Cllr Shepherdly recorded the discussion and resolution.

#### **▪ The Chairman proposed: Council to exclude press and members of the public in accordance with the provision of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, Section 5 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations to discuss staff pay and conditions - *Resolved***

Council thanked the Clerk for her support and stated how grateful it was for all her efforts. Council reviewed the Clerk's pay taking into consideration that she has not had a pay increase since 2018 and was currently being paid well under what was recommended by the national pay review and spine points. Council reviewed what the anticipated spine increase might be based on what the previous increases had been as 2021's spine point had not yet been confirmed. However, the Council considered that it would increase the Clerk's pay by as much as the budget would allow, slightly above the anticipated Spine Point, as a gesture of gratitude and to recognise that she had not had a pay increase for so long. Council also discussed that an appraisal, contract review, and pay review would take place in line with next years' budget setting for the next financial year.

#### **▪ Cllr Boldero proposed: Council increase the Clerk's annual salary to £6500 ( £12.50 per hour - *Resolved*.**

## **21.113 Planning Matters**

### **21.113.01 To consider responses to current Planning Applications**

There were no planning applications

### **21.113.02 NHP progress update**

The Group's representative reported that it had received feedback from the Borough Council after they took an informal look at the draft submission. The Group was in the process of

reviewing that feedback with the consultants. KL&WN Borough Council was consulting on the need for a Strategic Environmental Assessment with the Environment Agency, Historic England, and Natural England. Funding to take the plan through the next stages has been granted. Cllr Boldero asked if the amenity area at Philip Rudd Court could be considered for registration as Green Space.

- **Cllr S Coleman proposed: Cllrs Israel and P Coleman be appointed as additional representatives on the NHP Group - Resolved**

## **21.114. HIGHWAYS/RIGHTS OF WAY/ STREET LIGHTING ISSUES**

### **21.114.01 To note fault reports**

The Overgrown verge in Philip Rudd Court had been reported to NCC

Clerk had asked the Rangers to cut back the verge on the junction with Little Lane/Chequers road and rod through the pipe by Triangle Green.

NCC stated it would monitor the dip in the road in Vong Lane, reported in July.

There was a discussion about whether the new Sam2 unit was recording properly, Cllr P Coleman would check.

### **21.114.02 To confirm LED lighting specification and contract**

The Council noted the costs as agreed in January 2021 remained the same. A £5800 grant would offset the cost in addition to £500 from the Council's own CIL fund. The Council also noted that given their age some brackets were likely to break in the replacement process.

Farm lights – the options have been circulated.

**Contractor** – Wescotec **Light** - 1 ASD Micro Highway Diamond

**Per light x 50** (215.00) 10 750.00

**Concrete Post Sleeves x 4** 960.00

**Total** 11710.00

Less 7% discount for 20+ units (752.50)

- **Cllr Barnicoat proposed: Council to have dimmer set at 100%-50% BETWEEN 22:00 - 06:00 – Resolved**
- **Cllr P Coleman proposed: To appoint Westcotech to install 50 LED units - Resolved**

### **21.114.03 Parish Partnership Fund 2022**

The Council noted that the deadline for scheme applications to NCC was early December.

## **21.115 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **21.115.01 Platinum Jubilee Committee Plans for Approval**

The Committee Chairman asked Council to consider the proposals for Jubilee events. In addition, the Committee considered that the various projects would likely cost around £5000, although it was hoped that this cost would be mitigated by grants, tickets sales and sponsorship. Cllr Barnicoat asked the Committee to ensure that the Community did support the purchase of a Flagpole. The Committee Chairman stated that the Committee would discuss the proposal further.

- **Cllr Coe proposed: Council to approve Jubilee Committee's proposals - Resolved**

## **21.116 COUNCIL LAND AND PROPERTY**

### **21.116.02 Inspection Report 2021**

The Council received the report following the inspection of property carried out in July.

### **21.116.03 Grass cutting contract**

The Clerk reported on the issues with the contractor, however, since mid-August the matter had been resolved with a weekly cut when the Council's complaints were addressed by the

Company Director. The Chairman said that Pott Row Green in particular was now looking very good.

**21.116.04 Bulb Planting**

Mrs Packer had volunteered to organise the bulb planting this year on either 23/24 of October.

- **Cllr P Coleman proposed: Council to go ahead with bulb planting on Saturday 23 October - Resolved**

**21.117 ARMED FORCES COVENANT**

The Council noted that Norfolk County Council had written to all parish councils about its commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant and Nalc was also encouraging all Parish/Town Councils to support the Covenant. The Council would look at practical ways it could meet the pledge.

- **Cllr Boldero proposed: Council to pledge its support of the Armed Forces Covenant - Resolved**

**21.118 GRIMSTON FEN ALLOTMENT TRUSTEE – APPOINTMENT PROCESS**

The Chairman reported that the Council had received 3 expressions of interest in the position of Trustee, but it now needed to determine how best to make the selection.

- **Proposal: Council to set a written interview with questions submitted by Councillors, final decision to be made by Full Council by paper ballot - Resolved**

**21.119 COUNCILLORS REPORTS (Information only)**

**Cllr Boldero** reported that the HUFFL AGM would take place on 20 October 2021 at the Village Hall

**21.120 DATE, TIME OF NEXT MEETING AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

The next meeting would take place on Monday 1 November at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Chairman .....

Date.....