

**Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Meeting of Knaith Parish Council held in the  
Village Hall on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Present:** Councillor D. Belton (Chairman)  
Councillor D. Randall  
District / Councillor E. Bailey  
Councillor W. Stanser  
Councillor S. Breeze  
Mrs E. Coulson (Clerk)

**1/9/23. Apologies for absence**

Councillor's Bowdler and Morphet both sent apologies which were accepted.

It was noted that the Parish Council would explore the option of moving the meeting date which Councillor Stanser will explore further. **Action WS & EC**

**2/9/23. To receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and to receive any applications for Dispensation. Members may make declarations at this point but also make them at any point during the meeting.**

Councillor Bailey and Stanser declared an interest with regards Village Hall matters as they both are members of The Village Hall Management Committee.

**3/9/23. To approve the Minutes of the last meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023.**

The Minutes have been circulated and it was proposed by Councillor Bailey, seconded by Councillor Breeze, and **resolved** to sign as a true record.

**4/9/23. Clerk's report on Outstanding Matters**

- **Highways & Ditches**

Both Councillor Bailey and I have chased this matter, and we are still awaiting a response from Jack Parker/Cllr Butroid.

Jack Parker is no longer a Lincolnshire Highways, and this is now down to Joe Phillips-Melhuish. Both Councillor Butroid and The Clerk have chased Joe for an update.

- **Overgrown Hedge**

I believe the hedge has been cut to some degree.

- **Overgrown Trees**

Councillor Breeze highlighted that the trees at the end of this public footpath are overgrown and overhanging.

It was also highlighted that the trees/bushes on Upton Road are overgrown and along the footpath on the A156. The Clerk will raise these issues to Lincolnshire Highways. **Action EC**

- **Stones to Property Frontage**

I contacted WLDC with regards the stones that had been placed to a frontage of a house on Station Road and got the following response:

*'I can confirm that no planning permission is required for the gravelled area outside No.19 as it is not served by the dropped kerb for which permission has previously been granted.*

*This piece of land does however form part of the highway and footpaths that are owned by Lincolnshire County Council and any such alterations would therefore require their permission before being carried out.'*

It was concluded that the Parish Council should state that anyone wishing to change the frontage which is owned by Highways should seek permission from Highways before doing so.

**5/9/23. Correspondence**

- a. Crime Reports for July and August – Circulated. It was noted that a car theft had taken place in Lea.
- b. General Correspondence – List circulated.

The RAF Scampton – Temporary Stop Notice had been served to the Home Office and they did say they would honour any such notices, but it has also raised the profile of the issue again.

### **6/9/23. Financial Matters and Grant Considerations**

- a. Financial Statement to September 23 – With payments totalling £522.57 and receipts of £6.21. It was **resolved** that the Chairman would sign the statement for the record.

### **7/9/23. Solar Projects/Plans**

Councillor Belton attended, via zoom, the latest Gate Burton Meeting. Nearly everyone who attended to speak were against the plans and he felt everything that needed to be covered was. He thanked those who spoke for their contributions.

Councillor Belton and The Clerk submitted another written representation which was based around the most recent House of Commons debate which raised some serious points and to highlight that we understand that these plans are also opposed in these debates.

It was highlighted that the Planning Inspectorate has recently postponed the West Burton Hearings. 7000-acre, Lincolnshire County Council, WLDC and the Chair of Sturton by Stow Parish Council explained that it is impossible to meet deadlines of the three projects, which makes it extremely difficult to provide quality submissions to each. Except WLDC which acknowledged the difficulty but said they could about manage. Lincolnshire County Council also stated that they cannot realistically produce three Local Impact Reports, present them to their Council Members at Committee, and meet the next deadline. The applicant was greatly taken aback by this decision.

District Councillor Bailey has written to the Energy Secretary with regards the objections to the Proposed Solar Farms.

It was noted that one company had the same lawyer but appeared to be represented by three different law firms.

It was highlighted that these companies may also have a hidden agenda with regards the battery storage. They may house extra storage to buy excess energy from the grid to store and then sell back at a higher price.

The Battery storage units are also being investigated as they may be unsafe.

### **8/9/23. Stag's Head Pub**

The Community Asset form has been completed and submitted. This was acknowledged by WLDC, and they said that correspondence to formally start the process / next stages will be this week. No Planning Applications have been submitted yet.

### **9/9/23a. Village Hall Legal Issues**

It was proposed by Councillor Bailey that the steps taken to complete this task are highlighted and then matter be resolved as complete with the DRAFT document change to the FINAL and Adopted.

Councillor Bowler created the DRAFT 'Knaith Park Village Hall Management Arrangement.'

Discussions were then had between Councillor's Bailey, Stanser and Bowler to finalise the draft which was then circulated to the Parish Council 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 for discussion 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023 Agenda Item 4/7/23.

Following clarification from Councillor Morphet 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023, the Parish Council is the full titled legal owners of the building and the land albeit with some trustee responsibilities, regarding boundaries (fencing).

A Non-Draft Copy of this document needs to be produced for Councillor Stanser on behalf of the Village Hall Management Committee and The Chairman – Councillor Belton to bestow the protections wanted and offered under Health and Safety Law. **Action SBowler (Final Document)**

### **9/9/23b. Village Hall – Theft**

Councillor Stanser – Several fence panels were stolen from the Village Hall 30<sup>th</sup> August 2023. This has been reported to the police and insurance company. JCM who installed the fence will quote for the missing panels and then we will approach insurance company. The excess will need checking.

JCM have said they will look at further precautions to stop this happening again. It was noted that the panels were screwed into the concrete posts.

It was suggested that the panels be branded, Councillor Stanser will investigate this option.

The Chairman would like it noting his thanks to Councillor Morphet who attended the Village Hall once the theft had been discovered.

CCTV, worth investing? Councillor Stanser will explore this option. Signs would need to put up and the Village Hall would have to register with the Information Commissioner's Office. **Action WS**

Noted that Quickline are offering free Wi-Fi to Village Halls, this should be applied for. This would enable a modern CCTV system to be installed and monitored in real time on mobile devices. **Action EC**

### **10/9/23. Broadband**

Quickline has now been installed in the village. Councillor Stanser and The Clerk have changed to Quickline. The Clerk reporting that she has speeds of up to 100mbs as opposed to her 1mbs before.

One minor issue since installation was that the service went down for a morning. Communication from Quickline was good during this time.

It was noted that:

- Some people have reported bad experiences with Quickline.
- BT own the poles and if it does not work out with Quickline what happens if BT pull out.
- On the other hand, we do not want loads of companies erecting loads of poles.

Would be interesting to see how many parishioners have taken up the service as we believe Quickline were saying around 50% of Knaith Park have committed.

### **11/9/23. Heynings Court**

Councillor Bailey.

Spoke to John Clifton who was the original designer who explained that if the paths were changed to tarmac this would create an issue with the runoff as they were designed without.

Waiting to hear from Highways.

### **12/9/23. Personnel Policies and Sub Committee**

Councillor Breeze and Randall have formed the Personnel Sub Committee.

The Clerk will forward all necessary documentation so that her Appraisal can be completed.

LALC have extensive guides on Appraisals and pay scales which the Clerk will also forward on.

### **13/9/23. Neighbourhood Plan**

District Councillor Bailey highlighted the significance of a Neighbourhood plan as it is a reference point for planning and reinforces our position when WLDC are considering/opposing plans.

After discussions it was suggested the Parish Council contact parishes with plans and ask not only about there plans but what else they would have included if they were to form there plans again.

District Councillor Bailey noted that Kexby and Upton have a combined plan, this may be an option with Lea. Not sure as they already have there plan in place.

The WLDC website has an extensive range of documentation and advice on Neighbourhood plans and the process. All Councillors to review before next meeting. **Action All**

### **14/9/23. Items of information to be noted and if necessary, dealt with at the next meeting.**

- 1) A Parishioner has highlighted that the speed gun has not been visible for some time. Councillors Breeze/Randall/Belton to arrange.

### **15/9/23. Date for next meeting**

A date was set for the next Bi-Monthly Parish Council Meeting - Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 6.30 pm.  
With all business concluded the meeting closed at 8.11pm

Signed ..... Dated .....