

**Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Meeting of Knaith Parish Council held in the  
Village Hall on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

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

**1/11/23. Apologies for absence**

Councillor Bowdler absent, no apologies received.

**2/11/23. 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.

District Councillor Bailey declared an interest with regards item 8 on the agenda – Stag’s Head. Planning Committee.

**3/11/23. To approve the Minutes of the last meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

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

**4/11/23. Clerk’s report on Outstanding Matters**

**Highways & Ditches**

After some confusion over the location of the issues, District/Councillor Bailey met with Martin Snaith at the problem spot in question on 12<sup>th</sup> October.

District/Councillor Bailey update.

As per Martin’s email the following works are to be carried out:

- A. *in the “dip” north of Stephenson’s House, we are planning to have some grips cut and taken back to the old Dyke Line – This will get water away from settling here.*
- B. *On the southern bend where the offlets are – Steve will organise a jetting job to clear the offlets and see if they run through to the dyke area.*
- C. *On the Southern Bend also – We will look to have grips cut on both approaches to the bend, this will help stop the amount of water reaching the low spot at the bend.*

*Once these works are done, we will monitor the site and would ask if you would keep us informed of any further issues. If the issues still persist, then we will look at further alternatives to get the water off the carriageway (what we discussed on site). I think this will have an impact and hopefully help resolve the issue.*

**Overgrown Trees/Hedges**

Reported the three issues as follows:

- A156 Footpath hedge Ref: 470508 – Highways not responsible but they have been in contact with the landowner, and they will cut back the hedge. I believe this has been completed.
- Upton Road Overhanging Ref: 470507 – Have chased an update as nothing heard since September.
- Footpath by Railway bridge Ref: 470506 – Overgrowth on footpath. This has now been cutback and the footpath is far more accessible.

### **Dog Waste Bin – Corner of Station Road.**

A resident has reported that the Dog Waste Bin on the corner of Station Road, is leaning quite a bit forward making it difficult for them to maintain the grass around and under it.

I have reported this to WLDC Ref: 5170612.

### **Flooding at the Bottom of Knaith Hill**

A Resident who lives at the bottom of Knaith Hill contacted me with regards flooding at the bottom of Knaith Hill.

They have already reported through FixMyStreet but have not got anywhere. Ref: **476292 and 476513**

I have contacted Lincolnshire Highways directly for an update.

Anglian, Severn Trent, WLDC and LCC have all attended and frustratingly for the owner of the property which is affected no action seems to be apparent.

District Councillor Bailey informed the Parish Council that Lea Pumping Station is not functioning properly, this may have back up due to no maintenance.

**Action: Councillor Morphet will speak to Mr Speakman and District Councillor Bailey will contact to assist.**

### **5/11/23. Correspondence**

- a. Crime Reports no longer produced as these were produced by Glenda Froggatt who is no longer there after the PCSO restructure. If we wish for these to be obtained going forward, we need to search them ourselves through the Police website, but they are not collated as they were in the Crime Reports.  
Our new Police Officer is Samatha Key and our area is NC05.
- b. General Correspondence – List circulated.

### **6/11/23. Financial Matters and Grant Considerations**

- a. Financial Statement to 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023 – With payments totalling £1,030.83 and receipts of £0 It was **resolved** that the Chairman would sign the statement for the record.
- b. Internal Audit – Inspected and agreed with the Internal Auditor, Councillor Breeze, and RFO Ella Coulson. Signed by Both.
- c. Precept 24/25 -The Clerk has circulated a budget based on last years expenditure/income. It was discussed that the parish Council now has a responsibility to pay the Village Hall Insurance and have an allowance to contribute to works which may arise. The Estimated Precept will be submitted at £5,154. **Action EC**

### **7/11/23. Solar Projects/Plans**

The Clerk has received a new Solar Farm – Steeples Renewable Project. We will register our interest as the proposed land affected does come up to the Knaith Boundary on the land opposite Knaith Hall across the Trent River. **Action EC**

District Councillor Bailey encouraged the Parish Councillors to try and attend meetings for all the current projects, she also confirmed that she has written to the Secretary of the State with regards these projects.

### **8/11/23. Stag's Head Pub**

Planning Application received 147247 for change of use and removal of single storey extension to the rear.

No comments were submitted by the Parish Council.

This is currently on sale for £295k as a residential property.

**Action EC to check Local Plan for current house quota in Knaith.**

### **9/11/23. Village Hall Legal Issues**

After discussions the following points were made:

1. A Parish Councillor representative needs to oversee the responsibilities of the Village Hall to ensure checks/maintenance etc are being done.
2. Need to clarify how these checks will be done.
3. All the internal regulations need to be formulated.
4. In addition to the Health and Safety document an internal document needs to be drafted with regards Village Hall operations.

It was proposed by Councillor Bailey that a member of the Village Hall Committee and a Councillor contact a solicitor to formalise the documents, with all in favour.

**Action DB to arrange with WS to visit the solicitor.**

### **10/11/23. Village Hall – Theft**

31/08/23 the first 10 panels were stolen.

11/11/23 the remaining panels stolen, and a lot of the concrete posts were damaged. A Facebook post was done to appeal for any CCTV footage.

JCM were contacted 03/11 in a follow up the original panels being stolen as they had told us they would replace them at cost, but Councillor Stanser has been unable to reach them, and they have not returned his call.

Councillor Stanser has contacted the Insurance Company again and they have said to claim them all in the same claim. Photo's, crime numbers, invoices etc. need to be submitted. The Policy has a £250 excess. Councillor Stanser asked the question what we should put in the fences place as we do not want the scenario again. Options are Mesh on the concrete post, wire through hedging or remove all and go to post and rail. It was highlighted that hedging is at the risk of being stolen.

Quickline are offering Wi-Fi to Village Hall, the Clerk will forward the details onto Councillor Stanser.

There may be funding available through District Councillor/WLDC.

**Action WS to contact electricians with regards CCTV. EC to forward details of Wi-Fi and Electrician details.**

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

Councillor Bailey.

Contacted WLDC with regards the weeds in Heynings Court. This is not covered by WLDC as they only cover Gainsborough but is covered by LCC.

However, they did say they would try and weedkiller it. A quad bike in the village weed spraying.

Maybe the Parish Council should include these in the precept costs in the future.

### **12/11/23. Personnel Policies and Sub Committee**

The Clerk has Circulated all Personnel Policies etc the Sub Committee. The Clerk needs to meet with the Chairman to discuss her Appraisal. He will then meet with the Sub Committee before a date for the Appraisal can be arranged.

**Action DB to arrange with EC a date for a pre-Appraisal talk.**

### **13/11/23. Neighbourhood Plan**

Councillors were directed to the WLDC website to review Neighbourhood Plan documentation.

District Councillor Bailey highlighted that these plans provide certain protections and long terms plans for our Parish.

After some discussion it was agreed that Councillor Morphet would contact WLDC with regards the process.

**Action TM Contact WLDC.**

### **14/11/23. Speed Gun**

Following on from the last meeting it was highlighted that the speed gun has not been visible for some time. Unfortunately, the Speed Gun Volunteers have been unable to do any further checks due to early sunset and work commitments. This has been arranged for Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November. **Action Speed Gun Team**

### **15/11/23. Items of information to be noted and if necessary, dealt with at the next meeting.**

- 1) District Councillor Bailey to share some information with regards the Police Commissioner who has been under investigation. No criminal charges have been brought against him but the information on the investigation should be available to the Parish Council.
- 2) We are receiving complaints about items within the Parish, Fly-tipping, waste bun damage etc. All highways, fly-tipping, damage etc faults can be reported to [FixMyStreet \(lincolnshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk). A link is

available on our website also. This enables clarity on the fault/issue and enables current up to date information on the reported issues.

**16/11/23. Date for next meeting**

A date was set for the next Bi-Monthly Parish Council Meeting - Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 6.30 pm.

Provisional dates were set for the next three meetings after the January date:

March 11<sup>th</sup> 2024

May 13<sup>th</sup> 2024                    PGM and AGM

July 8<sup>th</sup> 2024

With all business concluded the meeting closed at 9.12pm

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