

Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Meeting of Knaith Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Monday 8th January 2024

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

1/1/24. Apologies for absence

Councillor Bowdler and District/Councillor Bailey both sent apologies. Apologies accepted. It was then proposed by Councillor Belton and seconded by Councillor Morphet that the next meeting be held Thursday 14th March 2024 @ 6.30pm. This is to allow for Councillors with working commitments on a Monday to attend.

2/1/24. 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 Stanser declared an interest with regards Village Hall matters as he is a member of The Village Hall Management Committee.

3/1/24. To approve the Minutes of the last meeting on 13th November 2023

A slight amendment has been made with regards Item 10/11/23. The date of 04/11/23 was incorrect for the second theft of fence panels. This was corrected to 11/11/23.

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

4/1/24. Clerk's report on Outstanding Matters

Highways & Ditches

Awaiting Works to Commence. Have asked Martin Snaith if these works are planned yet.

Update: Martin Snaith has confirmed the following:

'With regards to the grip cutting, please see enclosed. They are due to be done today at both Knaith Hill and Station Road, Knaith.'

P-G	09.00 - 15.30	Steve Hudson	5733662	Knaith Hill	Dig-Out 9 GRIPS in verge as Marked... 1 Metre Wide Please at an angle.	Knaith	09 January 2024	09 January 2024	15 Min delays Some C/way Incurison
P-G	09.00 - 15.30	Steve Hudson	5733666	Station Road	Dig-Out 7 GRIPS... 1Metre Wide Please	Knaith	09 January 2024	09 January 2024	15 Min delays Some C/way Incurison

'With regards to the jetting at Knaith hill, I will need to chase up when this will be done. I must be honest, the jetting programme is not on track due to the recent storms we have had and the flooding that has come from them.'

Local Plan Housing Quota

Number from the local plan are as follows:

Dwellings Built 2018-2021	9
Dwellings with Permission	2
Requirements	11

Overall dwelling requirement for parishes – this includes numbers already built and with permission or allocated so should not be viewed as in addition to these sources.

5/1/24. Correspondence

- a. General Correspondence – List circulated.
 - Parish Engagement – Councillor Belton attended.
 - LALC circulated D-Day 80th 6th June 2024 ideas.
Three options available
 - 1. Beacon – Not a viable option
 - 2. Lamp Light of Peace
 - 3. Ringing out for Peace – No an option as the Parish has not bells.

It was the opinion of the Councillors that the Lamp Light of Peace was a viable option, and the village hall has been provisional booked on the 6th of June 2024 for an event. The Clerk will research the lamp for purchasing. This item will be carried forward to the next Agenda. **Action EC**

Planning Application 147681 – Land at 44 Willingham Road.

Councillor Morphet has researched this application, and it is re-submission of application from 2018, 137264. This has then had three further applications against it 141966, 142628 and 146663.

This is for a two-storey dwelling with dormer windows. Previous applications with a second storey have all be rejected or conditions applied that any dwelling must be single storey. This application appears to be as the original 137264 which has not adhered to these conditions.

The Parish Council are aware that residents at 3 and 5 Station Road have objected, and it was the consensus that the Parish Council should object in support for these parishioners and on the following basis:

- It will spoil the line of Willingham Road. Not in keeping with the symmetry of the houses and the size of the property will appear ‘squeezed’ in.
- The Dormer windows will overlook adjacent properties.
- The fact that this application has been submitted before and the same conditions/refusal should be considered against this application.

The Clerk will draft a full objection for the Chairman to review and then submit by the end of the week.

Action EC & DB.

6/1/24. Financial Matters

- a. Financial Statement to 7th January 2024 – With payments totalling £423.88 and receipts of £0 It was **resolved** that the Chairman would sign the statement for the record.
- b. A Parish Council laptop was purchased by The Clerk from Linc IT for £179.98. It was agreed by all that these monies be repaid to The Clerk as previously agreed.
- c. Precept 24/25 -The Clerk has circulated the budget as per the estimated Precept submitted in November 2023 with a precept figure of £5,154. As previously advised these figures now include contributions towards the Village Hall Insurance/Maintenance.
The actual Tax Base has been issued by WLDC and based on these; this precept level would mean an increase on a Band D household from £29.63 to £39.29 per year.
It was proposed by Councillor Breeze that these be submitted as the final figures with all remaining Councillor’s in agreement.
The Chairman, Councillor Morphet, Councillor Breeze and The Clerk all signed the Final Precept. The Clerk to submit. **Action EC**

7/1/24. Solar Projects/Plans

Confirmation has been received from the Planning Inspectorate that the examination process has been completed on the Gate Burton Energy Park. This will be sent to The Secretary Of State no later than 4th April 2024.

Councillor Randall forwarded on two emails which have been circulated the Parish Council:

- Letter from Robert Jenrick MP – Solar Farm update. Councillor breeze asked if he could share the contents of this email with 7,000-acre group. Councillor Randall Agreed.
- Agriculture and Solar – Can They Coexist.

8/1/24. Flooding Knaith Hill

This has been leaking continuously for at least two months before Christmas with the flow gradually worsening. With the recent flooding in the area, the volume of water/sticks etc. possibly shattered the pipe which has made the flooding worse.

It is going to take major works to fix this issue.

Councillor Bailey has issued the following update in her absence.

'LCC have confirmed it is their issue to fix and are now awaiting Balfour Beatty to do the repairs required. There has been a small amount of sewage identified in the water, but it is believed to be due to damage/blockage from a biotank/cesspit elsewhere on the hill. WLDC has requested all residents get their tanks emptied and surveyed to illuminate where this may be coming from. The House at the bottom of the hill is not at fault as full examination has taken place at this property. (where the water is gathering) Due to other flooding issues in the area, we have been placed as a priority but not a high priority, so we have not been given a date for completion yet. I'm assuming the same applies to the grip cutting in bends on Station Road.'

The Clerk to contact Martin Snaith to be updated and keep the jetting at the top of the list and will a camera investigation happen to review the state of the pipe. **Action EC.**

9/1/24. Village Hall Legal Issues

Councillor Belton apologised for not organising the solicitor appointment. This will be arranged with Councillor Stanser after availability was discussed. Friday afternoons from 2pm onwards.

Action DB to arrange with WS to visit the solicitor.

10/1/24. Village Hall – Theft

Councillor Stanser - Confirmed the claim has been submitted to the insurance company.

Had a quote for Post and Rail and to remove all current concrete fixings which has come out at £1,200.

Another company from Torksey is hopefully attending soon to provide another quote.

Misterton Electrical have supplied a quote for CCTV. 4 Cameras on each corner of building and recording facility £1,350. When Wi-fi is installed, it will cost a further £200 for Wi-Fi access. Another company has also been approached to quote.

The application for Wi-Fi for the Village Hall has been submitted to Quickline and a meeting will be held in approx. 4 weeks.

There is some wording in the current paperwork with regards the fencing and what it should consist of. This is to be confirmed with the solicitor to make sure any new fencing meets these requirements.

Action WS & DB.

11/1/24. Personnel

Pre-Appraisal before 31.01.24

Appraisal before 28.02.24

All paperwork already distributed needs to be approved by the sub-committee/Chairman prior to The Clerks Appraisal.

Action DB, SBr, DR & EC.

12/1/24. Neighbourhood Plan

Councillors Morphet and Bailey met with WLDC Senior Neighbourhood Planning Policy Officer Mr Nev Brown where they discussed the potential for a Neighbourhood Plan for Knaith.

They are complicated to produce but WLDC offer grants to assist to hire a consultant to work with the Parish. The process of drafting can take months then if WLDC have no objections a referendum would take place with the residents for this to be adopted.

We currently have No requirements for further new build premises within the Parish, but these plans could also be included for example, if we wanted to maintain the look of Willingham Road.

The Solar Farms whatever we include in the plan would not have any statutory line.

In essence they are not a bad idea but given the amount of work that goes into them everyone would have out work into it.

Councillor Morphet suggested that as it stands with the outcome of the current Solar Farm Project unknown, that we leave it for a year as we cannot influence these, and it would feel like a waste of public money at present.

We are not in the same position as Lea Parish as we have no large-scale applications to contend with.

Mr Brown has advised we email him if anything drastic comes up.

Overall, it was a good and informative meeting.

All agreed to out on hold and re-visit in the July 2024 meeting. **Action July Agenda Item.**

13/1/24. Speed Gun

Councillor Breeze has been on contact with Don on Upton Parish Council, and they have agreed to work together to try and ease the load of running and ensure regular speed gun presence. They have agreed to do one next week. **Action SBr**

Police Constable, Samantha Key sent an email to introduce herself as the Community Beat Manager for the area. She asked which Councillor was responsible for the Speed Watch group, so The Clerk passed on Councillor Breeze’s email.

Councillor Belton would like us to go back to the paperwork with regards the A156 as the speed limits on surrounding roads have been reduced. The Clerk will look back and report next meeting. **Action EC**

14/1/24. District Councillor Surgery

District Councillor Bailey has requested if the Parish Council would be happy for her to run surgery for residents to visit.

All the Councillor’s present thought this would be a great idea. The Clerk will email District Councillor Bailey and confirm. **Action EC**

15/1/24. Items of information to be noted and if necessary, dealt with at the next meeting.

- 1) Devolution in Greater Lincolnshire. The Clerk has been forwarded some material with regards this project. Councillor Morphet has agreed to read and report back. **Action TM**
- 2) Streetlight is out at the end of the Village near the Village Hall. Report on FixMyStreet.

16/1/24. Date for next meeting

A date was set for the next Bi-Monthly Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 14th March @6.30pm

With all business concluded the meeting closed at 8.17pm

Signed Dated