



MERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: M Parker

Clerk/RFO: R Martin



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 15TH JANUARY 2019 IN ST PETER'S CHURCH AT 6:30 PM

DRAFT

Present: Councillors: Parker (Chairman), de Grey, Macro and Riley, and Rosemary Martin (Clerk); 7 parishioners in attendance.

Prior to the start of the meeting there was a discussion about Speeding in Crows Lane
Recently there had been many complaints from Parishioners regarding traffic speeding in the Village, particularly along Crows Lane, and how unsafe this makes walkers feel. The Council was pleased therefore to welcome to the meeting Paula Gilluley (our Police Community Engagement Officer), Damion Wickes and Andy London (Beat Managers), and Jack Askew (Force Traffic Officer), from the Norfolk Constabulary along with our NCC Representative Fabian Eagle, to offer us advice on what actions we could take to mitigate this. There is no speed limit on the road, and the criteria for imposing one do not exist. Neither is the area suitable for community speed watch teams as the road is too narrow and bendy. Fabian and the police officers have agreed to work together to see if they can come up with a scheme to help us. In the meantime, they suggested:

- putting in our own personalised signs, rather than standard Highways signs, which might better draw drivers' attention
- acquiring a SAM device (~£3k), although this might be difficult as the speed limit is 60mph. Fabian might be able to provide some funding towards signs.

Motor Bikes on Peddars Way The question of motor bikes being ridden down the Merton stretch of the Peddars Way was also raised (see correspondence Cathy Mouser).

No motorbikes or cars are allowed along this route. Anyone who spots such a motorbike is asked to report it to the Police using the 101 number. If number plates, or photos can be supplied, that would be helpful. As well as reporting this activity to the police, if the Clerk is informed, a record will be kept by the Council. Once a pattern can be established the police would be able to take action.

The various signs erected to show that motorbike riding on this area of Peddars Way is not allowed have been damaged or have disappeared. The Council agreed that more signs could be put at the southern side of Burnt Tree Corner to advertise this.

The Parish Council meeting opened at 7:15

811. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies from Cllr Dunn who was unwell

812. To receive declarations of interest

None received

813. To agree and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th September 2018

It was proposed by Cllr de Grey and seconded by Cllr Riley that the minutes were a true record. All agreed. The Chairman signed the minutes.

814. Matters arising from the previous minutes (for information only)

Pockthorpe: The final bundle has been assembled and is being reviewed by the Highways legal experts, prior to sending it to central government. It is still expected that the matter could be concluded by the end of this year.

815. To adjourn the meeting for Parishioners' Questions

The meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was reconvened.



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816. Finance

a) Invoices (paid since last meeting)

Ray Barnard	Grass cutting 2018 (\$748 d)	OLPay 06nov18	£240.00
CFS Fabriccoat	Village sign support (#11960)	OLPay 23nov18	£54.00

It was proposed by Cllr de Grey and seconded by Cllr Riley that these payments be approved. All agreed.

DRAFT

b) Bank Account balances on 15th January

Community Account	£2258.69
Business Saver Account	£1678.51
Village Hall Reclamation Project	£2825.29

c) 2018/2019 YTD Cash Book, Bank Rec & Budget v Actuals

These figures need to be agreed in order to feed the AGAR process, there were no queries. It was noted by the Clerk when reviewing the budget v actuals that the £80 donation to the church had not been made.

d) 2019/2020 Budget V1 & Precept

After discussion it was agreed that the precept be increased by £250. This money to be set aside each year to fund any necessary elections expenses, which could be up to £1k. In the event that the money were not required, it could then be used to fund other parish costs eg towards a defibrillator. It was proposed by Cllr de Grey and seconded by Cllr Riley that the precept be set at £1650. All agreed.

e) Grass Cutting 2019

It is not yet known whether Ray Barnard will be able to continue with the grass cutting this year. Action: Cllr Macro to speak to him. If Ray cannot do it, a replacement will be needed. Action: Cllr Macro, Clerk.

f) AGAR is likely to be almost the same as last year.

817. To consider NCC Highways and Police responses to traffic calming requests, and consider further action

Traffic Calming Measures: Cllr Macro will arrange further on-site meetings with the NCC Highways rep.

Motorbikes on Peddars Way: signs to be replaced; Cllr de Grey to ask the gamekeeper to keep the gate in the vicinity of Slate Plantation Barn shut.

818. To receive report on Defibrillator and consider further actions

Cllr de Grey reported that a defibrillator would cost about £1500, but it might be possible to obtain a grant towards all but £600 of the cost from the British Heart foundation. After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Riley and seconded by Cllr de Grey that an application be made. (Action Cllr de Grey.) Clerk to put note in the Waylander asking if anyone living by The Green would 'host' it on the wall of their house. Jayne Wesley Smith has stats on the footfall on the Peddars Way if Cllr de Grey requires this information to support the application.

819. To set a date for the 2019 Village Get-Together

Proposed to hold the event on Sunday 19th May. In addition to the normal activities, the Council will be running a raffle to raise money for a defibrillator.

820. To receive correspondence

Breckland DC	Ditches at Tottington Terrace - BDC officially accept responsibility for maintenance	Filed
NCC Highways	Ditches at Tottington Terrace - BDC officially accept responsibility for maintenance	Filed
Ann Scott	Agenda and Minutes not issued in timely manner	Noted
Paula Gilluley	Crime Stats	Posted
	SCAM alert	Posted
Jon Turner-Evans	Crows Lane traffic problems	Filed
Robert Griffiths	Watton Road accident	Filed
Cathy Mouser	Motorbikes on Peddars Way	See §817

Merton PC contact details

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Louise Hyde	Fly tipping	Clerk responded
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Correspondence available to view at the meeting

821. To Confirm the date of the next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 9th April 2019 in St Peter's Church, at 6:30 pm

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