

ST JAMES, ISLE OF GRAIN, PARISH COUNCIL

M I N U T E S

30th APRIL 2024

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 19:10

Present:

Councillor P Blakeley (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs C Hardingham
Councillor A G Jones
Councillor H Ogunfemi (from 19:45)
Councillor Mrs G Sands
Councillor T Sands
Councillor Ms J Sharp
Councillor Ms H von der Holle
Councillor D Warrington (Vice Chairman)

In Attendance:

Mrs Christine Gurr – Parish Clerk
2 Members of the public

Recording, filming and broadcasting of the meeting:

- No requests received.

Apologies for absence (received and accepted): None to receive.

(To avoid possible disqualification under the 6-month rule, Councillors must provide a reason for non-attendance)

Declarations of disclosable pecuniary Interests (DPIs):

- A member need only disclose at any meeting the existence of a disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI) in a matter to be considered at that meeting **if** that DPI has not been entered on the disclosable pecuniary interests register maintained by the Monitoring Officer.
- A member disclosing a DPI at a meeting must thereafter notify the Monitoring Officer in writing of that interest within 28 days from the date of disclosure at the meeting.
- A member **may not participate** in a discussion of or vote on any matter in which he or she has a DPI (both those already registered and those disclosed at the meeting) and **must withdraw** from the room during such discussion/vote.
- Members may choose to voluntarily disclose a DPI at a meeting even if it is registered on the council's register of disclosable pecuniary interests but there is no legal requirement to do so.
- Members should also ensure they disclose any other interests which may give rise to a conflict under the council's code of conduct.
- In line with the training provided to members by the Monitoring Officer members with also need to consider bias and pre-determination in certain circumstances and whether they have a conflict of interest or should otherwise leave the room for Code reasons.

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The following DPIs were received:

- None

(A Councillor who declares a DPI must withdraw from the room unless a dispensation has been obtained from Medway Council's Monitoring Officer)

Urgent matters by reason of special circumstances

- The following item was discussed as a matter of urgency:

24.41 Request for Storage in the Village Hall

Email dated 25th April 2024 from St George's Day Committee requestion storage in the Village Hall for equipment which cannot be stored safely in the shed adjacent to the Pavilion.

Action/Comments Agreed:

Offer temporary storage in the small cupboard adjacent to the bar area as the large storage cupboard may be required soon for a regular user of the Village Hall following contact from two potential hirers.

24.42 Minutes

The minutes of the following meeting was accepted as an accurate record of the proceedings:

- Parish Council – 26th March 2024
 - Proposer: Councillor Jones
 - Seconder: Councillor Warrington

The Minutes of the following meetings held on 16th April 2024 were not yet available and will be presented at the May PC meeting:

- Finance Committee
- General Purposes Committee

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION, RESOLUTION, OR REPRESENTATIONS

24.43 Hoo Community Infrastructure Workshop

Members reviewed the following document:

- Email dated 17th April 2024 from Mark Breathwick (Assistant Director, Culture & Community) for Medway Council inviting us to attend the above Workshop on 1st May 2024;
- A reservation has been made for an un-named member.

Action/Comments Agreed:

No one was available to attend.

24.44 Update on Pavilion Refurbishment Proposal

Members reviewed the following documents:

- Estimate dated 15th April 2024 from Boyd Electrical Ltd quoting £180 for replacement of fuse box backboard (accepted 15th April 2024);
- GPC email dated 22nd April 2024 to Samantha Fenn confirming re-connection of electricity supply to the Pavilion;

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- Email dated 24th April 2024 from BN Pumps Ltd confirming attendance on 24th April to undertake cable testing prior to mutrator pump installation;
- Email dated 26th April 2024 from Guardian Builders regarding commencement of Pavilion refurbishment.

Action/Comments Agreed:

Contact BN Pumps to ask about the reinstatement of the mutrator pump failure warning light which had been removed during the refurbishment works.

24.45 Update on Pavilion garage replacement

Members reviewed the following document:

- Email dated 24th April 2024 from David Blackwell of Grain Fete Committee giving an update on the placement of the storage container within the Pavilion Compound.

Action/Comments Agreed:

Contents noted.

24.46 KFRS Community Resilience Planning Workshop

Members reviewed the following document:

- Email dated 2nd April 2024 from KFRS inviting us to attend the free in-person community resilience Planning Workshop on 21st May 2024 at Ashford Borough Council's Committee Rooms.

Action/Comments Agreed:

Councillor Paul Blakeley will attend.

19:45 Councillor Ogunfemi joined the meeting.

24.47 D-Day 80 Anniversary – 6th June 2024: Guide to Taking Part

Members reviewed the following documents:

- Email dated 23rd April 2024 from Fete Committee regarding provision of a speaker system;
- Email from Mrs Cordier dated 22nd April 2024 expressing concern about the use of the grass verge outside the Church;
- Zurich Insurance article dated 13th February 2024:
 - 80th D-Day Anniversary: Organising a Safe Event

Action/Comments Agreed:

Members agreed the following:

- Provide light refreshments (tea, coffee, cakes etc);
- Beacon lighting at 21:15
- Provide music, if possible;
- Advertise locally.

24.48 Update on Esquire Development Ltd Proposal

Members reviewed and discussed the following:

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- Email exchanges between GPC and Dave Harris (Chief Planning Officer for Medway Council) dated 15th and 24th April 2024 regarding the proposed public meeting;
- Email exchanges between GPC and Andy Wilford (Esquire Development Ltd) - dated 27th March to 19th April 2024 - regarding MHS Homes attending the proposed public meeting;
- Proposed flyer for delivery to all households giving details of public meeting to be held in the Village Hall.

Action/Comments Agreed:

Clerk to prepare flyer and distribute to members for delivery as soon as the date for the meeting has been agreed with MHS Homes.

24.49 Authorisation of Payments of Accounts

Schedule of cheques, BACS and Direct Debit payments for April 2024 for approval:

- Revenue Account: £8,244.19
- Capital Account: Nil
- **TOTAL PAYMENTS: £8,244.19 (inclusive of VAT)**

Action/Comments Agreed:

It was proposed by Councillor Warrington, seconded by Councillor Ms von der Holle, and agreed, that the schedule of payments, as per Appendix 1, was approved.

24.50 Revenue and Capital Receipts Report

Schedule of receipts during March 2024 for information:

- Revenue Account
 - Cash/cheques: £417.16
 - BACS deposits: £711.32
- Capital Account
 - Cash/cheques banked: Nil
 - BACS credits: Nil
- **TOTAL RECEIPTS: £1,128.48 (inclusive of VAT)**

Action/Comments Agreed:

Report received and accepted as per Appendix 2.

24.51 Consideration of Planning Applications

None notified.

The following application was examined, discussed, and comments thereupon agreed:

MC/24/0735

Land West of Grain Road (NeuConnect Site)

- *Submission of reserved matter pursuant to outline planning permission MC/19/3015 for layout, scale and appearance for the construction and operation of converter station between GB and German electricity networks.*

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Comment/s agreed: It was proposed by Councillor Warrington, seconded by Councillor Ms Sharp, and agreed, not to submit any comments.

24.52 Reports from meetings/events hosted by outside organisations
Councillor Mrs G Sands gave a verbal report on the Local Access Forum meeting on 1st May 2024 at Deangate.

Action/Comments Agreed:

The minutes of the meeting/s (if applicable) will be copied to all members when they become available.

24.53 General Correspondence

The following correspondence was received:

30/04/24 A member of the public attended the pre-meeting session and asked about the provision of allotments.

Action: Agenda for a future PC meeting.

15/04/24 Email from Medway Council inviting members to attend the Medway Matters Live event on 18th June 2024.

Action: Forward email to all members.

26/04/24 Email from Marie Curie requesting a donation to the Great Daffodil Appeal.

Action: Bring forward in March 2024.

26/02/24 Letters from Business Stream outlining price increases for 2024/25 of 18.3% for metered water and 19.1% for unmeasured wholesale charges.

04/04/24 Email from KMPT (NHS Trust) regarding free health and wellbeing courses to anyone over the age of 18 years.

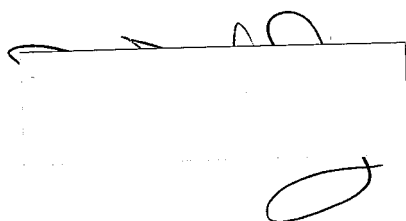
Action: Refer to wHoo Cares.

Action/Comments Agreed:

As noted above.

20:12 There being no further business, the meeting was closed.

Signed:



Date:

4/6/2024