LITTLE DUNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Little Dunham Parish Council held on 4th November 2021 at 7.30pm in the Village Hut.

Present: Cllr Simon Fowler
Cllr Jane Harding
Cllr Paul Stebbings
Cllr Tracy Mylum
Cllr Malcolm Parker
Cllr Linda Johnson
Cllr Nina Forsyth

District & County Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris
Six Members of the public
Sheryl Irving (Clerk)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, there were no apologies for absence.

2. To receive any declarations of interest.

There were none received.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd September 2021.

Cllr Harding proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting, this was seconded by Cllr Mylum and agreed by Council. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

4. Open Forum for Public Participation including a presentation regarding Cannister Hall.

The applicant for a proposed planning application at Cannister Hall was in attendance and presented their plans to renovate the buildings, creating four residential units. They are waiting for an ecological report and then the application is likely to be submitted in February. In addition, they hope to create a glamping site, with five units initially, ten eventually. The units will be stand- alone, eco-friendly and, in addition to the holiday business, will be offered to a local Children's Charity and a Military Charity. A representative from the Military Charity outlined the work they did and the benefits of this proposal to their clients. It was hoped to have the glamping business up and running in 2023 and it was anticipated some local employment opportunities would be created. At this stage, the Council were in favour of the proposal.

There were no other issues raised by members of the public.

5. County/District Councillor reports.

County Cllr Kiddle -Morris reported that the budget meeting had been delayed but Cabinet will be meeting next week to discuss the revised budget.

In respect of District, the Breckland Local Plan is going to a full review and District Cllr Kiddle-Morris is now a full member of the Planning Committee. He confirmed that there is currently a five-year land supply in place.

The Budget is under consideration but there is currently no certainty of funding from Government.

At this point in the meeting, the Chairman agreed to bring **item 12a** forward whilst the D/Cllr was in attendance.

a) Applications for consideration:

- 3PL/2021/1422/O – Land west of Necton Road – the erection of 4 no. dwellings and associated access.

Cllr Parker proposed an 'support' response subject to a request for a footpath connecting the properties to the village amenities, due to highway safety, brick/flint and Norfolk tile materials, and a Section 106 contribution to the village. This was seconded by Cllr Forsyth and agreed by Council.

- 3PL/2021/1459/F – Land south of 43 Necton Road – proposed new dwelling and associated garage.

Cllr Stebbings proposed that objections were submitted, as in previous applications on the same site, this was seconded by Cllr Johnson and agreed by Council.

C & D Cllr Kiddle-Morris then left the meeting.

6. To consider taking any action with Breckland District Council in respect of the loss of the Public House and the high number of HGV vehicles using Necton/Station Road (see also item 7 and 12c).

A letter had been received from the Breckland Leader which set out their justifications for the planning actions relating to the Public House. Although Council remained disappointed with the outcome it was felt there was no point in any further action as the result would not change.

In respect of the HGV use, although the original submission to Breckland had indicated a lower number of vehicles, this only related to the vehicles on site and not the contractors. In the absence of any further advice from a member of public, as discussed at the previous meeting, it was agreed that no action could be taken against Breckland.

7. To consider the impact and any action in respect of the high number of HGV vehicles using Necton/Station Road.

Cllr Stebbings reported that the Operators Licence is due to be renewed and a request for a limit on the days/hours of operation could be submitted. He suggested that the Parish Council lodge an objection although he would like to carry out some surveys initially to gather evidence. Council supported this course of action.

8. To receive an update on Highway & Footpath matters.

The potholes near the Rest Home had been repaired but the one on School Lane, although marked up, had not been and this will be chased up. The drains at Barrows Hole Lane and surrounding area had been cleared. There is a large amount of soil on a verge on the road towards Great Dunham and there is a concern this will wash onto the road over winter; the situation will be monitored.

The 30mph signs had been set upright but Council was disappointed that they had not been moved back from the road as they are likely to be damaged again quite quickly by HGV traffic. This will be reported to Highways.

The Chairman reported he had reinstated the footpath sign on FP3.

9. To receive an update regarding reports of dog attacks in the village.

Cllr Forsyth reported she had spoken to PC Gilluley and been provided with signage which set out what to do if your dog was attacked. These signs will be circulated via the notice board, facebook and the village email. Anyone whose dog is a victim of an attack should report it to the Police who will take action if there is a pattern of out-of-control dogs.

It was noted there continued to be a high amount of dog mess outside the Village Hut and the Breckland Dog Warden will be investigating.

10. To receive an update on the Community Speed Watch Scheme.

Cllr Stebbings reported that the checks continued with the police in attendance at one session. The Police issued both words of advice and tickets to drivers found to be speeding.

During September there were 13 checks with 125 instances of speeding and in October there were seven checks with 91 speeders. On just one day in October, of the 77 vehicles checked, there were 34 speeding, 19 of those over 40mph.

The Speed Sign has been moved to Sporle Road and the data collected shows many vehicles speeding.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Stebbings and the team for their hard work.

11. To consider the installation of electric vehicle charging points in the village.

Council agreed that anyone purchasing an electric vehicle would most likely have a charging point installed at home. Furthermore, there was no suitable site in the village for charging points so it was agreed not to pursue this.

12. To discuss planning issues.

b) Applications for consideration.
This item had been discussed earlier in the meeting at item 5.

c) Decisions to note.
There were no decisions to note.

d) To note the response from the Breckland Leader re the Black Swan enforcement action.
This item had been discussed earlier in the meeting at item 6.

e) To receive an update regarding the 'Housing for Local People' Scheme.
Cllr Fowler reported that Broadland Housing were interested in working with the Parish Council and a meeting had been held. The Chairman is to speak to local landowners re suitable plots.

13. To receive a report regarding the Playing Field.

Cllr Parker has cleared the lower overhanging tree boughs and it was agreed that the large oaks did not need cutting back.

Suitable posts are in place for the new signage 'Platinum Jubilee Playing Field' and Cllr Parker will obtain quotes for the sign. It was agreed to hold a Children's Picture Competition at the Jubilee Party.

14. To receive a report regarding the Amenities (Conservation) area.

Clearance work continues, unfortunately the grant applications for assistance and additional trees had been unsuccessful. The fence between the amenity area and a property had been erected.

15. To receive a report regarding the Village Hut.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Parker and all the other volunteers who had done such a wonderful job on the Village Hut, with the water now connected, drainage in place, new flooring, kitchen, paintwork etc. Cllr Parker reported that there are further works planned including updating the electrics, replacing the rear door frame and the windows. Council agreed that Cllr Parker should continue with the works, within the funds available. Cllr Parker had an additional £130 from the sale of surplus equipment and a kind donation from Albanwise of £250 had been received, for which the Council were grateful.

Cllr Forsyth offered some patio slabs and outdoor furniture, free of charge, and this was gratefully received by Council. The replacement indoor furniture will be available later in the year.

Cllr Fowler will arrange for the planting of four trees at the rear of the Hut.

16. To discuss any correspondence for circulation.

- A request to support the Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE) Bill – Council noted this report but agreed there was little Council could do locally.

- Breckland Landscape and Settlement Character Assessment Survey – Council agreed the Chairman should submit a response on behalf of Council.

17. Financial and Governance Matters

a) To receive a financial report for the year ending 31st March 2022.
The financial report (attached) was noted.

b) To appoint an internal auditor for the year ending 31st March 2022.
Cllr Mylum proposed that Mr Bergin be appointed as internal auditor, at a cost of £25. This was seconded by Cllr Johnson and agreed by Council.

c) To consider the budget and set the precept for the year ending 31st March 2023.
Council considered the draft budget and noted that if no increase was made to the precept then the Council would be in deficit by 2024. The precept had been kept low for some years but with ever-increasing costs, including water and electric for the Hut, grass cutting and staff, there was no option but to increase the precept, both this year and next.

Cllr Stebbings proposed that the precept for the year ending 31st March 2023 be increased to £5,250, this was seconded by Cllr Malcolm Parker. A second proposition by Cllr Fowler was made to increase the precept to £5,000 in the first year and then to £5,250 in the following year, this was seconded by Cllr Harding. The first proposition was put to the vote, with five for and two against. The proposition was carried.

A precept of £5,250 will result in a Band D payer paying £41.21 per year.

d) To authorise financial payments as detailed below.

Cllr Harding proposed approval of the following payments, this was seconded by Cllr Mylum and agreed by Council.

- Clerk Pay & Allowance (Oct/Nov) £278.75
- Grass Contractor £939.36
- Brisley PC – SLCC Membership £19.40
- Clerk – Training – Essential Update Seminar £6.50
- M Parker (Gift reimbursement) £14.99
- EON (Village Hut Electric) £30.49 (DD)

Village Hut Water Project (paid):

- M Parker (Water Piping) £17.95
- Removal of Kitchen Waste £18.00
- M Parker (Water Fixing) £11.22
- M Parker (Water Heater) £77.98
- M Parker (Tiling) £45.72
- M Parker (Fixings) £11.57
- B Turner (Fixings) £28.98
- M Parker (Drainage Fixings) £315.02

18. To receive any new items for the next agenda.

There were no new items received for the next agenda.

19. To note the next meeting of the parish council will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 6th January 2022 in the Village Hut.

Council noted the date of the next meeting and the meeting then closed at 9.13pm.

Signed: Date:

LITTLE DUNHAM PARISH COUNCIL - YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022

Financial Report - November 2021

BUDGET UPDATE	**Budget**	**To date**	**%**
	21/22		**Spend**
PAYMENTS			
Admin	1,155	783.15	68%
Salary	1,568	1,061.80	68%
Village Hall	175	325.17	186%
Playing Field	100	75.50	76%
Open Spaces**	150	0.00	0%
Grass Cutting**	1,566	782.80	50%
Donations*	200	500.00	250%
Defib	0	0.00	
TOTAL	**4,914**	**3,028.42**	**62%**
VAT		*326.14*	
RECEIPTS			**Received**
Precept	3,500	3,500.00	100%
Interest		0.20	
Elections		220.00	
Recycling	150	225.58	150%
Grants/Donations		0.00	
HMRC Refund		21.20	
TOTAL	**3,650**	**3,966.98**	
Surplus/Deficit	-1,264	938.56	

*Payments include the £500 Grant for VE Day

**Payments do not include final grass and hedge cutting invoices

BANK RECONCILIATION	
Balance at 01/04/2021	**7,017.77**
Less Expenditure	5,293.57
Plus Receipts	6,627.79
	8,351.99
Bank Balance at 07/10/2021	
Current Account	4,428.57
Savings Account	3,923.42
	8,351.99
including:	
S106 - Play Area	895.85
Village Hut Water Reserves	2,244.96
General Reserve	**5,211.18**

Village Hut Water			
Income		**Expenditure**	
Donations	200.00	Anglian Water	1,769.80
S106 Grant - Water Supply	2,360.57	Fittings	509.83
Fundraising	1,520.00		
TOTAL	**4,080.57**	**TOTAL**	**2,279.63**
		Balance	**1,800.94**