

MINUTES

Orston Parish Council meeting  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7pm in the Village Hall



Present		Actions
<b>Clrs</b>	Gerry McMahon (Chair), Harry Batchford (HB), Astrid Moules (AM), Angela Probert (AP), Jo Napper (JN), Paul Brandon (PB)	
<b>Also in Attendance</b>	Wendy Wakefield (WW)-Clerk, County Councillor Francis Purdue-Horan (FPH), Borough Councillor Chris Grocock (CG)	
<b>Public</b>	5 Members of the public (MOP) in attendance including Jules Humpheson (JHu) – Village Hall & Church & Bob Clarke (BC) - Neighbourhood Watch	
<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence:</b> None	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest:</b> None	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Approval of Minutes of the Meeting</b> held on 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2024 - <b>Approved</b>	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Correspondence/Complaints</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hawskworth Parish Council shared their objections to the proposals by Rushcliffe BC to extend the smoke free zone. Councillors agreed that individuals should comment as they so wished and a link would be put on the WhatsApp group.</li> </ul>	<b>WW</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peter Cresswell request for blue plaque to celebrate his mother’s contribution to the Pageant. Councillors acknowledged this but commented that contributions had been made by many people and that it would be unfair to single out the contribution of one. WW to reply to Mr Cresswell thanking his mother for her contribution, and sharing the decision.</li> </ul>	<b>WW</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WW has ordered a portrait of the King which has been offered free of charge to all parishes.</li> </ul>	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Planning:</b>	
	❖ <b>Applications (previously circulated):</b> None	
	❖ <b>Decisions (previously circulated):</b> None	
	❖ <b>Late Applications/Decisions received:</b> None	
	❖ <b>Other:</b> None	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Finance:</b>	
	a) <b>Clerk’s report/Financial Statement</b> – Financial Statement for January was approved	
	b) <b>Expense Requests/Payments</b> – Payments listed on the agenda were approved although questions regarding Village Maintenance and the service of the new mower were asked. PB to ensure that all costs are cleared with him in the future as the mower had suffered very little use due to the end of the season and had already been repaired by JH.	<b>PB</b>
	c) <b>Income other than interest</b> – None	
	d) <b>Budget/Precept</b> – This has now been submitted to RBC.	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Road Safety Campaign:</b>	
	BC shared the results of this stating that unfortunately only a few small gains had been achieved. The full report can be found on the County Council’s website. BC & FPH would continue to monitor any progress.	<b>BC</b> <b>FPH</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Open Session for Members of the Public:</b> None	

9. **Orston Community Groups** updates/reports etc..  
**Church** - JHu informed councillors that the Church had managed to reduce CO2 emissions .
10. **County/Borough Councillor Reports:**  
**CG** –
- Belvoir Hotel no longer needs support due to closure - **Noted**
  - Thoroton and Hawksworth Parish Action Group to oppose the appeal for the large solar farm development between the two villages is active. Unfortunately no one was able to attend the February meeting but councillors offered support if needed
  - Neighbourhood plan for the Cranmer Ward area is in development. CG currently making sure that all councils are well briefed and want to be involved. **CG**  
CG also mentioned that further down the line there may be some costs involved. He will share more details as they become available. AM still keen to be involved –**Noted**
- FPH** – Nothing to report not already on the agenda
11. **Parish Councillor Reports (items not already on the agenda)**
- PB/GM** – Advised that Grafters had done a lot of work on chainsaw protocols and general risk assessment procedures. They will now produce a specific risk assessment for all activities. **GM/PB**
- PB** – Asked about the 80th DDay beacon in the village. AP agreed to research timings and protocols and will contact Will Gunn on behalf of the PC to try and arrange this. **AP**
12. **Matters for Consideration:**
- a) Emergency Plan (AM) – AM advised that the core group were meeting this week. **AM/JN/ HB**
- b) Lombard Street (GM) – JH shared that the situation on Lombard street with regard to the road surface and drainage has become unacceptable. He has tried to contact the relevant agencies but as yet has not had a reply. CG offered support and will liaise with JH directly. GM has also been in touch with VIA and other agencies in the hope of something being done, he suggested a letter to our local MP and the Secretary of State which would be signed by himself, JH and CG. 1 MOP (owner of one of the new houses) suggested that she and JH meet to discuss this as neighbours. **JH/CG**  
**GM/CG/ JH**
- c) Flooding (GM) – GM shared his work regarding flooding issues and the chicken farm. He thanked Moy Park for their continued help in this ongoing matter. 2 MOP shared their experiences of flooding at the allotments caused, they believe, by the diversion of a drainage channel. They wanted to inform OPC that they would like to try and rectify this. GM suggested that this wouldn't be advisable and directed them to the relevant legislation which suggests that there could be legal ramifications of doing this. Local residents near Mill lane had expressed concerns that further changes could cause worse flooding at their properties. GM advised that it was illegal to channel water to the detriment of neighbours. It was suggested that Neil Clarke NCC Environment and transport be contacted by the MOPs, GM and FPH to seek an engineered solution. AP suggested that flooding and drainage should be included on the new Neighbourhood plan. CG also asked that he be copied in to any correspondence regarding these issues as he may be able to help. **GM/FPH**  
**CG**

- d) Village Hall Grant Application & meeting with RCAN – JH said the meeting with RCAN had been useful. A grant request for the Village Hall of £1250 towards the electrical work needed was discussed. This would eat into OPC reserves. Whist the grant was agreed in principle as the Village Hall is an important community asset, GM would approach Nick Hammond to ask a few more questions including whether or not this could be repaid in the future should substantial funding become available. A grant can then be made available in the new financial year. **GM**
- e) Neighbourhood Plan (AM/CG) – See item 10
- f) Alleged dangerous dog (GM) – GM updated councillors.
- g) Asset Register (PB) – PB shared the new register with councillors. WW to keep a copy centrally.
- h) Councillor Vacancy(GM/WW) – WW shared procedures with all present. Advertising will begin on 1<sup>st</sup> March for 14 working days and RBC will inform of any possible by-election before a new councillor can be co-opted.
- i) Defibrillator checks (service, expiry of parts etc..) (WW) – WW will contact Nick Hammond for further details. GM will chase possible training. **WW/G  
M**
- j) WW absent March (WW) – Councillors agreed that WW would ask Pauline Ryan if she would be happy to step in. **WW**

**13. Items for Next Meeting** Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024 **7pm** Village Hall

**14. Closure of the Meeting 9.00pm**

Signed ..... Date

Signed ..... Date