

ELM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

14 May 2019 – 6.00 pm.

Held at the Parish Council office, Begdale Road, Elm

Present: Councillor Mr Pinnock: Chairman; Councillors, Miss Bunting, Mrs Best, Brand, Mrs Adcock, McLaughlin. Bloor, Mrs Dalliday, Keeble.

In attendance: District Councillors Ms Tanfield and Sutton.

Apologies: Councillor Mr Stokes

01/19 Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr. Stokes

02/19 Membership of the Council

Declaration of Office forms witnessed by Cllr. Pinnock were received for the 7 new Councillors at the meeting and the Clerk already has forms she witnessed and holds for Cllrs. Pinnock, Stokes and Brand.

03/19 Election of Chairman for the municipal year 2019/20

Cllr Pinnock was proposed, seconded and voted in as Chairman and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

04/19 Election of Vice-Chair for the municipal year 2019/20

Cllr Keeble was proposed, seconded and voted in as Vice Chair.

05/19 Co-option for the two vacancies in Rings End Ward

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to the Elections Officer at FDC and was awaiting written confirmation of their thoughts in respect of the advertisement of the vacancies. The initial thoughts were that in the interest of openness and democracy the Notice should stand. Interest had been shown by two Parishioners living in the Parish of Rings End. The Chairman believed that the Council had not made a decision to advertise the vacancies at the April 2019 meeting. The Clerk confirmed that the Council had resolved that the Clerk could advertise the vacancies. The Chairman was of the view that if anyone was interested from Rings End they should have put themselves forward for the Election.

Members resolved to hold over the co-option until the June meeting.

06/19 Committees of the Council

The Chairman stated that a sub committee was formed of the Council last year to discuss the Community Centre and that you cannot have a sub committee without a committee and the Minute resolving this should be reversed. He did not know which Minute it was. The Clerk confirmed that a Council subcommittee was not formed, it was a working group. The Chairman disagreed.

The Council resolved that they did not wish to have any Committees at this stage. However, they resolved to have Lead Councillors appointed as appropriate.

07/19 Chairman's Allowance

The Chairman confirmed that he did not wish to take an allowance for the coming year.

08/19 Members' Conduct of Conduct

Members were reminded to Submit to the Monitoring Officer at Fenland District Council, via the Parish Clerk, any changes to the content of their Register of Members Interest forms.

09/19 Members Declaration of Interests.

No interests were declared.

10/19 Minutes of April Meeting

The Minutes of the April meeting were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

11/19 Progress on actions from minutes of last meeting

(1) Play equipment provision in Fridaybridge (Minute 185/18 (1) refers

The Clerk confirmed that the bin and bench had been installed and the sign for the skatepark was awaiting production and installation. The Clerk confirmed that £132,244.98 was the total cost of the scheme including the £50k paid direct by WREN to the two Contractors. The total paid by the Parish Council was £12,609.33. The asset list had been increased by approx. £80k. The Chairman asked for the exact figure as a matter of some urgency. The Clerk asked if the Council wanted the bollards installed at the entrance to the Park as an asset. The bollards would be in the region of £250. The Chairman recommended that the bollards are included as an asset.

(2) Land at Chapel Lane Elm (Minute 185/18(2) refers)

The Clerk confirmed that a meeting had been held by several volunteers who wanted to help to keep the area maintained. They requested that the Council pay for a bin at either end of the towpath. A discussion took place and the Council resolved to gather more information and look at the matter at the June meeting. They further resolved to cover the volunteers when they are carrying out maintenance works on the site on behalf of the Council. The Clerk confirmed there would be no increase in the insurance premium.

Public Forum

A parishioner handed in a petition to ask that the Council install bus shelters in Elm. The Chairman thanked him for the petition and said it would be put on the Agenda for discussion at the next meeting. The Clerk confirmed that the Council had previously resolved to install bus shelters subject to permission from the County Council.

A parishioner raised the issue of the overgrowing vegetation at the corner near Cobra Engineering and The Ranch. The Clerk confirmed that the matter had been reported on more than one occasion previously as has the missing white lines and signage. The Chairman confirmed that he would have a look and put it on the Agenda for the coming month.

