

**Minutes of the Meeting of Lessingham Parish Council held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January  
2024 at 7.30pm at Lessingham Village Hall**

**Present:** Peter Peruzzi (Chairman)  
Sue Allen  
Jennifer Boardman  
Andrew Cull  
James Holden  
Catherine Moore, Parish Clerk

**Also present:** County Councillor Richard Price.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

None. District Councillor Luke Paterson had also sent his apologies.

**2. Declaration of Interest for items on the agenda**

None.

**3. Co-option of Parish Councillor**

There had been no applications for co-option to the two vacant seats.

**4. Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

The minutes of the last meeting were **agreed**, proposed by Jeni Boardman, seconded by Andrew Cull, all in favour, and were signed by the Chairman.

**5. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

a) Defibrillator - Update

Jeni Boardman requested that this be taken off the agenda as there did not seem to be any opportunities to progress this further, and there was other provision elsewhere. It was felt that CPR training could be delivered by the First Responders, Sue Allen was still working on setting this up.

**ACTION: SA**

b) Environment Agency Sea Defence Works

Peter Peruzzi reported that he had spoken with the person responsible for this area at the Environment Agency. Drawings had been supplied, and it was noted that the wall sits on an old existing wall, and that was what was visible. They had discussed the issues with the sand washing out, and 100 cubic metres of concrete had been pumped in. The contractors for the Environment Agency had changed, and further work to the groynes / rocks were in the pipeline from Winterton to Cart Gap. The EA representative was going to supply contact details for more local personnel in the area.

**6. Public Forum**

a) Public

None present.

b) District Councillor

Luke Paterson was not present.

c) County Councillor

Richard Price reported that the County Council had voted to go ahead with the County Deal which would include a directly elected Leader from May 2025 (to coincide with County Council elections).

The DIY Waste policy had changed at Recycling Centres, this would now be free to drop off. This was from 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. There were limits to the volume that was permitted.

Adult Learning had received a 'Good' rating from Ofsted.

A multi-million pound investment was being made into Fire and Rescue Service buildings to bring them up to standard including equalities improvements.

From 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 there would be free travel for all disability bus pass holders 24 hours a day.

Social workers had their busiest Christmas and New Year, with over 800 calls coming in over the festive period.

There had been problems with the local SAM2, the display board was not working and the cost would be £370.50 plus VAT to repair. This would be repaired by the Parish Council so that the VAT could be reclaimed, and Norfolk County Council would reimburse the cost. Richard discussed whether a new SAM2 should be purchased to be shared with East Ruston Parish Council, it was noted that the Councils would need to discuss which would lead on ownership for insurance purposes. This would be on the next agenda for further discussion. **ACTION: Clerk**

## 7. Planning

### a) New Applications

None.

### b) Applications considered between meetings

None.

### c) Decisions

None.

## 8. Finance

### a) Finances 2023/24 To Date

The accounts were noted. Since the last meeting the following had been received:

➤ Bank Interest - £63.48

### b) Payments

It was **agreed** to pay the following, proposed by Peter Peruzzi, seconded by James Holden, all in favour:-

C Moore	Salary Nov - Dec 2023 incl. uplift	£410.30
HMRC	PAYE Nov – Dec 2023	£100.20
Unity Trust Bank	Bank Charges	£18.00

## 9. Correspondence

### a) General Correspondence

An email had been received from the Serious Violence Communications and Engagement Officer at Norfolk Police. No further action.

## 10. Other Matters

### a) Dog Waste / Litter Bins

The Clerk gave prices for North Norfolk District Council approved designs of litter bins. Permission would be required from landowners, or a street furniture licence from Norfolk County Council. It was **agreed** to look at permission for a bin at Duffields Gap (W3W: slings.scrapped.activity) and one at the church end of the footpath from the Village Hall, on the roadside. **ACTION: Clerk**

It was noted that it was very hard to provide suitable evidence to North Norfolk for prosecution, and it tended to be the same few individuals each time. Discussion ensued regarding whether bins would improve the situation. It was noted that education was key, and leaflets could be displayed and distributed. The Clerk was asked to request a visit from the dog warden.

**ACTION: Clerk**

b) Councillor Portfolios and Risk Assessments

It was noted that the risk assessments were looking at what could go wrong in the parish, and looking at preventative maintenance as well as reactive. It would share responsibilities between councillors.

c) New Biodiversity Duties

The Clerk noted the briefing note regarding biodiversity duties. A biodiversity policy would be considered at the next meeting.

**ACTION: Clerk**

It was noted that the Village Hall was considering leaving part of the field wild for biodiversity.

**11. Reports from Councillors**

Three potholes had been reported on Star Lane and had been quickly repaired by Norfolk County Council.

A lorry went into the ditch on The Street and caused considerable damage to the drainage. The Clerk mentioned that she had received communication from the householder, who had been signposted to the relevant agencies.

The Village Hall Committee had raised the question of the Parish Council funding the cost of maintaining the playground and playing field. The Clerk was asked to put this onto the next agenda, and Andrew Cull was asked to bring the costs to the meeting.

**ACTION: Clerk/AC**

A question was raised regarding the effectiveness of the SAM2 devices. It was felt that these had some success, although there were problems with persistent speeders. The data could be analysed by the Parish Council, and active policing could be requested on the basis of that information.

**12. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would take place on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024** at 7.30pm at Lessingham Village Hall, which would include the Annual Parish Meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

**CHAIRMAN**