

**Minutes of the Meeting of Lessingham and Hempstead with Eccles Parish Council  
held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.45pm at Lessingham Village Hall**

**Present:** Peter Peruzzi (Chairman)  
Jennifer Boardman  
Andrew Cull  
James Holden  
David Reynolds  
Alan Shields  
Catherine Moore, Parish Clerk

**Also present:** County Councillor Richard Price and 0 members of the public.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Steve Bennett.

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

None.

**3. Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

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

**4. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

a) Hedge Cutting - Bridleway

It was noted that Richard Price had not yet heard back about this. It was noted that some remedial works to the bank had been carried out. Richard would chase this up.

**ACTION: RP**

b) Unity Trust Account Opening

The Clerk noted that she was waiting for the last six months Barclays Bank statements to be able to open the account. Peter noted that he had gone to the bank and requested copies of bank statements, which would be sent to the Clerk. If these did not turn up the Clerk suggested being added as a signatory.

c) Telephone Box Refurbishment

The Clerk reported that she had received the repainting kit from BT. North Norfolk District Council had confirmed that planning permission was not required, so the project could go ahead. The painting kit was taken by Andrew Cull for renovation of the box together with James Holden. Parts were available from X2 Connect.

**ACTION: AC / JH**

d) Bush Estate Faulty Phone Box

Lucy Shires was not present so this would be on the next agenda. It was suggested that it may now be working. This would be checked.

**ACTION: JB**

e) Environment Agency Sea Defence Works

An email update had been received from Lucy Shires. Peter Peruzzi had sent a further email noting that there were large voids in the defences which appeared to be at least 8ft<sup>2</sup>. The concrete did move. The response had been fairly vague but seemed to suggest that they may be returning. It was felt that this should be pursued, photos and videos had been sent to the Environment Agency. Richard

Price requested a copy of the email and photos as he would raise it at the relevant coastal forum.

**ACTION: Clerk / RP**

It was felt that a little more transparency and community involvement would be appreciated. It was suggested that a copy of the scope of works could be obtained.

## **5. Public Forum**

a) Public  
None.

b) District Councillor  
Not present.

c) County Councillor

Richard Price reported that the Sea Palling event to commemorate the 1953 Floods has been well attended throughout and was well received. There were around 550 visitors to the exhibition over three days, and people were interested and engaged, with £359.61 raised for the independent lifeboat. A grandson of one lady who lost her life together with three of her children had made himself known at the event. The 'County Deal' levelling up deal was being considered, more information was available on the Norfolk County Council website, and feedback could be given. Part of the Deal would include an elected Leader of the Council, where currently the Leader was elected by the Council.

The SAM2 was available to come to the parish, and Richard would send details of how to download the reports. The Chairman and Clerk would get it set up.

**ACTION: PP / Clerk**

Sea Palling had lost its Blue Flag status for the beach but had not communicated this to any local representatives. The MP was actively involved and was engaging the Environment Agency about the water quality. This could not be regained until 2025. The Road Safety Community Fund would be funding two speed roundels for the parish during 2023/24.

Potter Heigham bridge repairs were in the final stages of planning around the scheduled ancient monument. A public meeting regarding the re-opening of the bridge would be taking place.

There had been issues with thefts of catalytic converters in the area which was being actively policed.

## **6. Planning**

a) New Applications  
None.

b) Applications considered between meetings  
None.

c) Decisions

RV/23/0012 Seascape, Beach Road, Eccles-on-sea: Removal of condition 4 of planning permission RV/20/2661 to allow the property to be used as personal and for family holiday use only.

**APPROVED**

## **7. Finance**

a) Finances 2022/23 To Date

The Clerk reported that there were still no current account bank statements available since 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022. The Clerk would be able to update the accounts once the bank

statements had been received. The outline accounts were presented and noted.

**ACTION: Clerk**

b) Payments

It was **agreed** to pay the following, proposed by Andrew Cull, seconded by Alan Shields, all in favour:-

C Moore	Salary Jan – Feb 2023	£251.21
HMRC	PAYE Jan – Feb 2023	£62.60

**8. Correspondence**

a) General Correspondence

None.

**9. Other Matters**

a) Parish Council Website

The Clerk had circulated details of the current website set up and alternatives available. It was noted that Norfolk ALC would be charging around £70 for hosting the website next year. It was **agreed** to move the website to Wix, proposed by Andrew Cull, seconded by Jeni Boardman, all in favour.

**ACTION: Clerk**

b) Clerk's Contract of Employment

The Clerk's contract was **agreed** with the revised salary scale of SCP20 and working from home allowance, proposed by James Holden, seconded by Alan Shields, all in favour.

**ACTION: Clerk**

**10. Reports from Councillors**

James Holden noted that dog fouling was becoming a problem again, with both bagged and unbagged fouling visible. Richard Price noted that Horning or Ludham parish councils had put up signs in the area which had proved very effective. It was noted that dog waste could be put into normal litter bins. Dog bins and emptying may need to be considered.

**ACTION: Clerk**

Election forms would be sent to Peter for proposing and seconding, and would then be taken to North Norfolk District Council.

**ACTION: ALL**

**11. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would take place on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 7.30pm at Lessingham Village Hall. The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

**CHAIRMAN**