Minutes of the Meeting of Lessingham Parish Council held on Tuesday 27th June 2023 at 7.30pm at Lessingham Village Hall

Present: Peter Peruzzi (Chairman)

Sue Allen

Jennifer Boardman

Andrew Cull Alan Shields

Catherine Moore, Parish Clerk

Also present: None.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from James Holden. County Councillor Richard Price and District Councillor Luke Paterson had also sent their apologies.

2. Declaration of Interest for items on the agenda

None.

3. Co-option of Parish Councillor

The Council had one vacancy following the election. There had been no applications. Sue Allen was welcomed to her first meeting. Councillors were asked to speak with anyone who might be interested.

ACTION: All

4. Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9th May 2023

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

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

a) Hedge Cutting - Bridleway

Peter Peruzzi had had a look and thought it had been cut since it had been raised. The bin lorries were having issues at the end of Bush Drive due to the overgrown hedge, Jeni would speak with the householder.

ACTION: JB

Peter would take some time to see what is happening there with the bin lorries and would report back to Richard Price.

ACTION: PP

b) Lessingham Telephone Box Refurbishment

Andrew Cull and James Holden reported that this was still in progress however both were quite busy.

ACTION: AC / JH

c) Bush Estate Faulty Phone Box

Jeni Boardman reported that the box was now working, and calls could be made and received. BT had said that they would clean it.

d) Environment Agency Sea Defence Works

Peter Peruzzi reported that Richard Price was trying to arrange a meeting with the Environment Agency. It was noted that the ramp at Duffields Gap was in a poor condition, with some sharp materials being exposed.

6. Public Forum

a) <u>Public</u>

Nothing.

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b) <u>District Councillor</u> Not present.

c) <u>County Councillor</u> Not present.

7. Planning

a) New Applications

None.

b) Applications considered between meetings None.

c) <u>Decisions</u>

PF/23/0632 Tresillian, Bush Drive, Eccles on Sea: Single storey rear extension to dwelling. **APPROVED**

Long Wheat Bungalow, Heath Road, Hempstead: Certificate of Lawful Development for retention of dwelling (Use Class C3)

APPROVED

8. Finance

a) Finances 2023/24 To Date

The accounts were noted. A complaint would be put into Barclays regarding their failure to close the accounts.

ACTION: Clerk

b) Year End Finances 2022/23

The 2022/23 accounts were noted.

c) Internal Audit Report

The internal audit report was noted, confirming that many of the matters raised related to issues prior to the current Clerk and had already been addressed.

d) Annual Governance Annual Return

The Annual Governance Annual Return was considered, and Councillors were advised to tick 'No' to statement 4 on the Annual Governance Statement, as the Electors Rights had not been correctly advertised. It was **agreed** to approve the Annual Governance Annual Return and to declare the Council exempt from external audit, proposed by Andrew Cull, seconded by Alan Sheilds, all in favour.

ACTION: Clerk

e) Grant Request from PCC

A request for a £300 grant for grass cutting in the churchyard had been received. It was **agreed** to pay the grant, proposed by Peter Peruzzi, seconded by Andrew Cull, all in favour.

ACTION: Clerk

f) Review Reserves Policy

It was **agreed** to adopt the policy as presented, proposed by Peter Peruzzi, seconded by Jeni Boardman, all in favour.

ACTION: Clerk

g) Payments

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

C Moore Salary May – June 2023 £317.80

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HMRC	PAYE June – July 2023	£76.60
Unity Bank	Service Charges	£13.45
Norfolk PTS	Councillor Training	£44.00
Kerrie Wilton	Internal Audit	£50.00

9. Correspondence

a) General Correspondence

The Clerk noted that the Parish Partnership Scheme 2024/25 was open for applications, and ask councillors to bring their suggestions to the next meeting.

ACTION: ALL

10. Other Matters

a) Dog Waste Bins

The Clerk presented the costs for installation and servicing of dog bins. It was noted that the main problem was School Road and Bush Estate. Duffields Gap and North Gap were suggested as key locations. It was suggested that education was more important, as there were problems even where there were bins. The residential bin stickers were thought to be a good idea. The Clerk noted that there were some cheap litter bins available which could be painted and installed with stickers stating that dog waste was accepted, she was asked to get a price for emptying litter bins.

ACTION: Clerk

b) Councillor Portfolios

Peter Peruzzi handed out a sample risk assessment and portfolio and explained the risk assessment process. Councillors were asked to consider what should be included in the risk assessments and email these to Peter so that the documents could be complied.

ACTION: All

c) Eccles Phone Box

Jeni Boardman reported that residents had been interested in having a defibrillator in the phone box. Following a poll, the majority of those voting wanted an emergency telephone and a defibrillator. However the phone box could not be adopted as there was not adequate mobile phone coverage, so the phone box could not be used. Jeni was looking at how a connection could be made to the sub station, with a view to a charity supplying the defibrillator and housing. Jeni would continue to look into this as well as funding.

ACTION: JB

11. Reports from Councillors

Peter Peruzzi reported that the SAM2 had been moved on. The results had shown speeding in certain areas.

Peter Peruzzi noted that two shipping containers had appeared in the garden of a property in Bush Estate, this had been reported to planning enforcement.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place on **Tuesday 12th September 2023** at 7.30pm at Lessingham Village Hall. Andrew Cull have his apologies for the meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

CHAIRMAN

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