

**Minutes of the Meeting of Lessingham Parish Council held on Tuesday 14th May
2024 at 7.30pm at Lessingham Village Hall**

Present: Peter Peruzzi (Chairman)
Sue Allen
Jennifer Boardman
Catherine Moore, Parish Clerk

Also present: District Councillor Luke Paterson.

1. Election of Chairman

Peter Peruzzi was elected as Chairman, proposed by Jeni Boardman, seconded by Sue Allen, all in favour. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

2. Public Forum

a) District Councillor

Luke Paterson noted that he was always available on the phone or email, and liked face to face communication, and apologised for not attending before. He had been involved in the issue with the shipping containers, and was expecting enforcement action if they did not deal with these. The concern with the piling of the sea defences was discussed, noting that they were not designed to sit in sand, and were corroding. Luke noted that there had been issues with graffiti at the sea wall which had been reported through.

It was noted that flooding had mainly been surface water, and there had been issues with the drains not coping.

3. Election of Vice Chairman

James Holden was elected as Vice Chairman, proposed by Peter Peruzzi, seconded by Jeni Boardman, all in favour.

4. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Andrew Cull and James Holden. County Councillor Richard Price had also sent his apologies.

5. Declaration of Interest for items on the agenda

None.

6. Co-option of Parish Councillor

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

7. Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12th March 2024

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

8. Matters Arising from the Minutes

None.

9. Public Forum

a) Public

None.

b) County Councillor

Richard Price had sent a report noting that the SAM2 device would be ready for collection the following week. He noted that a Cabinet reshuffle at County Hall had seen James Bensley move into the position which included coastal and flooding matters, which was good news as he represented the Hemsby area.

10. Planning

a) New Applications

PF/24/0850 Land on Beach, Sand Hills, Eccles on Sea: Erection of temporary welfare and visitor structure.

It was noted that this had previously not been applied for, however councillors were concerned that it could become something bigger. It was **agreed** to make no objections to the application, proposed by Jeni Boardman, seconded by Sue Allen, all in favour.
ACTION: Clerk

b) Applications considered between meetings

None.

c) Decisions

PF/22/1811 Grange Farm, Ingham Road, Lessingham: Change of use of the land to caravan site with a maximum of 10 pitches. **WITHDRAWN**

PF/24/0056 Anchor Park, North Gap, Eccles-on-Sea: Erection of 4 holiday lodges. **WITHDRAWN**

PF/24/0155 Field View, Beach Road, Eccles-on-Sea: Demolition of existing dwelling; erection of two storey plus basement replacement dwelling. **APPROVED**

PF/24/0347 Barn Owl Cottage, The Street, Lessingham: First floor rear extension to rear of dwelling. **REFUSED**

11. Finance

a) Finances 2024/25 To Date

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

- Precept - £2,553.00
- VAT Reclaim - £118.76

b) Year End Finances 2023/24

The year end accounts were **noted**.

c) Receive Internal Audit Report

The internal audit report was received and **noted**.

d) Approve Annual Governance Annual Return

The Annual Governance Statement was **agreed**, proposed by Peter Peruzzi, seconded by Jeni Boardman, all in favour. The Annual Accounting Statement was **agreed**, proposed by Peter Peruzzi, seconded by Jeni Boardman, all in favour. It was **agreed** to declare the Council exempt from external audit, proposed by Peter Peruzzi, seconded by Jeni Boardman, all in favour.
ACTION: Clerk

e) Insurance Renewal

It was noted that the premium had gone up by a small amount as the Council was now in the next precept bracket, however the policy still represented good value for money, and included the new SAM2 device. It was **agreed** to renew, proposed by Jeni Boardman, seconded by Sue Allen, all in favour. **ACTION: Clerk**

f) Payments

It was **agreed** to pay the following, proposed by Sue Allen, seconded by Jeni Boardman, all in favour:-

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------------|---------|
| C Moore | Salary March – April 2024 | £338.39 |
| HMRC | PAYE March – April 2024 | £81.80 |
| ICO | Subscription | £35.00 |
| Kerrie Wilton | Internal Audit Fee | £100.00 |

12. Correspondence

a) Crown Estate Sandscaping Survey

The Sandscaping survey was **noted**. It had been shared on Facebook.

b) General Correspondence

None.

13. Other Matters

a) Dog Waste / Litter Bins

The Clerk noted that she had not had a response from the Environment Agency regarding the Duffields Gap location, this would be chased up. **ACTION: Clerk**

The Clerk noted that the County Council had agreed the location on the highway verge near the church footpath, but that an application for street furniture on the Highway verge could only be made by the District Council. She would make contact with North Norfolk District Council about progressing this. **ACTION: Clerk**

b) Councillor Portfolios and Risk Assessments

No further progress.

c) SAM2 Risk Assessment

The draft Risk Assessment was **agreed**, proposed by Sue Allen, seconded by Jeni Boardman, all in favour. **ACTION: Clerk**

d) Repair to Village Sign

A message had been received asking where the sign was. It was noted that this was not the Parish Council's asset, and it was suggested that the response should be that it was privately owned and had been taken away by them for repair. **ACTION: JB**

It was noted that the sign needed repair, a suggestion had been made that the Parish Council could make a contribution however it was noted that the Council did not have much money and should consider whether this was appropriate. It was **agreed** that the village sign would not become a parish council asset at this time, and that the village of Lessingham could have a local fund raiser to contribute towards the repair costs.

14. Reports from Councillors

Jeni Boardman reported that she had attended the RSPB meeting regarding Little Terns, which had not been well attended. The RSPB had given a presentation on the cordoned off area, which was smaller than previously, together with parking and the welfare shed. There had been a request to keep dogs on leads which was not

well received. Little Terns were increasing in number and breeding was going well, however predators were an issue so feeding stations had been set up for some of these. There were some new sites being set up.

Peter Peruzzi reported that he had attended the Upper Thurne Working Group which had been well attended. The policy remained to hold the line on the sea defences, repair the groynes and re-sand the beach.

Peter Peruzzi reported that there were issues with speeding on Church Lane, noting that this was a bridleway. It was noted that this was not public highway so there was no power of enforcement.

15. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place on **Tuesday 9th July 2024** at 7.30pm at Lessingham Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

CHAIRMAN