

Egmanton Parish Meeting

Village Hall – 8.00 pm 6th July 2017

Minutes – unadopted

In attendance

Officials:- Andrew Banks – Chair, Steve Bunnell - Vice Chair, John Smith - Clerk & Honorary Treasurer, CC Mike Pringle

Members of the public

Mrs J Smith, Mr J Bower, Mrs E Banks, Mr & Mrs K Taylor, Mrs S Rayner, Mr & Mrs J Tate, Mr A Crothers, Ms C Tate, Mr L Outram, Mr C Moran

Apologies

DC Sylvia Michael

Approval of minutes of meeting held on 27th April 2017

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved subject to Mrs S Rayner saying that the words "... entrants to the premises should be prepared to get bitten", did not form part of her statement. The clerk was sure the minute was accurate. He repeated his request made at the time for the statement to be handed over for attachment to the minutes.

Matters arising

A second email had been sent to NSDC re the dog barking complaint but with no response. However, Mr K Taylor reported that he was in contact with Environmental Services and his understanding was that a site visit would be arranged.

The dog waste bin had been purchased and Mr John Bower volunteered to help install the supporting post using his own materials (the bin was sited on 10th July and the clerk has requested a fortnightly emptying service).

A response is awaited from BT to purchase the phone box. Mr Steve Bunnell reported that a grant is available from the British Heart Foundation such that the total cost of a defibrillator is reduced to £600. He had completed the application form but it cannot be submitted until we own the phone box as the place for installation. Before final commitment to purchase, it was requested that maintenance costs be established.

We were too late to enter the Best Kept Village Award this year but the meeting approved this step for 2018.

Correspondence

The clerk reported that he had 5 items of correspondence. Apart from the first item (below) which he read out in full, he referred to each subject heading and anyone interested in the detail could collect the correspondence from him or receive the relevant email by forwarding.

- 1 Consultation on planning applications
- 2 Stage 4 of the Tour of Britain cycle race
- 3 Changes to Dog Control Powers
- 4 Further consultation on Shaping General Practice
- 5 Free training for Lengthsmen

Short address by Mike Pringle

As the County Councillor now representing Egmanton following the boundary change, Mike Pringle expressed thanks for being invited to the meeting and said he was available to help on any appropriate matter.

Change to bank mandate

The clerk explained that it was deemed practical to have the new Vice Chairman as a bank signatory. The authorisation to sign cheques would then be any two from

himself, Andrew Banks and Steve Bunnell. In completing the paperwork, it became apparent that a previous parish clerk was still on the mandate. He asked the meeting to resolve the removal of that person and add the newly elected Vice Chairman (this resolution is a bank required feature of the new mandate). The meeting agreed the resolution.

Painting village posts and railings

The clerk sought a consensus to improve the look of the village by spending up to £200 on paint and brushes. This was agreed and Chis Moran volunteered to acquire the materials. Once to hand, a group of residents would be found to carry out the improvement work.

AOB

The annual insurance had been paid and the Certificate of Employer’s Liability received. The first 50% precept (£850) had been received. The dog waste bin has cost £152.02. New season bedding plants and compost had cost £28. He had the new bus timetables sent by NCC for any resident to collect. The Annual Return had gone off to the external auditor and the Notice of Electors Rights placed on the village notice board. The detailed accounts are on the village website. He asked for approval of the following expenses which may occur before the next meeting:-

Rent for hiring the village hall at £15 per meeting

Mowing the cemetery at the tendered rate per cut.

Mr Ken Taylor asked the Chair for a view on the advantages and disadvantages of a possible conversion from a parish meeting to a parish council. The chair saw the big benefit of the present status as allowing any resident to raise any subject at any meeting personally rather than via an elected representative. The clerk, using literature published by NALC, had looked into the process of conversion. Specifically, a community governance review is undertaken by the NSDC once a petition has been submitted. The rules required a minimum of 92 electors to sign such a petition. After a general discussion which included the legal status of a council as distinct from a meeting, Egmanton’s ability to raise funds when needed in the past, the experience of being part of a parish council elsewhere and CC Mike Pringle expressing his view, the consensus was that the village should retain its present status as a “meeting”.

The next meeting will be held on 3rd August 2017 at 8pm.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Signed Chair

Date