

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF BILSBY & FARLESTHORPE**  
**HELD BY TELECONFERENCE CALL**  
**ON 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020**

Present: Cllrs Morley (Chair); Cooper; Wilson-Brown; Gaston & Scarisbrick.

No members of the public were present. The Parish notice of the teleconference call had requested any questions or comments from residents to be provided to the Clerk prior to the meeting as it was not possible to hold a public gathering under current COVID 19 restrictions.

Mrs M Hoad, Parish Clerk took the minutes

There had been no public comments received and the Chairman opened the meeting for business.

164 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Marsh & Cllr Devereux (ELDC) and Cllr Bailey

165 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest from Parish Councillors at this meeting.

166 **MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD 14<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

It was proposed by JC, seconded by PWB and **resolved** that the Chairman sign the minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> May 2020 as a correct record.

167 **MATTERS ARISING FROM 14<sup>th</sup> MAY MEETING**

Cllr Bailey had sent in a report in response to the action item regarding grass cutting at Farlesthorne Church from the previous meeting. He had approached the current grass cutter to ascertain costs in relation to the work carried out at Farlesthorne Church yard and been directed to one of the Church wardens. Cllr Bailey is awaiting response from church warden before updating Council. It was agreed by all that a contribution to the cost of grass cutting at Farlesthorne Church should be undertaken if possible.

168 **FINANCIAL**

- a. **Accounts to be paid/authorised** It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** that the following accounts be paid: LALC Annual Subs balance £4.70, Clerks Salary & Expenses for May/June; HMRC £27.20 and grant to PCC Bilsby of £400.
- b. **Annual Internal Audit Report 2019/20** - the report had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting and the content noted by all. **It was resolved to accept the report**, there were no recommendations made by the auditor for the Council to adopt.
- c. **External Audit 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020** **it was resolved** that the Council was exempt from submitting a completed Annual Governance & Accountability Return to the external auditor for a limited assurance review on the grounds that it was exempt due to the gross income or gross expenditure was under £25,000 threshold; the documents would be placed on the Council web site and exemption certificate forwarded to the external auditor.
- d. **Annual Governance & Accountability Return** - the document was circulated, and Council was asked to confirm the statement contents individually & **it was resolved** to approve Section 1 as accurate
- e. **Annual Governance & Accountability Return** – the document was circulated and was duly considered at the meeting & **it was resolved** that the account statement was correct.

- f. External Audit – Exercise of Public Rights – Council confirmed the period for the exercise of public rights as required by Regulation 15(2) Accounts & Audit Regulations 2015as commencing on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020 and ending on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020; Clerk to place all relevant paperwork on the Parish Council website on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020 in order to comply & return the exemption certificate to the external auditor.
- g. Council to consider / agree to request from Bilsby DCC for grant towards Churchyard maintenance for 2020/21 – it was resolved to approve the grant requested for this year and payment authorised as above.

169 **UPDATES ON COVID 19 – COMMUNITY SUPPORT ACTIVITY**

The Clerk advised that she had not received any further stats on the level of support provided to Bilsby & Farlesthorne from Alford Helpline Services since the last meeting and no requests for financial assistance had been submitted.

170 **PLANNING**

**N/016/00691/20 DRYBY BARNES, WIDOW FEN LANE BILSBY:** - planning decision to approve this application had been received and circulated to Council

171 **HIGHWAYS**

The Clerk confirmed that the residence of the property on Alford Road where the hedge was overgrowing had been written to but to date no reply had been received. It was agreed by Council to give the property owners more time to sort this problem out before considering reporting to LCC Highways. The poor condition of the pavement down part of Bilsby Road had also been reported via FixMyStreet but a response had been received back from LCC Highways that no further action was being undertaken. The Clerk was asked to refer this to Cllr Matthews for review. The earlier planned Ward Walk had been cancelled due to COVID 19 restrictions and the Clerk had sought an update from Cllr Matthews on the 24<sup>th</sup> May. No reply had yet been received and the Clerk was asked to chase this item with him again.

- a. **Grass Cutting** - Alford Garden Centre (AFG) had provided a quote for the annual grass cutting of Bilsby Hill and a copy of their Public Liability Insurance for record. **It was resolved** to agree the cutting schedule for 2020 and provide AGC with an order for the work. Council raised the question of exactly which sections of Bilsby Hill AGC was cutting as it was noted that a resident kindly already cut sections of that area along with the grass verges in Back Lane. The Clerk was asked to clarify cutting area with AGC. – Clerk to action.

The Parish Council wished to express their appreciation of the voluntary work Mr Tony Wilson-Brown kindly undertakes in cutting some areas within the village and asked that this be noted in the minutes. Cllr Wilson-Brown was also asked to express they're thanks to him verbally.

172 **COMMUNITY PROJECTS**

Farlesthorne Telephone Kiosk – following debate it was resolved that Cllr Cooper would find out more information regarding the possibility of using the purchased phone box in Farlesthorne to house a new defibrillator. Cllr Cooper to report back to Council at the next meeting.

Council had revived the ELDC project for additional tree planting in the Parishes and although would like to get involved with this incentive currently does not own any land within the villages. **It was resolved** to ask the Clerk to acknowledge the Parish Council's interest in the scheme and to see how long funding for the project might be available so that they could consider approaching local farmers / landowners for possible involvement.

Two additional community projects were suggested for 2020/2021.

- a. The provision of additional dog waste bins in the village. **It was resolved** to ask the Clerk to investigate the costs and logistics of providing x3 new dog bins.
- b. The provision of a second reactive speed. Speeding has always been of concern to residents and it was thought the ability to have a second reactive speed sign could help tackle this issue. Clerk to provide cost information for the provision of a second reactive sign.

Community Newsletter – following debate **it was resolved** that under present COVID 19 restrictions the publication and distribution of a newsletter was not practical and that this should be considered later.

173 **CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Viking Link consultation email – circulated to all and Cllr Cooper to represent
- b. Domestic Abuse poster – emailed to all and published via noticeboards and facebook page
- c. Email from LCC regarding new web site logins to be provided to Clerk and Cllr Scarisbrick – awaiting to receive.
- d. ELDC promotion for tree planting – emailed to all. Local landowner approached to possibly be involved in project. Awaiting any response.
- e. Letter sent to Yew Tree Cottage regarding overgrown hedge 26.05.20
- f. Email received regarding Lincolnshire Beach Management projects – emailed to all, resolved no further action possible.
- g. Email received from Zurich insurance confirming renewal and providing certificate. – confirmed to Council
- h. Planning decision notice received for application N/016/00691/20 – Dryby Barns – approved – emailed to all.
- i. Email complaint received from resident regarding unsheeted chicken muck lorries in village. Business owners contacted and resident advised of action taken.
- j. Email from LALC invoice sent for annual subs payment was copy of 19/20 yr as normally posted. Correct 20/21 yr invoice sent, different in annual costs - additional £4.70 added to payment list.
- k. Email request from PCC Bilsby for grant towards church yard grass cutting – emailed to all and added to agenda for payment authorisation – resolved to approve.
- l. Quote from Alford Garden Centre for annual cutting of Bilsby Hill – Council to agree arrangement for 2020 season and consider future grass cutting options. – resolved in minutes.

Agreements to be ratified:

- a. To conduct meetings by teleconference call until current restrictions lifted to allow physical group meetings indoors. – **it was resolved** to continue with teleconference calls until physical meetings could resume.

- b. Updating of public statement regarding Parish Council Meetings be closed to public attendance until further notice. Any public questions / concerns to be raised to the Clerk or Councillors by telephone / email for inclusion in teleconference calls. Previously dated up to July 2020 and to be extended– Clerk to amend and publish.

174 **DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT**

Cllr Marsh had sent his apologies and confirmed there was no further update regarding Eversliegh at this time. Council requested that the Clerk advised ELDC and Planning enforcement of the presence of a caravan on the property and regular addressed mail being delivered to the house.

175 **LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

There was no further update at this time, however Cllr Matthews online briefing had been circulated to all.

176 **POLICE STATS REPORT**

Cllr Scarisbrick had circulated downloaded police stats for the area, and all agreed these were a useful tool to monitor and review local crime. These stats would be uploaded to the Parish web site.

177 **CLERKS REPORT**

The Clerk advise that she was awaiting the new login details for the new Parish Web site in order to start the process to populating the new site. Cllr Scarisbrick would also have a logon to the new site going forward.

178 **ANY OTHER MATTERS/NEXT AGENDA**

Cllr Wilson-Brown asked if any further action had been taken regarding the overgrown hedge in Back Lane. It was confirmed that the Chairman had visited and spoken to the property owners and that the Parish Council had written to them as well. As no response had been received the matter had been referred to LCC Highways department. However, during lockdown and now bird nesting season no action had so far taken place. Cllr Wilson-Brown asked if a letter updating the complainant regarding the situation could be sent. Clerk to action

There being no further business the Council meeting was closed at 7.55pm. Next Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020

Appendix 168a

Payee	Net	VAT	Total	Chq.No
Zurich Insurance	205.63		205.63	100583
M Hoad – Clerks Salary Mar/Apr	241.84		241.84	100584
HMRC Mar / Apr	27.00		27.00	100585
LALC Annual Subscription	148.83		148.83	100586
		<b>Total</b>	<b>623.30</b>	

Signed :

..... Chairman Date:

..... Clerk Date: