

Minutes of a Meeting of the Full Council, Yaxley Parish Council held in the Austin Hall, the Amenity Centre, Yaxley on 12th October 2021 at 7.00pm.

Present:- Councillor R Butcher – Chairman;

Councillors D Chapman, B Doncaster, E Gilchrist, K Gulson, D Hitchcock, J Lusted, A Minns, P Russell, S Wayland and A Wood.

In attendance – Mrs H Taylor (Clerk) and two members of the public.

FC63. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received and accepted on behalf of Councillors A Knight, S McMullon, M Oliver, A Knight and S Sanderson (work and personal reasons).

FC64. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

FC65. MINUTES

Subject to the inclusion of Councillor A Wood in the list of apologies, Councillor D Hitchcock proposed approval of the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held 14th September 2021. This was seconded by Councillor D Chapman and **RESOLVED** unanimously.

FC66. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident asked for an update as to the latest on the Windsor Road Footpath, the Clerk explained that this was being dealt with by the Definitive Map Officer at Cambridgeshire County Council and that no update had been received by the Parish Council. The resident then referred to information he had received which stated that a Definitive Map Modification order had been made to record the footpath and that there would now be a period of time for any appeals against this decision.

FC67. COMMITTEE REPORTS

FC67.1 PLANNING COMMITTEE

The draft Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 14th and 28th September 2021 were received and noted.

FC67.2 PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Members received and noted the draft Minutes of the Property Committee held on 21st September 2021.

FC67.3 PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The draft Minutes of the Personnel Committee held on 21st September 2021 were received and noted.

FC67.4 COMMUNITY FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Members received and noted the draft Minutes of the Community Facilities Committee held on 28th September 2021. Members' attention was drawn to a recommendation at CF32, resurfacing of the wetpour on the cradle swing and seesaw areas on Middletons Road Recreation playarea. Whereupon, it was proposed by Councillor K Gulson, seconded by Councillor A Minns and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the cost of the work, £4,944.32, be funded from the General Reserves.

FC68. YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND SKATEPARK REPAIRS

Following on from Minute No. CF21 consideration was given to a paper from a resident outlining their concerns over the lack of engagement by the Parish Council with existing youth clubs and youth provisions in the village and the future of the skatepark.

In response to the issues raised in the paper, the Chairman explained that the skatepark was passed to the Parish Council by the District Council, although maintenance costs have remained low there has been difficulties in sourcing someone to do the work. He stressed that the Parish Council were looking at the longevity of the ramps and work was going on behind the scenes to get the skate park extension delivered via an alternative contractor. Efforts were made to have the youth involved in the design of the new ramps and the Parish Council is working on a project with St Peters Church to have a dedicated youth worker. The Chairman summarised by adding that a new concrete skate park could become a long term wish for Yaxley but in the short term ensuring that the youth of today still had a skate park facility needed addressing.

Councillor K Gulson referred to the various youth initiatives the Parish Council has been involved with and reiterated that the repairs to the skate park were necessary as no one wanted to lose the skate park facility.

Councillor S Wayland reported that the skate park extension had been promised and its delay was regrettable but hopefully it wouldn't be too long before it was started. She added that she would be very willing to get involved with youth and would happily visit the youth club and liaise with other groups in the village on youth issues.

Councillor D Chapman agreed that the Parish Council should be engaging with the youth and youth groups and supported Councillor Wayland's offer to attend the youth club. As did Councillor J Lusted who proposed that the Social Echo be approached with a suggestion that Councillor S Wayland be the Parish Council's representative at youth clubs and any associated meetings. This was seconded by Councillor A Wood, subject to the necessary DBS checks being in place and was **RESOLVED**.

FC69. REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE ARRANGEMENTS

Members noted the arrangements for this year's Remembrance service, attendees should gather at the Yaxley War Memorial at 2.30pm on 14th November from where there will be a parade to St Peters Church for the service at 3.00pm. Followed by light refreshments at the British Legion afterwards. There would be no parade from the Church to the British Legion. Whereupon, it was proposed by Councillor E Gilchrist, seconded by Councillor P Russell and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Chairman and Councillor A Wood represent the Parish Council at the afternoon reception.

FC70. BANK RECONCILIATION STATEMENT

Councillors received and noted the contents of the Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 30th September 2021 (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book).

FC71. ORDERS FOR PAYMENT

The schedule of payments made since the previous Full Council meeting, which included details of the purchase ledger cheques requiring payment, (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) was proposed by Councillor B Doncaster, seconded by Councillor D Chapman and **RESOLVED** by a unanimous vote to be paid. At the same time, attention was drawn to an application for funding under S137 Grant Budget from Fourfields School towards the cost of running cookery classes for families. Whereupon, it was proposed by Councillor R Butcher, seconded by Councillor A Wood and **RESOLVED** unanimously that an award of £250 be made.

FC72. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

Councillors D Chapman and P Russell gave feedback on a flood management in the fens session run by the Anglian (Great Ouse) Regional Flood and Coastal Committee, that they had attended via zoom. Both Councillors had been disappointed with the focus which was more on current flood management rather than addressing the future challenges being faced in the area.

FC73. EXCLUSION THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

That in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting. It was proposed by Councillor J Lusted and seconded by Councillor B Doncaster that the meeting should be closed to the press and public at 7.40pm.

FC74. PUBLIC OPEN SPACE – FOXGLOVE UPDATE

Further to Minute No. FC43, consideration was given to two quotes received to install grass enforcement matting. Members were of the opinion that the cost, £10,000 plus VAT for a small area outweighed the benefits. Whereupon, it was proposed by Councillor P Russell, seconded by Councillor E Gilchrist and unanimously **RESOLVED** not to install grass enforcement matting at an area of open space on Foxglove.

FC75. SKATE RAMP REPAIRS

Consideration was given to a report by the Clerk (a copy of which is appended in the Annex to the Minute Book), outlining the need to replace the undersurface of the existing skatelite. Members were advised that the extent of the work could only be confirmed once all the skatelite surface had been removed as some sheets may be reusable. It was reported that one quote had been received and two other companies had been out to look at the facility and would be quoting for the work. Given the need to have the repairs done as soon as possible and the rising costs of materials, Councillor A Wood proposed that the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman, be authorised to approve the preferred quote up to the sum of £22,000 to be met from the General Reserves. This was seconded by Councillor D Chapman and unanimously **RESOLVED**.

FC76. REPLACEMENT TRACTOR

With the assistance of a report by the Clerk (a copy of which is appended in the Annex to the Minute Book), attention was drawn to a quote received to replace the small tractor including trading in the existing machine. Whereupon, it was proposed by Councillor D Hitchcock, seconded by Councillor J Lusted and unanimously **RESOLVED** that Financial Regulations 11i be waived to allow the quote from Ireland's Farm Machinery for a replacement Kubota Tractor to be accepted.

FC77. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.

That in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business being concluded, the Press and Public be re-admitted to the meeting. It was proposed by Councillor J Lusted and seconded by Councillor E Gilchrist that the press and public should be readmitted to the meeting.

Meeting closed at 7.55pm

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Signed

Chairman.