

SOUTH WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING
WEDNESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2022

Present:

Cllr F Christie (acting Chair)

Cllr M Edmundson

Cllr J Pedersen

Clerk - S Asquith

Residents' Forum:

There was no attendance from residents.

1. Apologies for absence:

Cllr V Edmundson – away

Cllr R Granger - unwell

Cllr S Scott – unwell

Cllr R Fry (ELDC) - unwell

2. Vacancies:

Councillors are actively seeking new members.

3. Declarations of interest:

None.

4. To agree the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 27 September 2022

These were agreed as a true record and signed off.

5. Matters arising from the minutes of the parish council meeting of 27 Sept 2022

There was no feedback on whether Cllr Scott had been set up with a dedicated parish council email address. Several councillors had reported problems receiving emails on the new addresses. **Action: Cllr Christie to liaise with Paul Ferguson who had set up the web host.**

The Clerk had been informed by HSBC that the bank mandates are now active and that all those listed on it are able to countersign cheques. It appears that HSBC has dropped its previous requirement of checking individual IDs. The clerk wished to thank Cllr V Edmundson, who had tried on several occasions to prove her ID with the bank, none of which was productive.

It was **resolved** that the trees in the community orchard are too large to move to another site. When the orchard becomes more mature and productive the parish council will publicise how residents can gain access.

It was **resolved** to revisit the footpath clearance plans in the spring.

The clerk had contacted LIVES regarding the possibility of locating a defibrillator in the phone box. They confirmed that South Willingham had never funded a defibrillator but had funded equipment for the two LIVES volunteers, who have since given this up. Following discussion about the practicality of actually fetching the machine in the case of emergency when most houses in the village consisted of two occupants it was **resolved** that money would be better spent on first aid training.

6. Financial matters: presentation of financial report and bank statement:

The finance report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was cross-referenced with the bank statement. The report was approved.

The Clerk has the paperwork to close the Money Manager account now that the banking mandates are sorted out and will do this. **Action: Clerk.**

The Clerk had circulated an email from Gilly Gueritz, clerk of the Barkwith group of churches, giving the current situation, as she understood it, with the legacy monies. Any money for St Martin's was ringfenced and would not be used elsewhere however, Ms Gueritz believed that all monies from the legacy had been used. **Action: Some finalisation of the situation required. Clerk is pursuing.**

7. Agreement of precept; proposed budget items for 2023/4

There was discussion about using some of the training budget for first aid training. With the general rate of inflation it was **resolved** to request a precept of the current amount (£900) plus 10%, therefore £990. Budget items would be carried forward.

The meeting was reminded that a parish council Facebook page exists but there was no administrator for it. The village website page hosts the parish council agendas, minutes and audit publication requirements. The Clerk said that she posts items of interest, such as road closures, onto the two village Facebook pages but does not use the parish council facebook page.

8. Model policies - decision on list to adopt:

Agenda item for next meeting. **Action: Clerk to review model policies.**

9. Roles & responsibilities:

Owing to the limited attendance this item will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

10. Bus shelter and bench repair:

Cllr Christie is looking into a suitable oak bench. The Clerk had circulated the offer of a grant from Cllr Fry totally £160 which it was **resolved** to bid for and put towards the bench. The Clerk had circulated a link to the application form. **Action: Cllr Christie to bid for grant and circulate details of suitable benches.**

The Clerk had been contacted by the ELDC Matrix Transport assistant prompting the parish council to repair the bus shelter following their 2021 inspection. The name of a builder had been obtained and the Clerk is to contact them. **Action: Clerk**

11. Heneage Estate bike track update:

Following the attendance of Cllr Bradwell at the last meeting Cllr Christie was going to contact her outside of the meeting for further discussion supporting the parish council stance of objection to the development. However, in the light of her whole-hearted support for the bike track development, he saw no value in pursuing the matter.

The date of the planning committee has been announced as 1st December. Cllr Christie is unable to attend. A meeting of all those involved in putting together the objections and in publicising the application around the village is to be called and the approach to be taken at the planning committee to be decided. **Action: Cllr Christie to call the meeting.**

12. Risk management (standing item):

Owing to the precarious state of the village bench it has been removed. A replacement is being planned (see Point 10 above).

13. Planning matters:

The planning at Church Farm involving window replacement has been approved.

14. Parish Council initiatives:

First aid training is to be planned in the new year.

15. Correspondence:

The Clerk had circulated a reminder notice about the registration of definitive rights of way to the history group in case they wished to be involved.

16. Items for next agenda:

Model policies for adoption.

Roles and responsibilities.

17. Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 25 January 2023, 7 pm

The meeting closed at 8.00 pm.

Signed:

Date:

Chairman: