

MARKET WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Market Weston Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 21st July 2022 at 7.00pm in Market Weston Village Hall

Present: Cllrs M Martin, A Hall, C Snelling, & W.S Cllr C Bull.

1. Apologies for absence D Fulcher, P Freeman & C.Cllr J Spicer

2. Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

- 2.1 To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda.
- 2.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests.
- 2.3 To grant dispensations as appropriate under Section 33 of the Localism Act.

3. Co-option of new Parish Councillor.

4. Minutes - Minutes of the Thursday 19th May 2022 Annual Parish Council meeting confirmed and agreed as a correct record.

5. Meeting open to the public

Both the applicant and the neighbour, of the swimming pool application at Alkira House, New Common Road made representations to the Parish Council regarding the planning application DC/22/1176/FUL Alkira House, New Common Road, Market Weston. Change of use of part of the dwelling house (Class C3) to indoor swimming pool for private hire (Class F2 d)).

The neighbour felt that nothing had changed since the previous application and that the data gathered, and submitted in the planning statement provided as a supporting document, was inaccurate and thus the conclusions drawn are flawed. The applicant felt that the work carried out, and expressed in the planning statement, addressed the concerns raised by Suffolk County Council Highways. The applicant also confirmed he would be open to a reduction in the number of daily swimming sessions and a reduction in the hours per day the pool was available for use. It was acknowledged that, as the Planning department were content there were no other concerns; planning permission being granted was dependant on the response from SCC Highways. See also under item 10.1 on the agenda

A resident has again raised concerns about vehicles using Ponds End Lane as a short cut. Cllr Snelling will ask the resident to record details of the vehicles that are causing concerns so we can better understand the problem.

Action Cllr Snelling

6. Report from County Councillor:

Cllr Spicer was unable to attend the meeting.

7. Report from West Suffolk Councillor: C Bull

Cllr Bull informed the Councillors that applications for funding from the Community Chest, for one off projects, is now open. Cllr Bull has some information on 20 mph speed limits that she will share. It was noted that West Suffolk Council would soon be starting the annual canvass process to update the electoral register. Cllr Bull has instigated a review of all the Streetlights in West Suffolk. We were asked to if there there any lights that no longer serve their original intended purpose, or are otherwise surplus to requirements.

8.1 Chairman's Report

No report made for this meeting.

8.2 Clerks Report

8.2.1.1 To discuss results from the Parish Council questionnaire.

Of the 100 questionnaires delivered, we received 14 back. Below is a summary of the responses received.

VAS

The Parish Council are considering purchasing a SID for Market Weston, Would you support this initiative.

Yes 10

No 2

If you support the purchase of a SID, which areas of the village do you think would benefit from its use?

Hepworth Road 2. By Village Hall. On the Street 4, near the Rectory. Near Church.

B1111 2, near Ponds end lane. Church Road 2. New Common Road 2.

Comments, from one of the objectors. Feel the cost is unnecessary and that we do not have a problem. It will alter the feel of the village for little/modest benefit.

Comments from not sure. The trouble is people speed up after they pass it.

Would you be willing to be part of a team who looks after and moves the SID between locations?

Yes 7

No 7

This item is discussed further under item 12

Emergency Plan

Being a point of contact during an emergency 7

Providing practical solutions during an emergency 8

If you ticked 'providing practical solutions during an emergency' above, which of the following could you provide? Please tick all that apply.

A generator 2

Vehicles/tools to clear roads of trees/debris 3

Transport 4

Refreshments (prepare/serve - not provide) 8

Other (please specify) 1

This item is discussed further under item 8.2.2

Tree planting

Suggest a discussion with Suffolk Wildlife Trust who have just acquired land and expanded their MW Fen area. Any planting should be for biodiversity.

Current thinking seems to be linked tree areas rather than 'pockets' to encourage wildlife corridors. Maybe link MW with the Fen?

Have planted 2 community trees on our land provided by the village in the Spring.

This is an ongoing item, see under 17.1

8.2.2 Emergency Plan, update on progress.

Following the positive response from the Village Questionnaire, it was agreed to go ahead with the production of an emergency plan. The Clerk will share the work she has done so far and we will begin the work required to formulate the plan. There is some rest Centre training being held in Barningham on Saturday 10th September, from 9am until 1pm. The Clerk is also arranging some training for Gt Livermere Parish Council if Councillors would like to attend that. **Action Clerk**

9 Finance.

9.1

9.1 The following accounts were approved for payment

Bench for the Green £139.40

Admin £625.58

9.2 Bank reconciliation and budget report

The Clerk provided a schedule of payments, budget report and bank reconciliation for the Councillors information.

9.3 To consider items for inclusion in the 2023-24 budget

The Councillors were asked to consider items for inclusion in the 2023-24 budget ahead of the next meeting.

Action All

10. Planning Matters to include any applications/decisions received since the agenda was posted.

10.1 DC/22/1176/FUL Alkira House, New Common Road, Market Weston. Change of use of part of the dwelling house (Class C3) to indoor swimming pool for private hire (Class F2 d))

The Parish Council, dependant on the decision from SCC Highways, said they would support the application if, as discussed, the applicant reduced the daily sessions available to 6 per day. They would also like to see a reduction on the operating hours so that the pool was only operating between 10 am and 5.30pm on a majority of days with later opening to 7.45 being limited to one or two evenings a week.

10.2 Consultation on short-term holiday lets

It was agreed that we would make a response to this consultation. The consultation looks at, in part, mandatory registration and strengthening legislation for currently unregulated holiday letting, such as Airbnb. The Clerk will put together a response and circulate it for approval. In principle, it was agreed that there needs to be some legislation in place to protect both the owners and the clients as well as local residents.

Action Clerk

11. The Green/Play area report

11.1 Continuing maintenance of The Green

The Clerk confirmed that our insurance covers volunteers. As long as the Council are happy that they are competent and able to complete the expected tasks, there is no minimum or maximum age of volunteers permitted within the insurance, with the only age restriction applying under the Personal Accident section as this only provides cover for individuals between the ages of 16 and 90 years old. Therefore, as long as a volunteer is working for, or on behalf of the Parish Council, with the Parish Council having control of their duties and therefore accepting responsibility for their actions, our policy will provide cover.

The Councillors recorded a vote of thanks to Cllr Fulcher for all the work he did in sourcing and installing the new memorial bench.

A new shed alarm is needed for the shed. Cllr Fulcher has been looking into this and felt a budget of approximately £100 would be required. The Councillors supported this purchase.

Action Cllr Fulcher

12. VAS project.

Following feedback from the questionnaire, it was seen that, in the main, there seems to be support for this project. The Clerk will circulate the work, previously undertaken with ex Councillor Loden. It was understood that Cllr Freeman would pick up this project. The Clerk will liaise with Cllr Freeman regarding the project.

Action Cllr Freeman/Clerk

13. Queens Jubilee Event

To receive report on the event.

Despite having to change the date at the last moment, a feat achieved through the quick work of a small group of volunteers, the event was considered to have been very successful. Residents were invited to come together on The Green to enjoy their picnics. A treasure hunt, for the children was run all day. At 2.30pm, there was the unveiling of the memorial bench for the late Guy Hatten. At 3pm, there was a toast with Pimms and cake to the Queen and an evergreen oak was planted in celebration of the Queens Platinum Jubilee. Games started after the toast and around 4pm, live

music, provided by Tony and his band, was performed. The Village Hall Committee and Parish Council want to thank the following people for their contribution who helped to make the afternoon such an enjoyable and memorable event. The grass cutting team, for cutting The Green at such short notice. Darryl, Andy, Paul and Neil. Pam for organising the games and finding props and for Tony for running them. To Tony and his group for playing and entertaining everyone. To Julie Novak for creating a magnificent Jubilee cake. And finally, to all the wonderful residents and committee members who helped set up at such short notice.

14. Tree Warden Report.

To receive an update from the Tree Warden.

There was no report for this meeting.

15. Councillors reports and items for future agenda

Market Weston United Charity are looking to appoint a new trustee. A resident, present at the meeting, Phil Barham, expressed an interest in the vacancy. This will be discussed further at a later date.

Action Clerk

16. Correspondence for information

None received.

17. Aide memoire

17.1 Tree planting project, Cllr Hall.

17.2 Flooding issues, Cllr Hall.

18. Date of next meeting: Thursday 15th September 2022