

Minutes of the Mundford Parish Council Meeting 2nd December at Mundford Cricket Club

Those present: - Councillors S Eyres, J Musgrove, N Enderby, D Goodrham, S Morris, S Allen, C Pryke and S Booth

1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS.

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Melinda Raker, deputy Lieutenant presented the Lord Lieutenant's memorial plaque to the Parish Council, to mark a unique moment in time, the COVID pandemic, recognising the difficulties faced by the community.

2. APOLOGIES.

District Councillor Mike Nairn
County Councillor Fabian Eagle

3. ACCEPTANCE AND SIGNING OF PREVIOUS MINUTES.

Proposed Councillor N Enderby and seconded Councillor S Morris. Approved by 7 members (Councillor Booth was absent for the last meeting). Minutes signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

4. Declaration of Interests. Councillors S Eyres, J Musgrove and D Goodrham item 9.1 payments and Councillor S Morris for item 7.3 Allotments.

5. Public Participation.

Melinda Raker Deputy Lieutenant.

6. Reports.

None

7. Matters Arising.

7.1 Outstanding Highways Matters.

Councillor S Eyres asked the councillors if they had all read the circulated email about the update to the Swaffham Road drainage issue. Highways are awaiting estimates to prepare for the consideration of a future programme of work and will keep the Parish Council informed. He also stated that the clerk is in the process of completing the Parish Partnership bid application for dropped kerbs at Malsters Close and Wissey View. Councillor J Musgrove pointed out that there was a 20% contingency added.

7.2 Village Footpaths and Verges.

The clerk has contacted Victory Homes about the overgrowing hedges at 4 and 29 Wissey View and they are sending their Estates Team to assess the situation. The owners of 36 Impson Way have told the clerk that they intend to remove the hedge at the front of their property and that they will cut it back a little further in the meantime. Councillor D Goodrham commented on the amount of dog mess on the pavements in the village. The clerk to add this to the Mundford Messenger article, reminding residents that they can be prosecuted for not removing dog mess from the grass verges and paths, and also to find the posters about dog fouling to be displayed in the village.

7.3 Allotments.

Current allotment holders were offered the opportunity to swap to the vacant plot (10) but as there was no interest, it was offered to the first on the waiting list, who accepted. Councillor S Morris asked if permission could be granted by the landowner of the adjoining land for the cutting back of the brambles and hedge to deter the deer. There is now one person on the waiting list. All but 2 of the Horticultural trophies have been re-homed to previous winners and a list of recipients has been made.

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7.4 Allotment Hut.

The clerk reported that she had been told by the pre-school that they would not be considering the use of the Allotment Hut for a future premises for sessions as none of their current staff feel confident to start up a business. Councillor Musgrove and his wife have prepared the ground for the remaining plants which are due to arrive very soon. The council discussed turning off the water supply for the winter. Councillor J Musgrove offered to do that the following day.

7.5 Handyman/Gardener-

Nothing to report.

7.6 Parish Office.

The current broadband contract has ended and the cost has increased, the clerk circulated other packages to the Council and it was decided by email vote to go with BT. Retrospective vote. BT proposed by Councillor J Musgrove and seconded by Councillor N Enderby. Approved by all present with a show of hands. The proposed installation date is December 13th. The clerk will have a new mobile phone number which will be given to all councillors. Style is coming to install the new office front on December 8th. The councillors discussed the type and number of blinds needed for the office when the works are completed, clerk to get quotes. Harvey Walters has quoted a price of £120 + vat to supply and fit a new sign for the office, councillors asked to see some samples of fonts to choose from, it was decided to opt for dark green lettering.

7.7 Litter bin/ Dog Bin.

These are still in storage, to discuss at the next meeting

7.8 Pride of Mundford Award.

The Council discussed awarding to the Hayden family for cutting the scout hut grass for 15 years. Proposed Councillor S Booth, seconded by Councillor D Goodrham. Approved by all present with a show of hands. Clerk to organise a £50 garden centre voucher and print the certificate. Councillor S Morris to frame the certificate.

7.9 Councillor Vacancy.

No interest as yet, this had been added to the Mundford Messenger article. To discuss again at the next meeting.

7.10 Platinum Jubilee.

There were no suggestions from the village. The Clerk has booked the small hall in the Village Hall for January 13th. The Village Hall are not charging for the hire.

7.11 Remembrance Day.

The 54 knitted poppies that were donated to the Parish Council were given to the school to sell and 44 were sold for at least £1 each (they were unable to provide an exact total). Councillor J Musgrove to thank the lady that donated them. Clerk to send a thank you to Antony from West Tofts for his help at the memorial. Councillor D Goodrham has mended the broken ceramic poppies. It was decided to take Tommy down from its position by the memorial.

7.12 Christmas Tree Lights On.

The Council were pleased at the turnout (about 100) at the event despite the dreadful weather, Councillor C Pryke said that she had been given positive feedback about the event. The Hot Chocolate stall made £85 and is donating it to Air Ambulance. The cakes stall and light switch on raffle made a total of £80. It was decided that the Village Voices choir could choose which charity to donate it to, with another group to choose next year. Clerk to speak to Kinga Molnar about this. Councillor D Goodrham suggested that in future it might be a good idea to set a second date in case of the need for postponement. This is to be discussed at the next meeting. It was decided to dismantle the sleigh and store it in the Allotment Hut, and to consider buying another road sign and a pair of lights

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instead of borrowing them from the football club. Again, these to be discussed at the next meeting. Councillor S Morris suggested buying some torches for volunteers to use at the event next year. To be discussed at the next meeting too.

7.13 War Memorial.

There is currently no drop kerb at the war memorial. The clerk contacted County Councillor Fabian Eagle about funding and he suggested that the funding may be able to come from him or the Parish Partnership and if this was done in the new financial year, it would be done before Remembrance Sunday 2022. There are some small cracks in the column which need looking at. The Clerk has contacted Historic England who have advised that Breckland Council deal with historical buildings. The Clerk will look into finding the correct people to inspect the site and also look into grants or funding for works to the memorial. This subject to be added to the agenda for January.

8. Correspondence.

Sharon from Crown Hairdressing had questioned the legality of the advertising board for the Fish and Chip Bar that is on the junction to the slip road to Crown Road as she would like to advertise her business there too. The clerk printed off and handed over the relevant forms from Breckland Council for both businesses to apply for planning consent. Hannah Keeler at Mundford Primary Academy has asked if the Parish Council would be able to offer any funding for a bench for reflection in their quiet garden. The Clerk is to pass on the relevant form for them to complete and return. Councillor S Eyres asked for the discussion of a bench to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee to be added to the agenda for the January meeting.

9. Payments.

9.1 payments and cheques for the November invoices-

Payments proposed by Councillor S Morris and seconded by Councillor N Enderby. Approved by all except Councillor S Eyres and J Musgrove. It was decided to keep the precept the same as last year £33,000. Proposed by Councillor J Musgrove, seconded by Councillor D Goodrham. Approved by all present with a show of hands. The Clerk told the Council that Councillor Musgrove had done a bank reconciliation at the end of November.

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as the land private land there is apparently going to be put up for sale soon. Councillor D Goodrham told the Council that he would be leaving the Parish Council at the end of the month. Councillor S Eyres thanked Councillor D Goodrham for his 14 years of service to the Parish Council. Councillor N Enderby told the council that he had been told of complaints about rats in the garden of 29 Fir Close, where the resident keeps chickens. Clerk to contact environmental services. There is some concern over the width of the path in the new development off Crown Road, clerk to contact Highways for regulations.

Next meeting Thursday 6th January 2022. At 7.30 PM at Mundford Cricket Club.

Meeting closed at 9.05 pm

Chairman _____ Date _____