

## HEATHER PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting of Heather Parish Council Held on Tuesday August 8<sup>th</sup>. 2023 at 7pm at the David Taylor Memorial Hall

Present:	Councillor P Harris, Councillor A Wright, Councillor S Pettitt Councillor John Clarke, & Councillor J Petty
In Attendance	Peter Fell (Resident) Virge Richichi (Resident) Arrived at 7.45pm Guy Rogers (District Councillor) Arrived at 8.05pm Donna Purday Parish Clerk
Apologies	County Councillor Dan Harrison
Declaration of interests	None

#### 45. Minutes

The Minutes of the Parish meeting held on Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup> of June 2023 had been circulated in advance of the meeting and it was proposed by Councillor Wright that they were a true and accurate record, seconded by Councillor Pettitt and all were in favour.

#### 45. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

#### 46. Public Question and Answer Session

Peter Fell advised that there is not a domestic refuse bin located at the Cemetery. It was agreed that there should be one and that the Parish Clerk will request one via the District Council.

- 1) Councillor Pettitt reported that an email had been sent in from Gary Johnson, a retired police officer and resident of Gadsby Road. There have been three accidents in 2 months on Swepstone Road due to speeding problems. There is an ongoing request with County Highways to move the speed reduction signs and reduce the speed on leaving the village from 60MPH to 50MPH. It has been requested that the Parish Clerk emails Ozzy O'Shea the portfolio holder for LCC Highways to ask if, and when the signs will be moved and when the new 50MPH signs installed.
- 2) There is also a proposal for a local resident to be co-opted onto the council and all were in favour.

3) a) Councillor Wright reported that an email had been received from Holly Johnson of the Scarecrow Festival committee. She raised concerns that two users of the Hall turned up during festival week to take their usual sessions. It was too late to cancel their sessions, both groups were accommodated but one user left equipment which was there the following day. It was confirmed that all sessions had been cancelled prior to the event. It was agreed that in future all sessions in the Hall for Scarecrow week will be cancelled.

b) Holly also raised that there were parking issues due to it also being Music Festival Week drivers parked their cars partially on the pavement and road causing pedestrians to walk on the road. It was suggested that for future events, the police should be made aware of the event and clearer signage be displayed that there is ample parking at the football club.

c) Holly also advised that the Mill Lane closure caused chaos for visitors. It was agreed that the portfolio holder Ozzy O'Shea for LCC Highways be emailed along with the police to notify them of events happening in the village.

#### **47. Community Policing**

No one in attendance

#### **48. District and County Councillors Comments**

No one in attendance at the time.

#### **49. Report from Allotment Holders Co-ordinator**

Paul Taylor not in attendance

Virge Richichi resident of the village arrived at the meeting at 7.45pm and was introduced to the meeting by Councillor Harris

#### **50. Report from Village Tree Warden**

a) Councillor Harris reported that a large tree branch on Mill Lane Located near the bridge has fell down and damaged a fence it has been requested that the Parish Clerk contact Ian Tomlinson of SDI to cut back.

b) A large tree branch on Pisca Lane has also come down through a Cable and fell into a water course. Parish Clerk requested to establish if it's the responsibility of Severn Trent or Western Power & to request its' cut back.

District Councillor Guy Rogers arrived at the meeting at 08.05pm. He was introduced and welcomed to the meeting by Councillor Harris and brought up to date with the matters that had already been raised. During the discussion a passing remark was made by Councillor Petty which Councillor Rogers took exception.

Councillor Rogers then went on to express dissatisfaction and stated that he felt most unwelcome at the meetings, he started using foul and misogynistic language to the entire room. It was noted that all of the attendees were shocked and appalled and after a space of time Councillor Harris managed to calm the situation and Councillor Rogers decided to stay.

## **51. Village Issues**

### **Play Area Inspections**

Were carried out on the following dates **28/6, 8/7, 20/07, 28/07, & 08/08.**

- 1) Councillor Pettitt confirmed the slats at Mill Lane recreation ground have been replaced.
- 2) The Rope at Belcher Close is down to bare wires and requires replacement. It was requested for the Parish Clerk to action.
- 3) Mill Lane Community Chest grant for replacement swings, it was advised by the Parish Clerk that Jan had started the application process & the Potential funding for the swings is £3250. The new cycle for applications has now opened on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023 & ends on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. Three quotes are required for the application one of which has already been obtained from Wicksteed. The Clerk is in touch with the parks team at NWLDC for information on other companies to request quotes. The combination required is for two cradles and four normal swings.

### **Waste Bins**

It was requested that the waste bins be emptied at the Mill Lane Playing field, Sparkenhoe, and the village hall the date is required when the hall bin will be emptied as access to the Village Hall is required. The Parish Clerk has been requested to raise the request.

### **Table Tennis Table**

To chase up when the Table Tennis is to be demonstrated & installed to be actioned by the Parish Clerk

**Cemetery Extension**

The Cemetery extension is to be progressed & the Clerk to be guided through the process.

**Emergency Bleed kits**

The Parish Clerk informed that a demonstration is planned for the Emergency Bleed Kit at the next meeting

**Picnic in the Park**

Councillor Wright confirmed The Picnic in the Park is planned for Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

**Joint Charter**

The Joint Charter was attended by Jan Shepherd and Councillor Harris and was signed by Jan.

**Greenshoots**

It has been requested for the Parish Clerk to action and make NWLDC aware we intend apply.

**52. Village Hall**

**Progress on Land Registry**

Application is submitted with Land Registry Parish clerk to check on progress with NWLDC.

**Parish Council Website Diary**

The Parish Clerk is to update the diary.

**Remedial Work for the Electrical Condition Survey**

To be progressed and booked in by the Parish Clerk.

**Boiler Service**

To be arranged by Councillor Harris

**53. Accounts**

**Council**

To Approve the following payments for June & July

Retiring Clerks Salary    £642.50

Retiring Clerks Expenses £ 22.99

CJ Springthorpe	£144.00
Dan Brown	£ 50.00
CJ Springthorpe	£240.00
New Clerks Salary	£ 627.09
New Clerks Expenses	£ 57.26
Water Plus	£ 516.78

Income	
EC Wilkins Memorial	£ 30.00

**Village Hall**

Expenses	
E Holmes	£ 160.38
E Holmes	£ 122.98
Eon	£ 78.56
British Gas	£ 16.03

**Income**

Ibstock Community Band	£ 30.00
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Income to clear	
Hall Hire Various	£ 806.00

Bank Statement for July received for Heather Parish Council.  
Bank Statement received for July for the Village Hall  
Vat claim received and paid in by Retiring Clerk

**53. Planning**

Decisions this month and decision awaited.

19/01441/OUT Land rear of 55 Mill Lane Heather 23/00466/FUL 5 Belcher Close Heather	Erection of two detached dwellings 1 <sup>st</sup> floor extn above ex garage demol Conservatory, build single storey rear Extension
22/01547/FUL Adj 2 Station Terrace 23/00131/FUL 8 Mill Lane Heather	One dwelling and vehicular access Single storey rear extn +loft conv +Rear Dormer + garage conv + replace porch
23/0052/FUL Whitehouse Farm Heather	Extn to breakfast room, garage/gym/ Games Room, alteration to existing area, and add driveway

The above applications were discussed, and no objections were raised by any of the attendees.

There was however some confusion over application number 23/00521FUL Councillor Rogers raised that in the application there was a change of use of land from a field to a garden and seemed to think that the applicant may be in breach of planning due to it being retrospective. This resulted in another heated discussion between Councillor Petty and Councillor Rogers. However, this was clarified that due to nothing being passed no breaches had occurred.

Councillor Harris would like to make it clear that Heather Parish Council does adhere to NWLDC's Code of Conduct and will not tolerate unacceptable behaviour.

#### **54. Chairpersons Comments**

Councillor Harris had nothing to report.

Councillor Petty was happy to see that the potholes on Mill Lane had been remedied.

Councillor John Clarke did not advise attending the Liaison Governance Committee

Councillor Pettitt advised that the blind in the kitchen needed replacing – Parish Clerk Requested to contact Steve Holmes in Ibstock

Councillor Wright felt Highways had done a poor job of Mill Lane.

Virge Richichi (resident) left the meeting at 8.30pm

It was requested that the Parish Clerk update the website with future meeting dates.

District Councillor Guy Rogers raised that it has been suggested that the old Reliant Bus site may be converted to a transport museum subject to funding being raised site. The opinion was that it would be a good idea and of benefit to the village.

District Councillor Guy Rogers raised if any further action had been taken regarding the Vehicle activated speed signs for Pisca Lane and Mill Lane. Councillor Clarke has offered to email County Councillor Dan Harrison and County Councillor Ozzy O'Shea LCC portfolio holder for Highways to request an update.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be Tuesday the 12<sup>th</sup> September at the David Taylor Memorial Hall at 7pm see website for further details.

**Future Meetings**

10<sup>th</sup> October 2023, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023, 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024, 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

Website address- [www.heatherparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.heatherparishcouncil.org.uk)

