

## HEATHER PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting of Heather Parish Council Held on Tuesday September 12th 2023 at 7pm at the David Taylor Memorial Hall

Present:	Councillor P Harris, Councillor A Wright, Councillor S Pettitt, Councillor J Clarke, Councillor J Petty, Councillor G Johnson.
In Attendance	County Councillor Dan Harrison Virge Richichi (Resident)  Donna Purday (Parish Clerk)
Apologies	District Councillor Guy Rogers
Declaration of interests	None

#### 55. Minutes

The Minutes of the Parish meeting held on Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup> August had been circulated in advance of the meeting and it was proposed by Councillor Harris to request that they were amended to give a more accurate reflection to ensure a detailed record is on file which was agreed by the council.

During the meeting between item 50 and 52 District Councillor Guy Rogers arrived. Councillor Harris brought him up to date with the item being discussed. Councillor Petty made a passing remark to which Councillor Rogers took exception.

Councillor Rogers became extremely abusive using foul language and was misogynistic to the entire room, which left the other attendees shocked and appalled.

The incident was reported to the Labour Leader, District Councillor Sean Sheahan, by both Councillor Rogers and the Council.

Councillor Sheahan has made it clear to Councillor Rogers that his conduct was not acceptable and advised him that he had overstepped the line.

Councillor Rogers has since made an apology to the Parish Council.

Councillor Harrison expressed a wish to report Councillor Rogers' conduct to NWLDC's monitoring officer, but Councillor Clarke was reluctant to do so. It was agreed that it should not be reported this time but that an accurate record should be made of the minutes of the previous meeting. The Parish Clerk is to action.

#### 56. Matters Arising

Our new Parish Councillor, Councillor Gary Johnson, was co-opted onto the committee and introduced to the meeting by Councillor Harris.

## **57. Public Question and Answer Session**

There were no Public Questions raised.

## **58. Community Policing**

No one was in attendance it was requested by Councillor Harris for the Parish Clerk to contact the police to advise them of the next meeting dates.

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

Councillor Dan Harrison raised concerns over the email that had been received from Stephen Godfrey of Leicestershire County Highways regarding the ongoing works on the Motion vehicle activated signs to be located on Pisca Lane and Mill Lane. In the email it has been raised that the locations for the signs are not suitable due to buffer zones for reducing vehicle speeds he also raised concerns that the Parish would be required to maintain them at considerable cost implications to the Council and the health and safety concerns.

1. Councillor Harrison has requested that the Parish Clerk contacts Stephen Godfrey via email requesting that County Highways install permanent electrically powered VAS units under the funding scheme and that LCC highways should also maintain and locate them in the most appropriate locations on both Pisca and Mill Lane on lamp posts where there are power sources.

Councillor Harrison left the meeting at 7.25pm

## **60. Report from Allotment Holders Co-Ordinator** Inspected on 15/08, 22/08, 30/08, 12/09

Councillor Wright reported that the allotments are in a poor condition they are not being cultivated properly by the allotment holder with plastic covering the plots, during the summer months they are not being kept clear of weeds with the rules not being kept. The paths leading to the plot from the main footpath where Ian mows are not being kept clear of weeds.

2. Councillor Wright has requested that all allotment holders are written to reminding them of the rules, and that they must be kept Also if they are not kept tidy, they will be offered to others on the waiting list. The Parish Clerk has been requested to act.
3. Councillor Wright has also requested that the Parish Clerk contacts Ian to weed kill around the stile due to it being very overgrown.

4. Councillor Pettitt raised the Memorial seat that Jenny Minkley has requested be located at the allotments. There is some concern over where it could be suitably located. Peter Fell suggested the idea of taking a small area off one of the allotment plots to locate the bench. This is to be explored further.

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

The village tree warden was not in attendance and nothing further to report.

## **62. Village Issues**

### **Play Area Inspections Inspected on 15/08, 22/08, 30/08, 12/09**

1. Councillor Wright reported that the rope at Belcher Close play area is very worn and requires replacement. Councillor Harris will visit the play area and take a photo and the length of the rope. The Parish Clerk will then obtain three quotes to arrange the repair.
2. Councillor Wright also reported that the fences and play equipment at Belcher Close require painting and this is to be explored further.

### **Table Tennis Table**

1. The Parish Clerk is to contact the supplier to arrange a site visit to discuss the most suitable location and a demonstration.

### **Cemetery Extension**

The Cemetery extension is to be progressed & the Clerk to be guided through the process. An application to erect a memorial to the late Mrs Susan Glover was received from Kevin Mitchell Memorials Ltd was circulated and approved by the Council.

### **Emergency Bleed kits**

The Parish Clerk informed that she had attempted to contact the company by phone and email and had not received a response. It was requested that the Clerk contact again to arrange for the next meeting if possible.

### **Greenshoots**

The Parish Clerk reported that she has ordered 2,000 bulbs to be delivered to Councillor Harris' and advised that a press release will be required when the planting is done.

### **Speed Reduction signs on Sweystone Road**

The Parish Clerk reported that she has sent an email to LCC Portfolio Holder Ozzy Oshea But has received no response yet. The Parish Clerk is to chase progress.

### **Scarecrow Festival**

The Parish Clerk confirmed that the Scarecrow Festival will take place w/c 4<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> August 2024

## **63. Village Hall**

### **Progress on Land Registry**

The Parish Clerk has advised that Helen Lisney in NWLDC's Legal Services has been emailed.

### **Parish Council Website Diary**

The Parish Clerk has confirmed that the diary has been updated.

### **Remedial Work for the Electrical Condition Survey, lighting, and PAT testing**

The Parish Clerk advised that it was booked in on Wednesday the 13<sup>th</sup> September for all Work to be completed.

### **Boiler Service**

To be arranged by Councillor Harris two contacts were mentioned DWL Plumbers 07921 136335 and 0116 348 2783

### **Personal Alcohol use at Village Hall**

The Parish Clerk advised that she had received an email from a customer who wishes to the hall next year for a 21<sup>st</sup> birthday party and they wish to bring along alcohol for personal use it was decided that:

1. Upon booking a hire agreement be made and a £200 refundable deposit be required.
2. The Parish Clerk is to check with NWLDC's Licensing team if this is acceptable.
3. To check with Zurich Insurance that this can be done.

## 64. Accounts

### Parish Council

To Approve the following payments for August 2023

#### Council Income August 2023

£00.00

#### Council Expenses August 2023

Clerks Salary £776 03

CJ Springthorpe £384.00 Watering of hanging Baskets.

### Village Hall

To approve the following expenses for August 2023

#### Village Hall Expenses August 2023

£157.38 E Holmes wages & Expenses

Eon £91.80

#### Village Hall Income August 2023

£1428.00 income various not reconciled yet across June, July & August

All Invoices are issued to the end of August.

To receive the Bank statements for Heather Parish Council August 2023

To receive the Bank statements for Heather Recreation Ground August 2023

Waterplus still to action over Direct debits and meter move at HRG.

Application forms for new bank accounts completed and signed by signatories.

## 65. 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

One dwelling and vehicular access

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.

23/0052/FUL Whitehouse Farm Heather was raised by Virge Richichi, and he expressed concerns that the farm track to be widened is classed as a bridle way and that gravel would be laid on there causing damage to the hooves of any horses that may use the track, and Councillor Clarke also confirmed during the discussion that he would not sanction the cutting of any trees along the track.

It was requested by Virge Richichi that the planning officer responsible Chris Unwin-Williams, be contacted by the Parish Clerk to establish for what purpose the track is to be widened.

## 66. Chairpersons Comments

- Councillor Harris raised that the Art Group have requested the purchase of an additional three rectangular tables for the Hall and the Parish Clerk has been requested to obtain three quotes.
- The Parish Clerk is to contact Ian to arrange hedge cutting for to the side of Sweystone Road at the village hall.
- Councillor Wright reported that the moles at Heather recreation ground require treating.
- Councillor Wright has also reported that the green bin provided for the Scarecrow festival has not been removed by NWLDC. The Parish Clerk has agreed to contact Mick Hughes in Street cleaning to take away.
- The side gate at HRG is to be closed to reduce the risk of travellers entering.
- Councillor Wright reported that there was dog fouling at the Cemetery. It has been suggested that we investigate a sign to encourage dog owners to clean up.

- Councillor Wright also reported that the fence on the bridge at Mill Lane requires repair and she will arrange the repair.
- Councillor Pettitt had nothing to report.
- Councillor Clarke had nothing to raise.
  
- Councillor Petty reported that one of the lights on Pisca Lane is not lit Councillor Harris will find the number of the light post to report to LCC Highways.
  
- Councillor Petty also reported he had visited the police website and on there had been four drivers stopped with no seatbelt, and a lorry driver had been arrested for possessing drugs.
  
- Councillor Johnson asked when the photos would be put up of the new King and Queen.

## **67. District and County Councillor**

No District Councillors Present

No County Councillors Present

## **68. Correspondence and Circulars**

Clerks and Councillors direct

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> October at the David Taylor Memorial Hall at 7pm see website for further details.

### **Future Meetings**

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.

Dates to follow for future meetings.

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

