

HEATHER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Heather Parish Council Held on Tuesday 13th August 2024 at 7pm at The David Taylor Memorial Hall.

Present: Councillor Phil Harris, Councillor Steve Pettitt, Councillor Alison Wright, Councillor John Petty, Councillor John Clarke

In Attendance: Donna Purday (Parish Clerk), District Councillor Guy Rogers

Members of the Public: Virge Richichi, Peter Fell, Anthony Parkes (Community Responder), Emily Simcox, Grace Forster, Sam Yassin, Luke Simcox

Apologies for Absence: There were no apologies for absence.

Declarations of Interests: There were no declarations of interests.

57. Minutes

- The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday the 9th of July 2024 had been circulated before the meeting they were confirmed as a true and accurate record by Councillor Wright and seconded by Councillor Pettitt.

58. Matters Arising

- There were no matters arising.

59. Public Question and Answer Session

- A question was asked by a member of the public on progress of the cemetery extension. It was confirmed that two quotes have been sought so far and that the second one the clerk had obtained had come in quite high it was explained that the reason it was high was due to there being lots of variables such as quantities of waste to remove and it could be more or less than due to the loads of waste and types of waste that needs to be removed. There is one quote that has come in at a lower price. The area of concern is approx. 2.50 meters what has been trialled. **The Clerk is to request a further quote, and to also contact the grave digger to rod the proposed area to confirm if we can dig to a depth of a double grave of 7'**
- Sam Yassin of the new gym club that is to be located on Newton Road introduced himself he confirmed that he has a planning application in to convert the old solicitors building into a Gym and Hairdressers. He stated that they wish to become a part of the community and wish to work with the Scarecrow festival, Parish Council and local youth and community groups.
- He confirmed that he has had various site surveys and traffic surveys done on the speed and volume of the traffic and is waiting on a verdict from Leicestershire County Highways. He confirmed he will put into place any recommended measures.
- He confirmed that the opening times of the gym will be no earlier than 6am and the closing time will be no later than 9pm.
- Non opening windows to the siding onto residents' properties and disabled access will be installed in the building to keep any potential problems to a minimum.
- A question was asked about the footpath leading to the entrance of the gym it was confirmed that it is a Council owned path and they would love to do something about it as it is narrow and stated that if they can do something they will.

60. Community Policing

- The Clerk reported that she had received three incidents of note from PCSO Fowkes for July
04/07/2024 Normanton Lane a Tractor driving aggressively.
07/07/2024 Heather dangerous driving
14/07/2024 Normanton Lane Road Traffic Accident

61. District and County Councillor Comments

- District Councillor Rogers reported that there are some Rural Business Grants available and the deadline for applications is the 1st of September. There is also the Greenshoots Grant available again. District Councillor Rogers left the meeting.

62. Parish Councillor Vacancy

- It was confirmed that the District Council have had no applications for the vacancy.
- Virge Richichi was suggested by Councillor Clarke to be co-opted
- After much discussion it was decided that because we had a Quorum, we were able to co-opt Virge Richichi on to the council.
- It was proposed by Councillor Clarke that Virge Richichi be co-opted as a Councillor all were in favour. **The Clerk is to request the paperwork from NWLDC to be signed at the next meeting.**

63. Village Issues

- **Allotment Inspection Dates – 13th August.**
- The Clerk confirmed that all allotments are now taken except a quarter plot and that the allotments are looking much better now they have been strimmed, and are starting to be worked. There is on small quarter plot that we are unsure about.
- **Play Area Inspection Dates – 16th, 23rd & 30th July 8th & 12th August.**

64. Defibrillators

- The village defibrillators were discussed, and it was raised by Councillor Clarke that the one on Main Street is out of use at the minute awaiting new pads and a battery. The Clerk confirmed she had spoken to Defib4life and they should be delivered when they are next in stock
- It was confirmed that the Circuit had been checked and that the defibrillator at the village hall is registered but it appears the one on Main Street is not, Anthony Parkes suggested that the Circuit be contacted via email to update the details and to register the Main Street equipment due to The Circuit being difficult to update- the Clerk confirmed a request has already been submitted.

- It was also confirmed by Anthony that that the code to access the cabinets is **C159X**.
- It was also suggested by Anthony that we put luggage tags on the Defibrillator Packs so if the Ambulance Crews take them with them in an emergency they can be returned to the council.
- Anthony Parkes also raised concerns that the Main Street Defibrillator may be coming to the end of its' useful life and that we should look to replace soon.
- Councillor Clarke raised that a lot of litter had been created because of the Heather Music festival outside the Queens Head and that it should be the responsibility of the organiser to clean up after the event.

65. VAS Signs

- The clerk confirmed that the funding is now in the bank account for the VAS signs and that the signs are on order and there is an approximate lead time of 5 weeks left. We have also been contacted by the contractor who was suggesting that we may not need the traffic light systems on Pisca and Mill Lane it was confirmed by The Chair that the contractor should go with guidance from Leicestershire County Highways.

66. Cemetery.

- Please refer to notes in minute number 59 point 1 re cemetery extension.
- Request of Transfer of Title deed for Cemetery Plot. The Clerk explained that she has been approached by a Parishioner whose mother is interred in Heather Cemetery, he has been asking his father who is the deed owner if a memorial could be put up for his mother. This cannot be done without his father's permission. The Clerk has done some research, the deeds would

need to be transferred to his son's name to enable this to happen. A document has been produced and it was agreed we should check this can be done via legal services due to it being a legal document.

67. Village Hall Management Request for Additional Storage

- It was queried by Councillor Clarke why the management committee require extra storage at the hall and concerns were raised about the aesthetics it was confirmed by Councillor Pettitt that due to the rise in the number of classes on offer and the variety of clubs and classes that are using the hall that the storage is required. It was also explained that the unit would have its' own consumer unit and would be fully insulated and have lighting and a window. After much discussion it was decided that the Parish Council should give permission for the installation be allowed to go ahead. The forms were signed to give permission for the clubs to apply for the necessary grants. It was confirmed extra insurance would be required which the Village Hall confirmed they would pay the additional costs.

68. Logo

- It was suggested that the Clerk bring along some ideas for logos and some strap line ideas for further consideration.

69. Asset Register

- The Asset Register was discussed, and each item was identified, and the location confirmed there was some confusion over the number of benches that The Parish Council has they will be identified and confirmed by The Chair.

70. Finance

- **Expenses for July 2024**

- £ 761.01 Parish Salary
 - £ 41.99 Clerks Expenses
 - £ 403.20 CJ Springthorpe

The Bank Reconciliation and payments and Receipts list were approved for the month of June

71. Planning Applications

Decisions this month and Decisions awaited.

- **23/01510/OUT - Land off Swebstone Road Heather LE67 2R**
Erection of No1 Self Build Dwelling (outline all matters reserved).
- **23/01512/OUT - 111 Swebstone Road Heather LE67 2RF**
2 Self Build Dwellings (Outline all matters reserved)
- **24/00082/OUT - Land adj to 26 Pisca Lane Heather LE67 2QF**
Erection of one self-build dwelling (Outline all matters reserved).
- **24/00261/ADC - 20 Newton Road Heather**
Display of one internally illuminated sign and one externally illuminated sign.
- **24/00260 FUL – 20 Newton Road Heather**
Change of use from solicitors and sub-division into two separate businesses to create a fitness gym and to increase roof height of building to provide first floor area for Gym and works to provide insulation.
- **24/00538/FUL – Hollybush Lodge 115 Swebstone Road Heather**
Roof Alterations, replacement extension and associated landscaping works to The Lodge at Heather Hal
- **24/00539/LBC – Hollybush Lodge 115 Swebstone Road Heather.**
Roof Alterations and Replacement extension (listed Building consent).

There were no issues raised

72. Chairpersons Comments

- The Chair had nothing to add
- Councillor Petty raised that the grass verges need cutting back and the roads need sweeping.
- Councillor Clarke queried the wages that had been earned again this month. The Chair and Councillor Wright will hold a review regarding these matters.

To confirm the next meeting will be Tuesday the 10th of September 2024 at the David Taylor Memorial Hall at 7pm see Website for details.

73. Future Meetings

8th October 12th November, * 10th December 2024. All meetings to be held David Taylor Memorial Hall at 7pm.

Website Address- www.heatherparishcouncil.org.uk

