

HEATHER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of Heather Parish Council Held on Tuesday 14th May 2024 at 7.30pm at The David Taylor Memorial Hall.

Present: Councillor Phil Harris (Chair), Councillor Steve Pettitt (Vice Chair),
Councillor Garry Johnson, Councillor Alison Wright, Councillor John Petty

In Attendance: Donna Purday (Parish Clerk)
County Councillor Dan Harrison, District Councillor Guy Rogers
District Councillor Simon Lambeth

Members of the Public: Virge Richichi, James Ludlam.

Apologies for Absence: Councillor John Clark

16. Declarations of Interest

- There were no declarations of interest.

17. To Elect a New Chairperson

- Councillor Harris proposed that Councillor Pettitt be the next Chairperson which he declined.
- Councillor Pettitt proposed that Councillor Harris remain as Chair for a further year which he accepted, Councillor Wright seconded, and all were in favour.
- Councillor Wright proposed that Councillor Pettitt remain as Vice Chair which he accepted this was seconded by Councillor Harris all were in favour.

18. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday the 9th April had been circulated before the meeting and it was proposed by Councillor Wright that they were a true and accurate record and seconded by Councillor Pettitt.

19. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

20. Public Question and Answer Session

There were no Public Questions asked.

21. Community Policing

The Clerk confirmed she had received feedback from PCSO Fowkes that on the 1st of May that they had had no problems with the circus event at Cattows Farm.

22. District and County Councillor Comments

- Councillor Guy Rogers reported that most of the items on his list had already previously been covered in the Annual Parish meeting held before hand.
- He then went on to raise the planning application for QPI and queried if there is any provision for car parking. Councillor Harris confirmed there is provision within the application for parking but that it will be the last element addressed. It was suggested that due to safety concerns that a request for the parking be submitted as soon as possible to alleviate the risk of an accident.
- The Heather Music Festival was also raised, due to complaints that were received last year Councillor Rogers reported that he believes the landlord is due to change at the Queens Head. The present Landlord is in talks with NWLDC and that there is also a committee set up to manage the event.
- He also reported that there is a new initiative at NWLDC to encourage communities to be clean and green called "Love your Neighbourhood" there is £150.00 available to apply for, the deadline to apply is the 9th June, it is to encourage neighbourhoods to plant shared spaces, litter pick instal hanging baskets etc.
- Councillor Rogers also advised that NWLDC is celebrating their 50th anniversary this year. There is a legacy award scheme initiative to recognise a person or group within their community who has given their time and commitment. He went on to say that he welcomed any suggestions that the council may have who could be nominated, and stated that he had someone in mind.

- Councillor Rogers asked for progress on the VAS signs. The Chair confirmed that we have everything in hand and progress is being made.
- Councillor Lambeth District Councillor for Ibstock raised that they are setting up a neighbourhood watch campaign in Ibstock and asked if the Parish Council would like to link in with them. Councillor Harris confirmed that we would be happy to do so, Councillor Lambeth will forward on the information to the Clerk.
- Councillor Harrison advised that he has concerns about the speed of traffic on Swebstone Road, and that he has reported the problem to Leicestershire County Highways to consider the speed limits.
- He also reported that 400,000 trees have been planted out of a total of 750,000 in Leicestershire.

23. Village Issues

- **Allotment Inspection Dates – 9th April.**
- **Play Area Inspection Dates – 9th, 16th, 23rd, & 30th April.**

Councillor Johnson reported that he has been unable to remove the rope at Belcher Close due to illness.

- **VAS Signs**

The Clerk confirmed that she has the mandate for the funding. We have one company that can install both the posts and the signage the rest of the quotes can only supply and instal the signs which could require us to request that Highways instal the posts. It was requested that the Clerk send the quote provided by Fletchelec to Angie Dunn to ask if LCC Highways would kindly provide the extra funding. The original funding was for £6,000 per sign the quote from Fletchelec is over £7500 per installation. If not, then a quote would be required from Leicestershire County Highways for the post installation.

- **Community Chest Grant**

The Chair confirmed that Sutcliffes will be commencing the installation of the new swings at Mill Lane week commencing the 3rd June he is also sourcing a new combi lock for the gates at Mill Lane due to the current one being broken.

- Councillor Wright suggested that when the new swings are installed, we could put cable ties on them to prevent pigeons from perching and fouling on the swing seats the problem is raised on the ROSPA playground inspections on a regular basis.
- The email request from the landlord of the Queen Head to park cars at the village hall was considered by the Councillors, after much discussion it was decided to refuse due to the event overlapping with the Scarecrow Festival and the logistics of locking the gate afterwards. The Clerk is to action.

24. Cemetery

- Councillor Pettitt presented a quote for the Cemetery Extension for £3,900 from Mssrs T Fox. It has been requested that the Clerk obtain a further 2 quotes to compare for approval.
- The headstone for Burial Plot No 114 for the late Grenville Sydney Bosworth was approved.
- The Clerk stated that she has been contacted by a lady, whose mother moved out of the village in the 1970's and is now in palliative care she has expressed a wish to be buried at Heather Cemetery with other family members.

The Clerk confirmed that upon research we are unable to grant the request due to the length of time she has been out of the area. The Clerk confirmed she will contact the lady to confirm this.

25. Village Hall

- **Kitchen Blind**

The Clerk confirmed she has taken delivery of the kitchen blind, Councillor Johnson has kindly offered to instal.

- **Defibrillator Training**

The Clerk has received an email from East Midlands Ambulance Service it was decided that the Clerk should arrange the training for the 1st July at 7pm at the Village Hall

- **Hall Security**

The Clerk is still to source the Key safe.

- **Manhole**

Requires measuring.

- **Loose Slabs**

Councillor Harris confirmed that he has counted the slabs and thinks there are about 16 to replace. Councillor Harris will speak to Ian of SDI Landscaping to discuss further.

- **Water Heater**

There are two preferred options on the water filter either the BIBO or the 3300X which is preferred by Heather Craft Club it was decided to take it to the Village Hall Management meeting to be held on the 3rd June for a decision to be made.

26. Finance – Heather Parish Council

- The Chair approved the following statements for the Parish Council to be displayed on the Parish website:

Heather Parish Council Bank Reconciliation 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024

Summary of Receipts and Payments 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024

Monthly breakdown of Receipts and Payments 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024

Annual return Explanation of Variances 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024

Detailed Budget Summary for 01/04/2024 to 31/03/2025

Receipts and payments forecast for 01/04/2024 to 31/05/2025

Bank Reconciliation and receipts and payments list to 1st April 2024 to 1st May 2024

- **Expenses for April**

£1001.30 Clerks Salary

£ 38.54 Clerks Expenses

£1735.14 Zurich Insurance

£ 145.00 Leicestershire Mole Control

£ 324.00 Defibrillator 4 Life

£ 90.00 G Fox Cemetery Exploration work

- **Village Hall Finance**

The Chair approved the following statements for the Village Hall:

Heather Recreation Ground Bank Reconciliation 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024

Heather Recreation Ground Payments and Receipts list 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024

Heather Recreation Ground Summary of Receipts and Payments 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024

- **Village Hall Expenses for April**

£ 145.00 Leicestershire Mole Control

£ 229.17 AJ Bartlett

- **Village Hall Income for May**

£1030.00 Hall Income

27. Audit

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return form was discussed at length. It was queried whether the check list and signing off of the AGAR form should be completed before the audit. It was confirmed that in previous years the audit was completed before the AGAR was approved. The Clerk is to check on the correct way forward and to feedback to the Councillors.

28. Planning Applications

Decisions this month and Decisions awaited.

23/01510/OUT - Land off Swebstone Road Heather LE67 2RF

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)

23/01635/OUT - Land off Pisca Lane Heather LE67 2QF

1 Self Build dwelling (Outline all matters reserved)

23/01634/OUT - Land off Pisca Lane Heather LE67 2QF

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).

22/00377/VCU- 2 Station Terrace Heather

Amendments to conditions 2, 11, & 12 of 22/01547/FUL

24/00418/FUL - Cattows Farm, Normanton Lane Heather

Retention of surfacing work Existing Track (Retrospective Application)

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 Hall

24/00539/LBC – Hollybush Lodge 115 Swebstone Road Heather.

Roof Alterations and Replacement extension (listed Building consent).

24/00550/VCUM – Former Station site, Mill Lane Heather

Amendment to condition 25 of Planning permission **19/00824/FULM** which was for redevelopment of existing site (including demolition) to provide 14 residential dwellings with associated off-Street parking and landscaping to enable the implementation of the access road under archaeological supervision before such time as the archaeological trial trenching is undertaken.

- Planning application number 24/00260/FUL was discussed and due to the raising of the roof height to accommodate an extra floor it was confirmed that it would become a pitched roof and raised by 105m and would have Velux windows and a lantern. It was also confirmed that there will be parking for 40 cars. There were no objections to the appearance of the roof.
- Planning Application number 25/00550/VCUM was raised this is an amendment to an application for 14 properties at Mill Lane.

29. Chairpersons Comments

- Councillor Johnson had nothing to add.
- Councillor Wright raised the gap in the hedge at the Village Hall to be discussed at the next meeting.
- Councillor Wright did mention that Councillor Clarke had put in a request to discuss Cattows Bridal Way this was discussed during the Annual Parish Meeting.
- The chair raised the tree across the millings that is overhanging the bridal way it has been established that it is the responsibility of the landowner to cut back.
- The potential siting of the bench at the allotments was discussed it was suggested that it could be sited near the entrance to the allotments.

- Councillor Wright feels that the Cemetery should be extended as soon as possible due to limited space available, and it will be difficult to find a location to place the benches.

30. Next meeting

To confirm the next meeting will be Tuesday the 11th June at the David Taylor Memorial Hall at 7pm see Website for details.

31. Future Meetings

9th July 13th August, 10th September, 8th October, 12th November, * 10th December 2024. All meetings to be held David Taylor Memorial Hall at 7pm.

Website Address- www.heatherparishcouncil.org.uk

