**Fishtoft Parish Council**

**Minutes of Fishtoft Parish Council meeting held Thursday 10th April 2025 at**

**Rochford Tower Hall, Fishtoft commencing at 7pm**

PRESENT: Councillor Helen Crawford presiding as Chairperson

Councillors Elizabeth Armstrong, Richard Lenton, Geoff Day, Judy Skinner and Lucy Webb

Councillor Paul Skinner representing as Parish and Lincolnshire County Councillor

Boston Borough Councillors S Sharpe (Ward member)

Fishtoft Parish Council Clerk – Sarah Knowles

**PUBLIC FORUM**

There were two members of the public in attendance of which the following questions/short statements were made to the Parish Council.

* It is believed that HGVs are using the village as an alternative route to get to Metsa/George Kimes premises and by the way they are travelling not adhering to the speed limit. In addition to this HGVs are also coming into the village in the other direction as they have been following Satnav directions which has caused them to miss the entrance to Metsa/George Kimes and then causing havoc when trying to reverse in the village to go back to the correct destination.
* Thanked the Parish Council for doing the street lights in the parish.
* Concerned about the speed limit along Wainfleet Road. Noticed the A16 by Pilgrim Hospital has had its speed limit reduced and cannot see why this isn’t being done within this area. The resident also believes that there should be a pedestrian crossing near to Burton House/Premier Inn as well as “Keep Left” signs on the bollards as some vehicles seem to go the wrong side of these.

LCC Cllr P Skinner relayed that due to the upcoming County Elections he is now in purdah so no information can be relayed but informed that previous projects planned are either in hand or discussion.

BBC Cllr Sharpe gave her report (**See Appendix C**).

BBC Cllr Scoot had forwarded his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting therefore, sent his report (**see Appendix C**).

BBC Cllr Staples had forwarded her apologies via the Chairperson.

**The meeting opened at 7.24pm**

**1. Chairperson’s remarks**

Cllr Crawford welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Apologies for absence** - *To receive and accept apologies where valid reasons for absence have been given to the Clerk prior to the meeting*

All Parish Councillors were in attendance so no apologies were required to be given.

**Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**3. Declarations of interest** – *(if any) To receive declarations of interest under the Localism Act 2011 – being any pecuniary interest in agenda items not previously recorded on Members’ Register of Interests*

 No Declarations of Interest were received.

**4. Notes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th March 2025** - *To resolve as a correct record and to authorise the Chairman to sign the official minutes*

There was an issue with the notes from this meeting therefore these were not approved.

**5. Finance**

**a) Payment of accounts to be approved**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Payee** | **Reason for Payment** | **Amount** | **Payment method** |
| Guardian Storage Ltd | PC Document Storage (Apr 2025) | £60.00 | Online payment |
| Sibsey Parish Council | Reimbursement of Printer Ink | £8.64 | Online payment |
| HMRC | PAYE Costs | £255.20 | Online payment |
| TA Blackamore Ltd | Ground Maintenance (Mar 2025) | £1306.17 | Online payment |
| Fishtoft Playing Fields & Pavillion Trust | Approved Grant | £1100.00 | Online payment |
| Fishtoft Playing Fields & Pavillion Trust | Donation towards Drainage Fee | £212.50 | Online payment |
| Rochford Tower Hall Committee | 2024/2025 Room Hire | £120.00 | Chq. 001552 |
| S Knowles | Staff Costs  | £441.89 | Online payment |

Following proposal by Cllr P Skinner, seconded by Cllr Crawford and with no objections it was resolved that these payments should be made.

**b) Additional payments to be approved after setting of the agenda**

There were no additional payments to be approved.

**c) Payments & receipts: since 10th March 2025: Appendix A**

Since the 10th March 2025 one payment had been received from Lincoln University in relation to a grant towards the Buoy.

**d) Balance of Community Account as of 31st March 2025**

All members had received a copy of the bank statement via email prior to the meeting of which showed that balance of the bank account as of 31st March 2025 was £1,233.69.

**e) Balance of Savings Account as of 31st March 2025**

All members had received a copy of the bank statement via email prior to the meeting of which showed that balance of the bank account as of 31st March 2025 was £25,565.48.

**f) Balance of 30-Day Notice Savings Account as at 31st March 2025**

All members had received a copy of the bank statement via email prior to the meeting of which showed that balance of the bank account as of 31st March 2025 was £35,256.76.

**Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**6. Planning matters** - Town and Country Planning Act 1990: *To consider and make observations on all planning applications received and to note planning approvals, refusals, enforcement complaints and appeal decisions advised by the Borough Council. To include applications received after this agenda has been posted and the day of the meeting*

**a) B/25/0087 – Scoping opinion under Regulations 10 and 11 of the Town and County Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations with respect to the Ossian Offshore Windfarm**

As this was only related to Scoping, there were no objections to this application.

**b) B/25/0122 - Removal of existing conservatory and replace with single storey rear extension and alterations including replacement roof and installation of rooflights at 93, Kingsway, Fishtoft, Boston**

There were no objections to this planning application.

 Two additional planning applications have been received since the posting of the agenda

1. **B/25/0140 - Application for a variation of Condition 3 (use of Manege) of approval B/16/0088 (Change of use from agricultural land to equestrian use including the construction of timber framed stables, hay store, manege, access and boundary treatment) to allow for use by the new proprietor and for commercial use to run an equestrian complex as a small livery stables and for buying and selling of ponies at Field View Stables, Cut End Road, Fishtoft, Boston, PE21 0SN**

There were no objections to this planning application.

1. **B/25/0142 - Listed Building Consent for internal and external alterations including the removal of the modern chimney at Skirbeck House Rawsons Lane, Fishtoft**

There were no objections to this planning application.

**c) Gaysfield Road Development**

This planning application is to be discussed at the BBC Planning Committee hearing on Tuesday 6th May 2025. Of which a member from the Parish Council can address the committee with their concerns. Cllr Crawford agreed to be the representative of which the following issues would be included in her statement:

* Risk of flooding to neighbouring residents

Cllr P Skinner relayed that this is already being looked into.

* To have no housing that backs onto properties of Gaysfield Lane so that they are not overlooked.
* Impact of the additional traffic especially with the Primary School within this location and that there has been a change of the movements from Anglian Water since the planning application was put in for consideration.

**d) B/25/0061 – Application under s73 to vary Condition 3 (Opening Hours) of planning permission B/22/0465 (Installation of modular steel building to be used as community classroom, craft and cooking workshops and small café at Willoughby Road Allotments, Boston, PE21 9HN**

There were no objections to this planning application.

**Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**d) Planning Reports and Information received including Planning Application decisions**

The following planning applications have been granted:

Planning Application B/25/0044 – Erection of two storey rear extension at Otterburn, Wainfleet Road, Boston has been granted.

**7. Highway -** *To consider and make observations associated with Highways matters that are not associated with Appendix B*

 **a) A16 to Sibsey**

Resurfacing work is currently being done.

**b) Scalp Road**

Cllr Crawford has draft a letter to Boston Borough Council which was approved to be forwarded to the relevant authority members.

**c) Road Closure – Richardsons Bridge**

The road for Richardsons is closed during the day for Bridge Maintenance with diversions in place during this time.

**8. Members reports and business**

**a) Clearing and tidying the wooded area near the Hobhole pumping station** - *Update*

Cllr Day relayed that following correspondence that the work has started and it looks like they are doing a good job.

**b) Fishtoft 400 Community Group**- *Any updates*

Cllr Armstrong relayed that she would like to thank BBC Scoot for the £100 donation to the Community Group this was much appreciated. Additionally she reported that they will be celebrating VE Day on the 6th May 2025.

Cllr Crawford informed that she had relayed information and advice to the group recently due to that a member had recently been involved in a Scam.

**c) Outer Dowsing Liaison Community Group – update from Councillor P Skinner**

Cllr P Skinner relayed following the recent Community Group meeting they are waiting for the next stage.

**d) Parish Council Website**

It was deemed the website was ok.

**e)** **Parish Council Liaison Meeting**

The meeting originally scheduled for the 12th June 2025 has been reschedule for the 26th June 2025.

1. **Emergency Plan**

This matter was deferred to another meeting.

**g)** **Fishtoft Primary School – Councillor Lucy Webb**

Cllr Webb relayed that the Fishtoft Primary School Committee meeting was useful of which she had informed them the following that she had conveyed at the last Parish Council meeting

**Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

* Have a school location sign erected – Asked Cllr P Skinner if he could aid with this
* Would like to work with the Community i.e. Litter Picking.

A date is being arranged for a litter picking and asked about obtaining smaller Litter Bags

* Speeding – Mini Police
* Summer Fete

Cllr Webb also relayed that BBC Cllr Staples had invited members from Fishtoft Primary to look around Boston Borough Council.

Cllr P Skinner asked what is the capacity of the school of which Cllr Webb replied 70 of which they are currently at the full amount.

**h) Litter Picking**

Cllr Day asked if there any signs for “Litter Picking in Progress”. Clerk said that she will investigate.

**9. Correspondence received, Events & Reports -** *To discuss any correspondence received including after setting of agenda*

 The following correspondence had been received and discussed:

* Neighbourhood Policing Quarterly Update
* Abandoned Maple Road Car

As reported earlier in the meeting by BBC Cllr Sharpe the reported car that was abandoned had now been removed, of which the clerk thanked Cllr Sharpe for her help

* Boston Water Recycling Centre Response

New Weekend and bank Holiday times has been informed by Anglian Water but these were still out of the perimeter suggested by the Parish Council but they said that these times have now been decided but are dedicated to minimising any disruption that may be caused by the tankers and if they do not follow any procedures that they encourage that they are informed of this as soon as possible

* Letter from Boston Borough Council 80th Anniversaries of Victory In Europe and Victory over Japan

This was reporting that they had bunting and a flag for each Parish for free if they wish to have these. The clerk was asked to reply to obtain these.

**10. Fix My Street, Highways and Boston Borough Council** - To receive any updates on reported issues Appendix B

Cllr P Skinner relayed that any new issues that seemed to being reported via Fix My Street were being dealt with quite quickly.

 Cllr Crawford relayed that she had reported a hole near to the Playing Fields to be told that this is not Highways respobsibility but that of BT Openreach.

**11. Dates for future confirmed meetings**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Meeting date** | **Commencing** | **Location** |
| Monday 12th May 2025 | 6:00pmAnnual Parish and Annual Parish Council meeting | **Pavilion, Fishtoft Playing Fields** |
| Thursday 12th June 2025 | 7.00pm | **Rochford Tower Hall** |

**The meeting closed at 8.10pm**

*At the close of the meeting, it was resolved to go into close session for the following agenda items to be discussed*

**12. Tender for 2025/26 Fishtoft Ground Maintenance Contract**

One tender had been received from the former contractor who had put in is bid which was a 5% increase of that from the previous year. Following proposal by Cllr Crawford, seconded by Cllr J Skinner and with no objections it was resolved to accept this tender

**13. To address personal matters associated with the Parish Council**

Various personal matters had been addressed to the Chairperson of which were discussed, deliberated and resolved.

**Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Appendix A**

**Item 5c on agenda**

**FISHTOFT PAYMENTS AND RECEIPTS FOR PERIOD**

**MARCH 2025**

**Payments approved at 10th March 2025 meeting**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Payee** | **Service** | **Amount** |
| Guardian Storage Ltd | Storage of PC Documents (Feb 2025) | 60.00 |
| Guardian Storage Ltd | Storage of PC Documents (March 2025) | 60.00 |
| Sibsey Parish Council | Reimbursement of Printer Ink | 16.40 |
| HMRC | PAYE Costs | 293.28 |
| AJ Ladds | Base around Bouy | 3689.03 |
| TA Blackamore Ltd | Ground Mainteance (Jan 2025) | 1306.17 |
| TA Blackamore Ltd | Ground Mainteance (Feb 2025) | 1306.17 |
| S Knowles | Staff Costs | 464.92 |
|  | **TOTAL** | **7195.97** |

**Payments received since 10th March 2025 meeting**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Payer** | **Service** | **Amount** |
| Univercity of Lincoln | Grant towards Buoy | 500.00 |
|  | **TOTAL** | **500.00** |

**Appendix B**

**Item 10 on agenda FixMyStreet, LCC & BBC**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No.** | **AREA** | **ISSUE** | **DATE** | **HOW** | **REF** | **OUTCOME** |
| 1 | Tower/Priory/Eastwood | Archers Report |  |  |  | Waiting outcome |
| 2 | Sibsey Road | 2 x Damaged pavement, trip hazard |  | FMS | 404599 | Informed work be done when funds available |
| 3 | Church Green Road | Footpath uneven and damaged |  | FMS | 4153606 | Proposal for works South Division – request update from LCC |
| 4 | Eastwood Road Footpath | Footpath uneven and damaged |  | FMS | 4164960 | As above |
| 5 | Freiston Road Footpath | Footpath uneven and damaged |  | FMS | 4164961 | As above |
| 6 | Church Green Road | Extension of path – Email  | 15/12/2021 | LCC | 4169782 | Chase LCC for update |
| 7 | Scalp Road | Potholes  | Sep-21 | LCC |  | 13/12/21 P.S. Unadopted – sponsors being looked for – Environment agency has patched |

**Appendix C**

**BBC Cllr Sharpe Report**

I am pleased to report that despite a 12% increase nationally in Fly-Tipping figures, Boston Borough Council are pleased to report a 7% decrease, with March seeing an 11% decrease compared with last year. Our portfolio holder for the Environment, Cllr Butler, has worked diligently with officers around this issue, as an administration it was something we promised to tackle, and we are pleased this is showing the correct results.

Cllr Baxter has been working hard with his team on many issues, one of which is working with owners to not only maintain their properties to a higher standard but also carry our urgent repairs to them. This has seen fines issued to the owners of the old Post Office of 65a-67 Wide Bargate this week.

The demolition of Crown House and B&M at the Rosegarth site has taken place, new hoardings will be erected within the coming days around the site, with the diversions for pedestrians well signposted. If you wish to keep up to date with developments, we have a website [www.rosegarthboston.co.uk](http://www.rosegarthboston.co.uk) Showing all information and up-to-date plans.

The enabling works have started at GMLC, this will include work on a new entry and reception area, moving alarms, removing the biomass boiler and more. Once these are underway, a timeline of exact dates for different parts of the project will be communicated.

The 900th anniversary of the Mayfair exhibition is now on at Boston Guildhall Museum, we hosted a talk by renowned historian Neil Wright on 29th March and on Saturday 26thApril at 1:30pm there will be another talk from Neil Watson on Boston’s Fairground Heritage 1850-1920.

I am delighted to say that the 10 new display showcases have been delivered and constructed, they look absolutely amazing and will enable the museum to showcase so much more of not only our collection, but that of other museums too. The next exhibition will be celebrating Herbert Ingram, an astounding gentleman who not only brought so much to the town but also changed the way news was communicated through his founding of the London Illustrated News.

We will be helping the 3rd Boston Scouts with a litter-picking evening on 29th April if anyone wishes to join us starting at 7pm.

I am pleased to see the large potholes on Fishtoft Road have been filled, but still wait to hear about the issue with the road edge erosion which I reported on 1st March. The caravan on Church Green Road has been moved and I was very pleased with the quick response from Boston Police removing the car from Maple Road after being made aware of the issue by being copied into an email by one of the parish council members.

Upcoming events:-

Tomorrow – Children’s Easter activities in the Market Place

3rd May – 11th May – Boston Mayfair

30th May – Children’s Theatre Workshop, Market Place

31st May – Boston Hanse Day, Herbert Ingram Statue, Market Place

**BBC Cllr Scoot Report**

I have been waiting to send my report through as I was hoping for an update on Scalp Road, however that has not been forthcoming.

As stated in my last report the Borough had received contact from the County with regards to Scalp Road. I can now confirm a meeting on site took place between a representative of County and a member of the Borough’s team. They discussed what could be done with regards resurfacing and bringing the full road leading to the Pilgrim Father’s Memorial up to County standard. The County representative was going to contact the Borough following that meeting with costings. The Borough was hoping that this would be done prior to the financial years end. Despite trying to contact the County representative a reply as not ben received. The Borough will continue to try, and once I have been notified of the outcome I will communicate it to the Parish.

I have dropped off the requested rubbish collecting bags with Helen last week.

Following the announcement of the first Boston Pride festival in July I was contacted by a ward member with some queries which I have addressed.

The planning committee meeting scheduled for the 30th of April has been cancelled and re-arranged for 6th of May.