**Minutes of a meeting of the Quidenham Parish Council on the**

**10th of June 2019 in the Garnier Hall, Eccles.**

Those present: Peter Lotarius, Chairman (PL); David Wright (DW); Rob Breakwell (RB);

David Hunt (DH); Simon Lee (SL); David Cumming (DC); Heather Doig (HD);

Kate Lloyd (KL) Clerk to the Council.

Also present was Sarah Suggitt, newly elected Councillor to the Breckland District Council.

**1. Apologies for absence.** An apology had been received from David Hunt.

**2. Declarations of Interest**. There were no changes to the Declarations of Interest. The Clerk

reported that she had sent the Disposable Pecuniary Interests forms completed by the Councillors following their election on May 2nd to the Returning Officer.

The Chairman congratulated Mrs. Suggitt on her election and welcomed her to the meeting.

He then led a discussion during which the members of the Council were able to question Mrs. Suggitt about her perception of her role as District Councillor and discuss with her the particular concerns the Council has with regard to its relationship with local industries and the development of Attleborough with its impact on surrounding villages. Ideas were exchanged about how a liaison group might be set up with nearby parishes to tackle these issues.

**3. Minutes of the last meeting and of the Annual Meeting of the Council**. These were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**4. Signing of the Acceptance of Office** by the Councillors. These were duly signed and were witnessed and signed by the Clerk. These will now be kept on file.

**5. Matters arising from the Minutes**. Some matters will be addressed in the Chairman's Report.

 **First Aid Training.** The Clerk has been speaking to Mrs. Midgeley and will come back to the Council with a list of dates. It's hoped to arrange a training session in the Autumn and in the meantime a list of people wishing to take part will be drawn up.

 **Quidenham Village Society - new oven.** The Society have now bought and had installed a new oven at a cost of £199 plus £30 for installation. A cheque for that amount has been passed to the Society.

 **The bench outside the Reading Room in Quidenham.** DC has offered to remove and renovate the bench. The Council and Quidenham Village Society have accepted his offer with thanks.

 **Councillor Training.** The Clerk is liaising with the Training Officer at the Norfolk Association of Local Councils. It's hoped to put on a short session in the Autumn.

**6. Presentation of the audited accounts for 2018/19 by the Clerk.**

As the Responsible Financial Officer KL explained to the Council the difficulties she has had with our present auditors. After several attempts to contact them she was forced to seek another auditor. Fortunately, Cris de Boos, an accountant well known to the Council, was able to step into the breach. He signed off the 2018/2019 accounts on the 3rd of June

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2019 and the Clerk will post the Notice of Public Rights on the 29th of June until the 8th of August on the Council's noticeboards and the website. The acceptance of the audited accounts for 2018/2019 was proposed by SL and seconded by PL.

**7. Finances**

 **7. 1. Cheques signed since the last meeting**. Pete's Gardening Services Equipment for the litter pick. £105.95; Pete's Gardening services Maintenance of Garnier Hall grounds £50.00; HMRC Month 2 £47.20; Office Admin £188.23; A.W.Myhill & Son Ltd £223;

C de Boos audit of 2018/2019 Accounts £45.00; K. Lloyd reimbursement of payment of BHIB Insurance 2019/20. £468.58.

 **7.2.** There were no cheques awaiting signature**.**

**8. Chairman's Report.** 1) PL reported that we now have a new date for the reconstruction of the humpbacked railway bridge. In his end of year report Stephen Askew, our County Councillor, states that Network Rail have brought forward the starting date to 2020/21. A concern is that we don't yet know what form the new bridge will take and what its appearance will be. 2) Although Norse have been carrying out the work of cutting the grass in the Parish we have not yet received a Contract and cost. He will chase them up.

3) The renovation of the lobby and half-moon window in the Garnier Hall. A final price for the new window is £1460. He has asked SL and Richard Marsh, the contractor undertaking the work, to liaise with regard to the reflooring of the lobby and the asbestos issue.

**9. Clerk's Report and Planning Matters.** KL had little to report other than matters contained under Matters Arising. She will be posting the AGAR documents online and on the notice boards as required by the external auditors PFK Littlejohn. Two Highways problems have been reported. No planning applications had been received this month.

**10. Correspondence.** Requests had been received from the Garnier Hall and the Quidenham Village Society for financial help with a Fun Day and The Iceni Games respectively, the latter a community event to be held on Quidenham green. The Council agreed to a sum of £200 to be paid to each group out of the S137 funds. An e-mail from the Highway Rangers had been passed on to councillors. This group undertakes small highway maintenance jobs under the auspices of Norfolk Highways.

**11. Meeting open to the public.** There were no members of the public present.

**12. Any other business.**  DW reported that since the installation of the white gates in Quidenham village there has been a 13% reduction in speeding through the village. He was asked to seek a price for another to match the one which has not yet been installed. SL reported that since the installation of the broadband cabinet on Quidenham green he had been having numerous problems with the connection.

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on the 8th July 2019 in the Garnier Hall at 7.30 p.m.

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