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

**held on the 14th February 2022 the Garnier Hall, Eccles.**

Before the meeting opened the Chairman David Wright welcomed Ian Lonsdale a Deputy of the Lord Lieutenant, Lady Dannett. Mr. Lonsdale presented a plaque to the Parish to commemorate and thank all those who had worked so hard across the Parish during the pandemic.

Themeeting opened at 7.45 p.m.

Those present: David Wright (DW) Chairman; Peter Lotarius (PL); David Hunt (DH); Simon Lee (SL); Heather Doig (HD); Beverley Lee (BL); Kate Lloyd (KL) Clerk. 3 members of the public were present.

The Chairman asked that the item 8 be discussed after the meeting as two candidates seeking co-option were present as observers.

**1.** **Apologies for absence**. Apologies were received from Sarah Suggitt, District Councillor and Steve Askew, County Councillor.

**2.** **Declarations of Interest**. There were no declarations of interest to be added to those declared at the last election or by Councillors co-opted since then.

**3.** Mi**nutes of the last meeting**. The Minutes of the meeting of the 10th of January 2022 were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**4**. Matt**ers arising from the Minutes.**  **Action**

* + **Wilby Defibrillator** Nothing further has been heard regarding the defective heating pad. KL to contact Kate Midgeley. **KL**
  + **Roudham and Larling Parish Council liaison.** DW is liaising with the Chairman and hopes to meet with her soon.
  + **Eccles phone box.** Specification to be drawn up in the Spring.
  + **Planning. Anvil Stud retrospective applications**. These have deferred again by the Breckland District Council Planning Committee who have yet to make a site visit.
  + **Potholes and verge on Station Road.** These have now been dealt with by Highways. The flytipping on the back road to Attleborough remains. Kl has reported this twice with a photo. She will report again. **KL**
  + **Proposed cycleway.** DW has looked at the route and found that parts of it are over private land and therefore inaccessible. No further action to be taken.
  + **Commemorative tree to be planted in memory of David Cumming.** It was suggested that a Rowan might be suitable. KL to speak to David’s family. **KL**

Other matters arising will be addressed further on in these Minutes.

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**5. Finance. 5.1** The status of the current account at Messrs. Barclay's at today's date is £17,271.36. Two cheques have yet to be presented. It was agreed to cancel both cheques. Cheque no. 101191 for £4.00 for a Cash Book which has not been received and cheque No.101226 made out to David Cummin for £17.86 to be cancelled and a cheque for the same amount to be sent to David’s partner in payment for cement David purchased. A VAT receipt of £375.99 covering the period 1.10.2021 to 31.12.2021 has been received and a cheque for £775.00 received from the Garnier Village Hall Charity being 50% of the amount paid to PlayQuest for repairs to the play equipment at the Garnier Hall play area.

**5.2.** No cheques have been signed since the last meeting.

**5.3**. Cheques to be signed: Mandrake(U.K.)Ltd. Payroll services:£26.40p.

H.M.R.C. £47.60p. and £75.60p for the Clerk’s tax on her December and January salaries. The Clerk’s salary for December £190.40p and for January £302.40p.

Grants to the Garnier Hall and Wilby are held in reserve. These are £6000.00 and £250.00 respectively.

**5.4.** Approval of the Council’s Financial Regulations. To be brought forward to the March meeting.

**6. Planning. 3PL/2021/1594/F** Refused. **3PL/2022/0049/F** No objection. **3SR/2022/0001/SCR**

Sent to the Council for information only. **3PL/2022/0093/LU** QPC’s views not sought. **3PL/2022/0054/F** No objection. **TRE/2021/0220/TPO** Confirmed.

**7. Garnier Hall Works.** The Garnier Hall Trustees have sent the Council an invoice from the builders in support of their request for the payment of £6000.00p towards the works. This states that the work has been signed off. Although some work has been done it is not to a satisfactory standard and so cannot yet be signed off. Mr Marsh who is overseeing the work is aware and the Council hopes to be able to hand over the grant when all is completed to a satisfactory standard and signed off. The Clerk to write to Mrs Hewson. **KL**

**8. Co-option of Councillor.** For discussion after the meeting.

**9**. **Damage to a hedge in Station Road.** This matter has now been resolved.

**10. The Queen’s Platignum Jubilee.** Breckland District Council (BDC) are match funding up to £500.00 each to village organisations to assist with celebrations. Further details by BDC will be shared over the coming weeks. The District Council will not be giving any funding to Parish Councils. DW hoped that the Council might be prepared to meet any shortfall needed from the S137 monies.

**11. Rewilding in Wilby.** This project started by David has been taken on by a Wilby resident. She has completed a Grant Application and sent a short report which the Clerk has circulated to the Councillors. The Clerk has also received an email from Mrs. Midgeley regarding rewilding the green outside Wilby churchyard wall, another of David’s initiatives. She, the Clerk, has sent Mrs. Midgeley a Grant Application form.

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**12. Chairman’s Report.**  The Chairman reported that he had received a request from Westotec who supplied the SAM2s, offering to give a talk and advice on road safety. He also said that his daughter would be asking the Council for a grant of £75.00 to fund a project designed to give the children of the villages some Easter fun. Her Grant Application will be received soon.

He reminded the Council of his intention to serve for only one year as Chairman and that they should bear this in mind as the next AGM approaches in May.

**13. District Councillor’s Report.** Mrs. Suggitt sent her apologies.

**14. Clerk's Report and comments.**  The Elections Officer has notified the Clerk that the period during which an election may be requested has passed and the Council may co-opt to fill the Casual Vacancy as soon as practicable. Work on the Quidenham Reading Room is nearing completion and the Council will be invited to the opening ceremony. The Annual Governance Report papers will soon be received from the External Auditors PKF UK Ltd. She has received and circulated to the Council the quotation received from Messrs. CGM for grasscutting. This is £1667.00 + VAT at 20%. SL proposed it be accepted and DH seconded the proposal. The first cut will be in April.

**15. Correspondence.** A request for a donation had been received from the Priscilla Bacon Hospice. However, the Chairman stated that it is not the policy of the Council to respond to such requests. Apart from this no correspondence other than electronic mail which is circulated to the Council had been received.

**16. Meeting open to the Public**. Three members of the public were present.

Ian Minto introduced himself as the Liberal Democrat candidate for this ward in the next local election. Rob Breakwell, a candidate for the vacancy on the Quidenham Parish Council, repeated his willingness to be considered but understood that a more suitable candidate to represent Wilby may be found. However, should another vacancy occur in the future he would like to be considered as a candidate. Nick Newson, a Wilby resident, has expressed his interest in being considered as a candidate for the present vacancy.

**17. Any other business. SL** reported that Nicola Dorks the Chair of Quidenham Village Society has contacted the police and copies of the Application Form have been circulated to those who expressed a willingness to participate in a Speedwatch initiative in Quidenham Village. **BL** reminded the Council that the white‘gateways’ are still stored at Home Farm. A small group led by DH will erect these in March, a date is yet to be confirmed. **DH** reported that the chevron signs marking the bend at the turnoff to Eccles Hall school near the track to Manor Farm has been damaged. KL to this report to Highways. **SS** asked KL to find out from Breckland District

Council how many times a year they intend to cut the verges. **KL**

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00 p.m.

**14. Date of the next meeting.** This will take place on the 14th of March 2022 in the Garnier Hall at 7.30 p.m.

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