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

**held on the 13th of March 2023 in the Garnier Hall, Eccles.**

The meeting opened at 7.30 p.m.

There are two planning applications to be added to the agenda. See item 6.

**Those present.** David Wright (DW) Chairman; Simon Lee (SL) Vice-Chairman; Peter Lotarius (PL); David Hunt (DH); Heather Doig (HD); Beverley Lee (BL); Nick Newson (NN); Kate Lloyd (KL) Clerk to the Council.

**1. Apologies for absence.** The full Council was in attendance.

**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. Minutes of the last meeting.** The Chairman signed the Minutes of the meeting of the 13th of February 2023 as a true record.

**4. Matters arising from the Minutes.**

**Dog refuse bins**. Only one bin has been received. The Clerk to order a second plus posts for both.

**Quidenham Green Hedge.** The quotation received from Messrs. CGM for an annual pruning of the hedge at a price of £175.00 plus VAT was approved unanimously by the Council.

**Light and Noise Pollution.** PL to seek an appointment with Messrs. Richard Johnson to discuss ways in which these problems could be mitigated.

**Call for sites.** Agendas have been sent to our District and County Councillors who will be attending the meeting later.

**Rise in the price paid for energy consumed by the Garnier Hall.** Discussions are ongoing.

**5. Finance. 5.1.** The status of the current account at Messrs. Barclay’s at today’s date is £13,577.29. This includes £1,335.60p reclaimed VAT.

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

**5.3.** Cheques to be signed. Glasdon U.K. Ltd. 1 dog refuse bin: £153.83;

HMRC payment of tax for month 9: 81.00; KL salary month 9: £324.00;

Mandrake (U.K.) Ltd. Payroll services: £26.40; Garnier Hall, Grant for Coronation celebrations: £300.00. Garnier Hall, balance of grant for repairs and renovations: £2230.00.

**6. Planning.** All applications, apart from 3PL/2023/0172/F on which the Council’s position is as before, as shown on this meeting’s agenda were passed without objection. Additions: 3PL/2022/0746/F, the Council have no objection. 3PL/2022/1319/F, the Council have no objection.

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**7. Keep Britain Tidy.** PL is liaising with the Quidenham Village Society to find a date for a joint litter pick.

**8. Website.** The Clerk advised the Council that she considered her only duties in regard to the website were to post those documents which were a legal requirement and other important matters e.g. road closure notices, and that she had neither the expertise or experience to do more. She has contacted Mrs. Hewson at the Garnier Hall and the Quidenham Village Society to say that she is happy to post news of events on the website.

**9. Elections 2023.** The nomination papers have been sent to all Councillors.

At this point the meeting was joined by Mrs. Sarah Suggitt, our District Councillor and Stephen Askew, our County Councillor. A lively discussion took place which centered around

local disquiet concerning the future use of land being sold by the World Horse Welfare Society in the neighbouring parish of Snetterton. Breckland District Council’s (BDC) updated Local Plan and its possible impact on the villages in Quidenham Parish is also giving concern.

Mrs. Suggitt and Mr. Askew were thanked and then left the meeting. Before leaving Mr. Askew offered to make a financial contribution to the Council’s part payment for the recently purchased SAM2s. This was received with thanks.

After discussion the Council decided in view of the above that their next step should be to engage with the local community and that this could be done by compiling a letter outlining the Council’s concerns about any future developments in the parish. This to be delivered to all households followed by a public meeting to canvas opinion on how the parish should go forward and what residents wanted for the future. It was also decided that help be sought from BDC to identify the means by which this might be achieved. It was suggested that an invitation be extended to Councillors from neighbouring parishes to a meeting to gauge their interest in working together to protect our shared environment.

**10. Clerk’s Report and Comments.** See website under Matters Arising.

**11. Correspondence.** There was no correspondence other than electronic mail which had been passed on to the Councillors.

**12. Meeting open to the public.** No members of the public were present.

**13. Any other business. KL** asked the Council to approve the request for a grant of £300.00 under Section S137 from the Garnier Hall and the remainder of a grant approved at the Parish Council meeting of the 5th of October 2020 for repairs and renovations to the Garnier Hall. See details under Finance above. The requests for these grants were unanimously granted.

**14. Date of the next meeting.** The next meeting will be on the 24th of April 2023 in the

Garnier Hall at 7.30 p.m.

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