

# FINCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Fincham Parish Council held on **Wednesday 25 January 2023** starting at **7.02pm** in **Fincham Memorial Hall**, High Street, Fincham, King's Lynn, PE33 9EJ

## Present:

Councillors: J Delderfield (Chairman), A Desborough, C O'Brien, B Ponder, S Hudson-Smith, D Stringer

Clerk (Locum) – K Walker

Press: 0

Public: 0

## 1. Apologies for absence

Cllrs S Blackmur, A Hudson-Smith & Borough Cllr M Howland

## 2. Declarations of interests

Cllr C O'Brien – 7.4

## 3. Public forum

None

## 4. Minutes of meeting held on 23 November 2022

Accepted by all as true record of meeting & signed by Chairman. Proposed: Cllr D Stringer,  
Seconded: Cllr B Ponder

## 5. Matters arising from previous minutes

None

## 6. Reports

6.1. BCKLWN – A report provided by Borough Cllr M Howland to be circulated to all Councillors

6.2. Police - A report prepared by Cllr A Desborough was circulated to all Councillors

## 7. Finance

7.1. Income – Receipts of £350 from British Sugar (defibrillator donation), £4000 & £2000 from Aviva (insurance claim) & £227.79 from NCC (recycling credits) were noted

7.2. Expenditure - Payments list as detailed approved by all. Proposed: Cllr A Desborough,  
Seconded: Cllr S Hudson-Smith

Method	Description	Supplier	Net	VAT	Total
S/O & Cheque	Staff costs / expenses (Dec)	HMRC / Clerk	1,687.20		1,687.10
Cheque	SAM2 laptop	Crimpleham Parish Council	82.91		82.91
D/D	Street lighting electric	N Power	7.86	0.39	8.25
D/D	Allotment water supply	Wave	126.87		126.87
	Bank charges	Unity Trust Bank	18.00		18.00
D/D	Bottle bank emptying	URM (UK) Ltd	25.20	5.04	30.24
D/D	Grounds maintenance	CGM Ltd	50.00	10.00	60.00
D/D	Grounds maintenance	CGM Ltd	80.63	16.13	96.76
BACS, S/O & Cheque	Staff costs / expenses (Jan)	HMRC / Clerk	2,230.27		2,230.27
D/D	Street lighting electric	N Power	19.43	0.97	20.40
			<b>4,328.27</b>	<b>32.53</b>	<b>4,360.80</b>

### PRE-APPROVED

Cheque	Defibrillator	Heart 2 Heart Norfolk	1000.00		1000.00
Cheque	Defibrillator fitting	Neil Whicker	50.00		50.00

Signed:..... (Chairman)

Date:.....

- 7.3. Reconciled cashbook - Cllr J Delderfield confirmed the bank reconciliation/s (to 31 December 2022) against the bank statement/s to be correct
- 7.4. Churchyard grounds maintenance costs (for 2021 & 2022) & arrangement – The Clerk previously advised VAT guidance had been sought which confirmed the current arrangement with the church was inappropriate. The Clerk also previously advised the contract with CGM required 3 months' notice to amend or terminate. If this was not given before the annual anniversary (21 February) of the contract, it would automatically renew for the year ahead. Cllr C O'Brien said no meeting had yet taken place to see how the church might wish to proceed. With all this in mind Council agreed to absorb the incurred churchyard grounds maintenance costs for 2021, 2022 & the year ahead (2023) to allow time for the church to make their own future arrangements. The Clerk highlighted the impact this would have on this & next year's budget since it had already been included as an expected source of income. Proposed: Cllr B Ponder, Seconded: Cllr D Stringer.
- 7.5. Quarter 3 Finance Review – Accepted by all. Proposed: Cllr C O'Brien, Seconded: Cllr B Ponder
- 7.6. Budget and Precept for 2023/24 – An updated budget had been prepared by the Clerk & circulated to all Councillors. To meet increased costs & balance the budget for expenditure with the budget for income it was agreed by all to set the precept at £10,374. Using latest taxbase figures this represents a Band D charge of £54.77 which is an increase of 10% (10p weekly) from the previous year. Proposed: Cllr B Ponder, Seconded: Cllr D Stringer
- 7.7. Reinvestment of £5000+ proceeds from matured 12-month fixed interest bond – Council resolved to delegate authority to the Clerk to investigate reinvestment options & circulate findings for a decision at the March meeting. Proposed: Cllr C O'Brien, Seconded: Cllr A Desborough. Council also agreed upon maturity only to reinvest £2500 of the funds & transfer the remaining amount to general reserves to cover any non-budgeted items / non-receipt of expected income. Proposed: Cllr J Delderfield, Seconded: Cllr D Stringer.

## 8. Internal council affairs

- 8.1. Change of address – Following permission from the Memorial Hall and Playing Fields Committee it was resolved to change the address of Fincham Parish Council from 84A Smeeth Road, Marshland St James, Wisbech, PE14 8JF to c/o Memorial Hall, High Street, Fincham, King's Lynn, PE33 9EJ. Proposed: Cllr D Stringer, Seconded: Cllr B Ponder. Unopened post to be handed in the first instance to the Chairman who will notify the Clerk & they will make arrangements for handover or collection

## 9. Planning

9.1. Applications - None

9.2. Decisions

- **22/01584/F Fincham Church Farm High Street Fincham King's Lynn Norfolk PE33 9EL** - Extension and alterations to existing dwelling including new roof incorporating first floor accommodation and construction of a garage  
**Application Permitted 28 November 2022 Delegated Decision**
- **22/01585/F Church Farm High Street Fincham King's Lynn Norfolk PE33 9EL** - Phased development of - Phase 1 - demolition works to remove 2 pole barns covering former cattle yards and partially collapsed parts of barns and outbuildings and clearance of debris from the site in order to carry out contamination and ecology surveys - Phase 2 - conversion of barns complex to form two new dwellings.  
**Application Permitted 19 December 2022 Delegated Decision**
- **22/01984/F Fincham 22 Churchill Crescent Fincham King's Lynn Norfolk PE33 9EU** - Construction of replacement front porch on dwelling to aid accessibility.  
**Application Permitted 3 January 2023 Delegated Decision**
- **22/00226/TREECA Fincham The Rectory High Street Fincham King's Lynn Norfolk PE33 9EL** - T3. 6no mature Hazels on left hand side of front garden Prune to clear phone line by 1-1.5m.  
**Tree Application - No objection 10 January 2023 Delegated Decision**

**10. Health & safety**

- 10.1. Issues requiring attention - None
- 10.2. Return of health & safety inspection sheets – Two, no action needed

**11. Correspondence**

All correspondence of note circulated to Councillors prior to meeting. The Clerk ran through the following items & Council agreed the required action:

- Norfolk and Waveney Mind - Suicide Prevention – Include in newsletter
- Watlington cheese and wine evening invitation – Cllrs Desborough & O'Brien to attend
- Cost of living posters – Cllr J Delderfield to coordinate distribution/display
- Coronation grants – No application
- Slimming World banner request – Declined
- Rural cost of living survey – Respond directly if wish to

**12. Parish matters**

- 12.1. Nature Reserve – Nothing to report
- 12.2. Footpaths – Cllr A Desborough advised NCC currently coordinating additional posts / plaques
- 12.3. Allotments – A report on garden allotments prepared by Cllr B Ponder was circulated to all Councillors. It was agreed to advertise the agricultural plots in the newsletter & website to ascertain interest. The Clerk was advised NCC would take back at short notice if no tenants could be found
- 12.4. Speed Activated Messaging (SAM2) – Two volunteers had come forward & would be fully briefed/trained by the time the SAM2 is back & operational again in Fincham (April)
- 12.5. Community Speed Watch Scheme – A report prepared by Cllr B Ponder was circulated to all Councillors. No new volunteers had come forward
- 12.6. Bench in layby opposite Memorial Hall – It was resolved for Council to pre-approve a maximum of £2500 for the purchase, engraving & fitting of a 6ft oak bench (as per previous quote/s). Clerk to arrange as soon as possible after wording agreed (March meeting).
- 12.7. Coronation – Council concluded they did not wish to do anything to mark the Coronation. Proposed: Cllr Desborough, Seconded; Cllr D Stringer
- 12.8. Noise amelioration – Grants / initiatives no longer available
- 12.9. Bottle bank emptying – The Clerk advised it would now only be emptied upon request

**13. Newsletter**

- 13.1. It was confirmed the next one would be the Spring edition, expected to be out by the end of March / beginning of April (dependent upon elections information which needed to be included)

**14. Agenda items for next meeting**

Reinvestment of £5000+ proceeds, wording for bench & newsletter items & distribution

**15. Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 22 March 2023 at 7pm - Annual Parish Assembly followed by an Ordinary Meeting

**Meeting closed:** 9.02pm