

Asterby and Goulceby Parish Council

Notes 20th March 2023

Chair: Cllr Mold (JM)

Present: Councillors: Maplethorpe (BM); Croft (JC);

Absent – Cllr Wardle

Clerk: M Moss (MM)

3 Member of the public

Public Forum: A member of the public asked why the council tax for Asterby and Goulceby had increased by 13%. Cllr Mold responded that it was due to the increased costs faced by the council including insurance, clerks salary, and over the last few years reserves had been used to supplement costs, but reserves are now at a level where this is no longer sustainable.

- 57) **Chairman's remarks** – Cllr Mold welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 58) **Apologies for absence and reasons given** – Cllr Wardle had given apologies to the Chair.
- 59) **Declaration of interests and requests for dispensations** - To receive declarations of interest in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and to consider granting dispensation(s), as per written requests received by the proper officer, to councillors under section 22 of the Act - None
- 60) **To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 12th December 2022** - RESOLVED that the official minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 12th December 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman of the meeting.
- 61) **To resolve to go into closed session for the next item** – RESOLVED to enter closed session.
- 62) **To confirm the appointment of the new parish clerk and agree any associated action** – RESOLVED to appoint the new clerk with a start date of 1st April.
- 63) **To resolve to return to open session for the remainder of the meeting** - RESOLVED to re-enter open session.
- 64) **To receive reports from the Clerk and Councillors on matters outstanding** – It was noted that other than the newsletter all action had been completed or added to the agenda for discussion. The deadlines for the newsletter were too tight to enable the council update to be published in the January edition.
- 65) **To receive reports from District and County Councillors** – District Cllr Andrews was present that the meeting and noted that: ELDC are now located from new premises in Horncastle and Manby has been sold; ELDC has some funding available for those residents struggling with energy bills, details available on ELDC website; the Arts Council have given ELDC £5m to improve the Embassy and extend the pier in Skegness.
- 66) **To receive an overview of the issues reported to highways by Councillors since the last meeting and agree any action** – No new issues reported. It was noted that LCC had advised that the Horncastle Rd will be closed March to August.
- 67) **To receive an update on the chalk stream project and agree next steps** – It was noted that the representative from Chalk Stream project had visited Goulceby, inspected the beck and banks and advised that the water is running clear and an event would not be warranted at this time.
- 68) **To receive an update on the village archive suggestion and agree next steps** – It was noted that Cllr Mold had completed significant investigation into the possibility of a village archive, but

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that parish councils are not usually responsible for them, they are resource intensive and cost in the region of £4k pa to maintain. Time and costs are prohibitive at the current time. It was also noted that the funds offered by the Gala committee which had prompted this discussion had now been donated to the church.

- 69) To receive an update on identifying volunteers to plant and care for the bridge planters and agree any further action** – It was noted that the request for volunteers should have been in the newsletter where the deadline was missed and so agreed to put a notice up in the pub for volunteers to help either donate plants or to look after them. **RESOLVED:** if no volunteers come forward that councillors use the £50 allocated in the budget to purchase plants and soil.
- 70) To review the vandalism to the Asterby End notice board and agree any action** – It was noted that the perspex had been scratched and would require replacing. It was **RESOLVED** to let the insurance company know about the vandalism and to contact the supplier to get a replacement cost for the perspex.
- 71) To agree to adopt the Dignity at Work Policy and agree any further action** – **RESOLVED** to adopt the policy.
- 72) To consider planning APPLICATION:** No applications received – Noted.
- 73) To note planning applications response using delegated powers:** None – Noted.

To note planning correspondence – None received - Noted

74) To consider correspondence received since the last Council meeting:

Ref	From	Correspondence	Action
a	ELDC	To note their new address wef 23 rd Jan: The Hub, Mareham Rd, Horncastle, LN9 6PH	To note - Noted
b	Member of the public	Complaint about Asterby Churchyard	To note and agree any action
Noted that PCC are responsible for the upkeep of the churchyard; volunteers had been willing to clear it a few years ago, but were no longer available. RESOLVED to write to the resident to advise them to contact the PCC.			

75) Financial matters:

- a) To receive an updated bank reconciliation and actual vs projected spend from RFO – Noted and **RESOLVED** to accept the bank reconciliation and projected actual vs projected (appendix 1 and 2).
- b) To identify and appoint the internal auditor – Noted that the current auditor may no longer wish to complete the audit. **RESOLVED** that MM would ask the current auditor, but if he did not wish to complete it, several of the previous auditors would be asked.
- c) To decide whether to the LALC annual training scheme - £90 +VAT – **RESOLVED** to join the LALC ATS for this year.
- d) To consider and approve income/ payments due including: Salaries 31.03.23 - £317.46; LALC membership £87.45; Church meeting hire invoice £10 – An additional invoice for the hire of the church for the meeting in March was presented for payment. **RESOLVED** to approved all payments.

76) To agree the content of the Parish Meeting 22nd May 2023 - **RESOLVED** to include an update report from the Chair of the PC and then move to open forum.

77) To agree items to be included in the next newsletter – **RESOLVED** to include:

- Summary of the notes
- Possible vacancies of the PC
- New Clerk and contact details

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- Planters
- Vandalism of the notice boards

78) To confirm the date (22nd May 2023) and agenda items for the next meeting – RESOLVED to move the next meeting to 18th May 7.30pm.

Appendix 1 – Bank reconciliation

Bank Reconciliation			
1st April 2022			
Balance B/F	£2,876.24		
Receipts	£8,006.75	£10,882.99	Payments/receipts not yet on bank statement
Payments	£8,882.68		
		£8,882.68	
Payments carried over from 2021/22		£50.00	LIVES 000684
Total		£1,950.31	Total
			13/03/2023
Date reconciliation carried out:	13/03/2023		£1,950.31

Appendix 2 - Actual vs projected spend

Asterby and Goulceby Planned vs Actual 2022 - 2023

Expenditure	Budget Q1	Actual	V	Budget Q2	Actual	V	Budget Q3	Actual	V	Budget Q4	Actual	V	Total planned	Total actual	Left to spend
Employee costs	320.00	312.00	8.00	320.00	317.46	2.54	320.00	317.46	2.54	320.00	317.46	2.54	1280.00	1264.38	15.62
Meeting room hire	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	-10.00	0.00	10.00	-10.00
LALC	25.00	0.00	25.00	25.00	0.00	25.00	25.00	0.00	25.00	90.00	87.45	2.55	165.00	87.45	77.55
Section 137/ Donations	0.00	19.25	-19.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	0.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	19.25	0.75
Insurance	220.00	196.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	220.00	196.00	24.00
Newsletter	75.00	0.00	75.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	75.00	0.00	75.00
Misc (stamps/static)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.00	0.00	30.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.00	0.00	30.00
Fieldpath Subs	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	5.00	0.00
Defibrillator	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	32.50	-32.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	32.50	-32.50
Election costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Unplanned expenditure	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	816.20	-816.20	0.00	549.35	-549.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1365.55	-1365.55
Total	640.00	527.25	112.75	350.00	1171.16	-821.16	395.00	866.81	-471.81	410.00	414.91	-4.91	1795.00	2980.13	-1185.13
						-708.41			-1180.22			-1185.13			
Income													Planned Inc	Actual	Variance
Precept	1760	1760.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1760	1760	0
Donations	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VAT refund	35	0.00	-35.00	0	0.00	0	0	246.75	246.75	0	0	0	35	246.75	211.75
	1795	1760.00	-35.00	0	0	0	0	246.75	246.75	0	0	0	1795	2006.75	211.75
						-35.00			211.75						