

DRINKSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4th July 2016 in the Village Hall

- Present: Cllr Lorna Thurlow (vice chair) Cllr Gary Hembra
Cllr Haslett Schofield Cllr Sue Cousins
- Parish Clerk - Paula Gladwell County and District Cllr Penny Otton
5 members of the public
- 2016/282 **Apologies for Absence** — Cllr Cora Munford, Cllr Christine Lambert, Cllr Daphne Youngs.
- 2016/283 **Declarations of Interest** – None
- 2016/284 **Adjournment for:**
County and District Cllr Otton's Report – Cllr Otton gave her report which has been circulated and is attached to these minutes.
Open Forum – Concerns were expressed regarding overhanging hedges on Woolpit Road and overgrown verges at the junction of Beyton Road and Park Road causing safety issues for drivers and pedestrians. These issues will be reported to SCC Highways.
- 2016/285 **Meeting resumed:**
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – It was proposed by Cllr Thurlow that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting were approved. The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 6th June 2016 were signed as a true record.
- 2016/286 **Clerks report** – SCC have launched a consultation on Rights of Way which was completed by councillors and will be submitted.
- 2016/287 **Finance** – The clerks Financial Report for July 2016 was approved.
- 2016/288 The following payments were approved. Prop by Cllr Thurlow, Sec Cllr Schofield with all in favour. Clerk's salary for June 2016
- 2016/289 HMRC Q1 payment
- 2016/290 Tall Trees £460.00
- 2016/291 The purchase of a two drawer filing cabinet for the storage of council papers was discussed and will be further considered at the next meeting.
- 2016/292 Details of the available laptops and scanners for purchase with the Transparency funding were discussed. The HP Pavilion 15 laptop with set up and Microsoft office software and the DS620 scanner will be purchased from PC World. It was agreed that an application for funding for the software and 1 hr per month work hours be lodged in the upcoming round of funding. The clerk will investigate the suggestion that John Lewis may offer a better guarantee for the same equipment before any purchase.
- 2016/293 **Planning** – There were no planning applications to consider.
- 2016/294 The following MSDC decisions were noted: 1693/16 and 1694/16 (listed) Erection of single storey rear extension including removal of section of external wall of existing building to connect extension, The Old Rectory, The Street – GRANTED
1958/16 Erection of a single storey side extension, Grovebury, Rattlesden Road. – GRANTED
1866/16 Installation of 5000lt Oil Tank, The Old Rectory, The Street - GRANTED
1202/16 Erection of first floor side extension over existing single storey, Barcocks Barn, Garden House Lane - GRANTED
- 2016/295 It was agreed that Cllr Youngs would attend the MSDC Planning Meeting, due to consider application 3054/15 Erection of 5 dwellings with formation of vehicular accesses on land at Chapel Lane, to speak on behalf of the parish council and represent council's objections to this planning application.

2016/296 **Adopt a Footpath scheme** – Cllr Schofield will cover the role of Footpath Warden in Cllr Munford’s absence. It was agreed that an initial evaluation of the footpath network in the parish was required before any recommendations could be made regarding which footpaths might need volunteer help to maintain. It was resolved to set up an Adopt a Footpath Working Group whose remit is to evaluate the existing footpath network, consider how to achieve a positive maintenance scheme and make any recommendations to full council.

The group will initially comprise of Cllrs Thurlow, Schofield and Youngs and the Terms of Reference of the Adopt a Footpath Working Group will be drafted for approval at the next meeting.

2016/297 **Councillor Portfolios –**

Allotments – Cllr Lambert’s Allotment report was read and is attached to these minutes. The statement within the report and the replies sent by Cllr Youngs and Trustee, Michael Lambert to the resident who expressed concern regarding the coppicing to a tree at the Gedding Road Allotments were acknowledged and supported. It was noted that the tree had not been maintained within the hedge for several years and the recent coppicing had caused some distress however the tree has not been destroyed and will continue to re grow as it has in the past following its previous coppicing and the continued maintenance of this tree will benefit the tenants of the allotments.

2016/298 **Footpaths** – No report.

2016/299 **Playing Field** – Cllr Hembra’s report had been circulated and is attached to these minutes. It was noted that the old football nets had been found and will be brought back into service.

2016/300 **Correspondence** – There were no comments to further tabled correspondence.

2016/301 **Matters to be brought to the attention of council** – None.

Meeting closed 9.10 pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 5th September 2016 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall