# Logo

# Minutes of a Meeting of Harling Parish Council,

# Held at East Harling Youth Centre

## Wednesday 4th January 2023

**PRESENT**

Cllr P Edge (Chairman)

Cllr J Jacobs (Vice Chair)

Cllr J Denniss

Cllr G Denham Cllr H Mackenzie

Cllr B Copping Cllr A Hayward

Cllr K Rayner Cllr S Blades

Mrs K Filby (Clerk) Cllr G Jubb

One member of the public was present

## APOLOGIES WERE RECEIVED AND ACCEPTED

Cllr L Mould

## MATTERS ARISING

No matters were raised

## DECLARATION BY COUNCILLORS OF ANY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY OR PERSONAL INTEREST IN AN AGENDA ITEM

None declared

## ACCOUNTS

1. NPOWER – £86.57
2. BT - £53.59
3. Staff costs - £3560.80
4. Zoom - £143.88
5. Flowers by Laura - £110.00
6. JS Suppliers - £13.80 01/23
7. Mervyn Lambert - £423.76
8. Harling Old School - £63.00
9. Cartridge Save - £110.23
10. URM - £60.48

The Parish Councillors were presented with copies of receipts of payments and bank reconciliation showing year to date spending and balances for main current account. It was explained that these figures do not include the Town Improvement Fund and Petty Cash funds.

## PROPOSED EXTENSION TO THE SPEED LIMIT ON QUIDENHAM ROAD

The Parish Council resolved to agree to an extension of the speed limit, a request to be made to NSL for the extension to be moved up to the junction of Eccles Road. The Council requested that the Clerk approach Able Homes to ask for traffic calming gates to be located at the point of relocated speed limit.

## COUNCIL BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2023/4

In setting this Precept the Council had regard to the current economic climate.

The Parish Council will be requesting a £72,238 Precept amount from Breckland Council in the next financial year.

This will equate to a 2.76% increase on the 22/23 Precept requirement.

A band D property’s Council Tax payment for the Parish Council will increase to £79.26 per year (£77.13 22/23)

At the end of this financial year the Council should have a balance, including its set aside funds in earmarked reserves of £82,838

The increase in next year’s precept has been kept to a minimum and the Council will continue to closely monitor spending during 2023/24 which will continue to be a difficult year financially for many with the continuing increase in household costs.

In the last year the Council have spent funds on the creating of a new entrance to the cemetery car park as well as hard surfaces car park. This project has improved the safety of this area greatly.

With the assistance from the NCC Parish Partnership Scheme, traffic calming gates have been erected at the entrance to the village on the Garboldisham Road.

 With the use of S106 funds, a new bicycle parking area has been created in Market Street, along with a new seating area and planters.

 The funds from Breckland Council also helped the Council to purchase new waste bins for play areas and new picnic table at the Riverside area.

Earmarked reserves of £93831 are being set aside for continuing projects including, the upgrading of street lights to LEDs. There has been a continuing need to replace the Christmas lights, and there may be a need to also replace the cabling. The Clerk will investigate the possibility of contracting out the maintenance and erecting of the lights.

The Council still wait to hear from Breckland Council on their application for S106 funding toward a new play train at the Recreation Ground play area and skate park equipment, this project costing approximately £19,000. 02/23

After public consultation, plans will be shown to the Council at the February meeting for the refurbishment of the Market Place area, EMR are currently £47,131 to cover this project led by Cllrs Blades, Mackenzie and Denham.

There are no other projects planned for the upcoming year, there are plans in place for the celebration of King Charles’ Coronation but this will be covered by sponsorship by local companies.

Training will continue for all Councillors and Staff as required and pay awards will be reviewed. The Clerks salary is linked National Joint Council annual increases.

The Responsible Financial Officer will continue to monitor monthly spending.

**Proposed budget 2023/24**

Balance brought forward1st April 2023 £ 82,838 (Est)

Precept requested £ 72,238

Budgeted income £ 12,805

Total: **£167,882**

Budgeted expenditure £ 74,051

Proposed earmarked reserves £ 93,831

Leaving uncommitted funds of £0

**Ear Marked Reserves have been agreed at:**

Market Place enhancement £47,131

LED lighting replacement £ 3,700

Contingency Fund £17,000

Recreation Ground gates £ 3,000

Christmas 2023 £ 1,500

Cleaning war memorial £ 1,500

Play equipment £20,000

Total EMR **£93,831**

## DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Full Council meeting Tuesday 24th January 2023

K Filby

Clerk

9th January 2023 03/23