

A meeting of Parwich Parish Council was held on Wednesday, 15th November 2023 in Parwich Memorial Hall at 7:30pm.

Present: Chair, M Compton, I Manning, J Turnbull, L Coyne, S Chambers, Clerk A Martin.
Derbyshire Dales District Councillor Nigel Edwards Walker.
One member of the Public.

11-15-1 Apologies/Councillors' attendance register.

Councillors present duly signed the attendance register.

11-15-2 Declaration of personal/pecuniary interests of Councillors.

None.

11-15-3 Minutes of the previous meeting.

The draft minutes of the meeting of 25th October had been forwarded to members in advance of the meeting and displayed on the Parish Council's website.

Resolved: To accept the draft minutes as a true record of proceedings.

11-15-4 Public speaking.

A member of the public spoke

1. Expressing concern about the possibility of not mowing Nethergreen South and the triangle on Creamery Lane.
2. With suggestions for the repair of the wall around Pump Hill.

11-15-5 Items from public speaking.

None.

11-15-6 Bank mandates.

The approval process to add the Chair and the Clerk to the Bank Mandate had timed out but has been reactivated by NatWest.

11-15-7 Clerk's report.

Completed

1. Clerk's estimate of time 8.5 hours per week over three weeks.
2. Energy contract set up with Yu Energy.
 - 2.1. Closing statement received from British Gas (for one meter).
 - 2.2. Still in discussion about whether smart meters need changing although it appears that a remote reading has been taken successfully.
 - 2.3. VAT will automatically be charged at 5% due to low consumption (and can be claimed back).
3. Financial regulations and Finance risk assessment updated on website.

Ongoing

4. Bird spikes to be fitted on toddler swing.
5. Miscellaneous works for mowing contractor.
 - 5.1. Repair to stone kerb between brook and path by Japonica.
 - 5.2. Regrowth of Ivy on Nethergreen walls to be treated.

Parwich Parish Council

- 5.3. Clearance of paths on Gibbons Bank.
6. Pavilion roof.
 - 6.1. Still not started.
 - 6.2. Offer of donation confirmed.
7. Farm Business Tenancy. Parwich Moor North.
 - 7.1. Confirmed with Bagshaws that it should be prepared this year.
 - 7.2. Needs to be signed up by the end of March.
8. Sale of small part of Parsons Croft.
 - 8.1. Written to Oddfellows regarding charge on land.
 - 8.2. Updated potential purchaser.
 - 8.3. The Oddfellows have advised by phone would not be willing to agree an easement to the charge they have over the land to allow a sale. Written confirmation to follow.
9. New dog fouling signs with QR code ready to be installed.
10. Claim for allowable mowing expenditure submitted.

Waiting response or action

11. Requested cost of insuring Pikehall defibrillator. Request acknowledged. Response expected when other Parish Councils have replied.
12. Waiting advice re finance from Tennis club re-funding of court cleaning
13. Case submitted to Highways Agency (DCC) re inaccessibility.
 - 13.1. FP 23. From Bradbourne where it enters Parwich at Dales Yard Corner. Requested 14/9/22).
 - 13.2. PDNPA have included a requirement to reroute the path in recently granted Planning permission.
14. From County Councillor and Highways requesting update on
 - 14.1. 20 mph speed limit policy.
 - 14.2. Playground signpost.

11-15-8 Items of account.

On-line payments approved by Clerk since last meeting.

Payee	Item	Amount
Colour Frog signs	Dog fouling signs with QR code.	£37.82

On-line payments due.

Payee	Item	Amount
Memorial Hall	October hire	£25.00
Councillor	Bat and owl boxes	£165.00
Contractor	Toilet cleaning (final invoice requested)	
Royal British Legion	Wreath (waiting invoice)	£50.00

Resolved: These invoices are approved for payment.

Notes:

1. Submitted actual water meter reading. Now about £35 in credit.
2. Local government pay award 23-24
 - 2.1. £1.00 per hour on Clerk's scale point.
 - 2.2. £156 back pay to be included with next quarterly payment in January.
3. Balance at 8 November 2023. £17,749.86

Resolved: To bring forward item 15 on the agenda.

11-15-9 Methodist Chapel.

The Peak District national Park Authority (PDNPA) have been asked if a response had ever been received to their letter to the owner in 2019. Waiting reply.

A resident had suggested text for a letter to be sent to the owner of the Methodist Chapel asking about their future intentions and offering help to find a use for the building.

Resolved: The Clerk will send the letter using the text suggested and will copy it to the PDNPA.

Resolved: Due to uncertainty regarding the correspondence address for the owner of the Chapel, separate efforts will be made to verify it and any suggestions to assist with this are welcome.

Resolved: To bring forward item 16 on the agenda.

11-15-10 Volunteering.

There was some disappointment regarding the number of residents who had participated in the most recent clean-up day. Ways of encouraging residents to volunteer for maintenance projects in the village were discussed at some length. Issues raised included,

1. The usefulness of clarifying the activities the Council would like residents to support.
2. The possibility of making activities more sociable and providing refreshments.
3. The value of approaching residents personally to invite them to take part.
4. Recognising that maintaining the appearance of the village may matter less to some residents than to others, and that this is likely to affect their interest in taking part.

Resolved: To consider the matter again in advance of the next clean-up day.

The member of the public present left the meeting.

11-15-11 Mowing contract.

A tender had been issued for a three-year contract for mowing and strimming in the village. The tender had included the possibility of varying the frequency of mowing and mulching as an alternative to collection.

1. Three quotations had been received.
2. One contractor had requested more time to prepare a response.
3. One contractor had declined to quote.
4. Four contractors who had been approached had not replied.

Resolved. To accept the lowest quotation for weekly cutting and collecting. This is similar to

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Parwich Parish Council

the service provided during the past three years. The Clerk will arrange the signing of a contract covering the mowing.

The following were noted.

1. All contractors who had responded regarding leaving Nethergreen South as a meadow during the summer had advised that no cost saving would be possible due to the exceptional costs of hiring suitable equipment and disposing of grass in this bulk.
2. A suggestion had been made that Nethergreen South be rented for grazing. The Council does not believe that this would be possible. The Inclosure Act of 1857 (!) makes it an offence to “wilfully take any cattle or other animals onto a green without lawful authority”. Lawful authority for grazing only exists where there is a registered right of common over the green. Which there is not for the village greens in Parwich.
3. The mowing of the triangle in Creamery Lane had been omitted from the tender as a potential cost saving measure and in response to requests from some residents. It is possible that it could still be cut and that best start date for cutting could be considered. No decision was made at this meeting.

11-15-12 Floodlights.

A quotation had been received showing that suitable LED units would cost £760.

Resolved: The Council agreed that the Clerk should purchase these units and supply them to the volunteers who had agreed to fit them subject to the conditions recorded in the previous minutes.

11-15-13 Fireworks.

A request had been received from the Carnival and Recreation Committee to make a donation towards the cost of fireworks purchased for the 5th of November.

Resolved: The Council agreed to donate 50% of the cost of the fireworks up to a maximum of £400.

11-15-14 Budget.

A draft budget for 2024-25 had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

Resolved: The Clerk will prepare a final budget for approval at the next meeting reflecting

1. Cost for the new mowing contract.
2. Updated items of expenditure agreed for the current year.

Resolved: The possibility of transferring the dormant tennis club bank balance to the Council along with conditions that the sum transferred be allocated to the maintenance of sports facilities will be explored.

11-15-15 Planning applications.

Nothing new to report.

11-15-16 Pump Hill.

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Parwich Parish Council

Options for the repair and maintenance of the wall around Pump Hill were discussed.

Resolved: The Clerk will write to the owner of the Hall to clarify both his and the Council's position.

Resolved: The Clerk will write the PDNPA to establish if any of the possible remedies might require planning permission.

It was noted that some options to fully rebuild the wall might require the Council to raise significant sums through the precept or divert funds from other activities.

11-15-17 Request to use noticeboard by Sarah Dines.

A request had been received to place a poster publicising contact details for our local MP, Sarah Dines, on the noticeboard.

Resolved. Agreed subject to its being removed when an general election is called.

11-15-18 Correspondence and communication.

1. DCC. Community news. x 4.
2. DCC. Speed limit order.
3. DALC. Newsletter.
4. DALC. Training.
5. DALC. Israel and Gaza briefing.
6. DALC. AGM.
7. Rural Services Network. Bulletin. x 3.
8. Rural Services Network. Funding Digest.
9. Rural Action Derbyshire. Newsletter.
10. Rural Action Derbyshire. AGM.
11. PDNPA. National Park pay and display locations.
12. PDNPA. Environmental award scheme.
13. Citizens Advice 6 Month Report.

11-15-19 Items for the next agenda.

1. Budget approval and precept setting.

11-15-20 Date of next meeting.

To be held on Wednesday 17th January 2024 at 7:30 pm in the Memorial Hall.

The meeting was closed at 21:50 pm.

A Martin
Clerk to Parwich Parish Council
16 November 2023