

Algarkirk Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ALGARKIRK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 11th MARCH 2025, 7.20pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ALGARKIRK

Present: Councillors: G Reid (Chairman) D Reid, M Spiller, E Walker and S Walker
Also Present: Mrs M Warr (Clerk), LCCLr M Brookes, BBCllr James Cantwell

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No public present.

90/24 APOLOGIES

No apologies received.

91/24 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY OR NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

92/24 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2025, were presented.

RESOLVED:

That, the minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2025, are approved as a true record.

93/24 COUNCILLOR VACANCY

It was noted that an election had not been requested, so the co-option process is approved. It was agreed to advertise the vacancy and any applications would be reviewed and the successful applicant appointed at the May Annual meeting.

RESOLVED: that, the councillor vacancy would be advertised and any applications reviewed. The successful applicant will be appointed at the May Annual Meeting.

94/24 PLANNING

No items to discuss

95/24. POLICE REPORT

I theft was reported at Walnut Lake Park during December.

96/24. CLERK'S REPORT

Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind Community Liaison Group Meeting – the PC was invited to send a representative to the next meeting on Tuesday 25th March, 7pm until 8.15pm at Tonic 44 Community Hub, 44 Station Road, Surfleet.

RESOLVED: that, Cllr S Walker would represent APC at the meeting on 25th March.

Streetlights – the email reiterating the offer from BBC of a loan of +1% above the public works loan rate, for any repairs to the streetlights was noted.

HMRC Refund – HMRC have been experiencing industrial action, so have a backlog of claims. The expected refund date has been pushed back until 31 March.

Police Survey – The Quarter 2 Neighbourhood Policing Priority Setting Survey 2025 Boston Borough Neighbourhood Police are looking for input from the public and partners as to their views on what issues are going on locally and where the Boston Neighbourhood Policing Team should concentrate their efforts for the three months of April, May and June. The link to the short survey is below:
<https://forms.office.com/e/4Vj3348uBu>

97/24 JOINT VILLAGES EMERGENCY GROUP

The ninth meeting of the group was held on 19th February. A volunteer event took place on 15th February at the Thatched Cottage, Sutterton and was well attended. 13 volunteers have signed up and 2 are interested in becoming lead volunteers. It was agreed to apply for grant funding from Awards for All. The next meeting will be held on 26th March.

Cllr Spiller updated the meeting on progress with the other parishes. She had attended several parish meetings and had another four scheduled. The emergency grab bag had been demonstrated and at least one council had funds to purchase an additional bag. APC Members were happy to allocate funds to the project if required.

98/24. REPORT ON OTHER PARISH MATTERS

- a) Village Hall – the payback team had been painting inside the Hall and the result was well received. New tables will be purchased by the PC in the new financial year and it is hoped to apply for funding for new chairs from Outer Dowsing later in the year.
- b) Playing Field – the grass had been cut by the payback team prior to the new grass cutting contract starting. The bark had also been refreshed under the play equipment. Cllr Spiller said she had signed a new 2 year contract with the payback team and this will cover all three areas – the Village Hall, playing field and churchyard.
- c) Churchyard – it was agreed to let the primroses and wildflowers grow rather than carry out a hard strim while they are in bloom.

99/24. FINANCE:

The bank reconciliation was received and noted.

The invoices below were accepted and agreed.

RESOLVED: that the following invoices are paid:

M Warr – salary for January and February (paid by Standing Order) - £446.96

**M Warr - additional hours to cover meetings September to March - 8 hours -
£137.28**

POLICY REVIEW:

RESOLVED: that the Risk Assessment Schedule for 2025 is adopted without amendment.

ALGARKIRK PLAYING FIELD BANK ACCOUNT – it was noted that a monthly charge of £4.65 will be applied to the playing field bank account from May. It was agreed to close the account and transfer the funds to the main Community Account. Members felt paying a monthly charge for a separate account was not viable as the account did not have a regular income.

RESOLVED: that, the Playing Field bank account would be closed and the funds transferred to the main Community Account.

100/24. LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS AND BOSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cllr Brookes updated the meeting on the position with the bridge. He hoped to be able to confirm the final position next week at a meeting with the Highway manager.

Cllr Brookes confirmed that he was standing down in May after 16 years as a County Councillor. He was warmly thanked for his help and support over the years.

Cllr Cantwell updated on several BBC matters:

Reorganisation – 10 councils were working together and the proposals will be available for discussion in November. There may be North/South split.

Housing – Boston need to increase their housing building quota slightly, but not by as much as other districts.

Rural Issues – a number of clerks responded regarding outstanding issues and these have been reported.

Budget – BBC have set their budget with an increase of 2.99%. Each councillor will have £1000 to spend in their area for the coming financial year.

Market Rents – these have been reduced in line with the rest of Lincolnshire.

Sports Funding – BBC and East Lindsey have been awarded £250million from the government for sports related activities.

101/24. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No items identified.

102/24. NEXT MEETINGS

The date for the next meetings were confirmed as Tuesday 13th May 2025, 7.20pm at the Village Hall. These will commence with the Annual Parish meeting followed by the Annual meeting and normal monthly meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.24pm

Signed -----

Date. -----