

# Algarkirk Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ALGARKIRK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> JULY 2025, 7.20pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ALGARKIRK

Present: Councillors: G Reid (Chairman) M Spiller, J Cantwell, L Shepherd  
Also Present: Mrs M Warr (Clerk), 1 member of the public, Mike Sharp (Church Warden)

## PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A question was asked during the discussion about the parish funds held by the Church.

## 14/25 APOLOGIES

No apologies received.

## 15/25 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY OR NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

Cllr Cantwell declared non pecuniary interests in any matters relating to BBC planning, as he is a member of the committee and matters relating to Sutterton PC, as he is a member of the Parish Council.

## 16/25 MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual and monthly meetings held on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025, were presented. It was noted that the defibrillator has new pads, however, the battery is showing a low charge so the facility will be removed from The Circuit until the machine is fully functional.

### **RESOLVED:**

**That, the minutes of the Annual and monthly meetings, held on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025, are approved as a true record.**

## 17/25 COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

It was noted that an election had not been requested for the two vacancies, so the co-option process was once again approved. It was agreed to advertise the two vacancies. Any applications would be reviewed and the successful applicants appointed at the September meeting.

**RESOLVED: that, the councillor vacancies would be advertised and any applications reviewed. The successful applicants will be appointed at the September Annual Meeting.**

## 18/25 PLANNING

No items to discuss

## 19/25. POLICE REPORT

No crimes were reported in April and no further updates are available.

## 20/25. CLERK'S REPORT

**Microsoft 365 OneDrive Subscription** – The current subscription is for a personal account rather than a business account and used to cost £59.99 per year. However, it's increased this year to £84.99, therefore, I have transferred to a business account for £55.20 from next month, following the one-month free trial. Councillors now have access to all PC documents through OneDrive.

**Allotment space** – Algarkirk Parochial Charities are advertising the following: 0.44 acres of land coming up for rent at the end of this year. This land is based in Church Lane, Algarkirk and is for the use of an allotment. The rent will be £30.03 per year and it will be a yearly rolling tenancy, with a notice period to vacate of 1 year.

**Website** – if you have visited our website recently you may have seen the dreadful purple 'Welcome' message right across the middle of the image of the Church. I've contacted the host and apparently the colour change happened during a recent update and they are trying to fix it. All the Lincolnshire County PC websites have the same issue. I've made a temporary change to the layout while they sort it out.

## 21/25 JOINT VILLAGES EMERGENCY GROUP

The group met in May and June and two risk assessment walks have been carried out in Sutterton and Fosdyke, with the Algarkirk walk arranged for later this month. The Awards for All grant has been successful and £3450 awarded. 6 emergency bags have been purchased and first aid training will be organised for the volunteers. An event will take place in September to give volunteers more information and allocate roles. A list of vulnerable residents will be included in the confidential section of the emergency plan and members were invited to nominate residents who may be applicable.

## 22/25. REPORT ON OTHER PARISH MATTERS

a) Village Hall – Cllr Spiller explained that both ladies' toilets in the Hall were around 45 years old and need replacing, as the parts were no longer available to make repairs. Each toilet would cost £320 to replace. It was agreed that the PC would pay for one replacement and an application will be made to the BBC ward councillor budget for the second one.

**RESOLVED: that one of the ladies' toilets in the Village Hall would be replaced at a cost of £320.00**

b) Playing Field – it was noted that the annual inspection will be in August. The adult air skier is being repaired and will be completed before the inspection, along with replacement swing shackles.

c) Churchyard – Mike Sharp, the Church Warden attended to discuss the items relating to the Church. It was agreed that any expenditure relating to church property (e.g. the mowers) will be reimbursed. The situation with the bees in the store building was discussed and it was agreed that the gardening equipment could be stored in the Church until the store building is cleared and repaired. Mr Sharp asked for a

representative from the PC to sit on the PCC as a new PCC has been formed, following the merge of Algarkirk and Wyberton Churches. Cllr Spiller agreed to be the representative.

Several questions were asked about the funds that remained from the failed lottery bid and members were assured that all Algarkirk monies are ringfenced and available. A Christmas carol service was agreed for 7<sup>th</sup> December and Kirton Brass Band will be in attendance. This will take place in the Church at 3.30pm. The PC discussed holding a lunch ahead of the service at 1pm and this will be discussed further at a separate meeting.

Residents had complained that no water was available in the churchyard. The Chairman agreed to check if the tap was working.

**RESOLVED: that, Cllr Spiller is the representative on the PCC.**

**That, a carol service will take place on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December in Algarkirk Church, at 3.30pm.**

#### **23/25. 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 May and June (paid by Standing Order) - £446.96**

**Village Hall Association – meeting room hire for 2025 - £250.00**

**Defib Store – new pads for defibrillator - £84.00 (paid May)**

**Robert Crawford – mower repair for payback team - £258.22 (paid June)**

**Algarkirk Playing Field Association** – it was noted that the account is closed and £2326.89 transferred to the Community Account.

**HMRC** – it was noted that the refund of £1496.38, for the overpayment made in 2020/21, has been received and the VAT refund of £677.17 for 2024/25 has also been received.

**POLICIES** – a pre-approved contractor policy was discussed and unanimously agreed and adopted.

**RESOLVED: that a pre-approved contractor policy is adopted and contractors will be invited to apply.**

#### **24/25. COMMUNITY SURVEY AND THREE-YEAR PLAN**

It was agreed that the survey should be in a number of formats, including digital and hard copies, to appeal to all age groups. It was felt that large capital projects should also be included in any plan as S106 funding may be applicable in the future.

The format and topics for inclusion in the survey will be agreed at the September meeting.

#### **25/25. LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS AND BOSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL**

LCCLlr Lock did not attend the meeting or submit a report.

Cllr Cantwell updated on several BBC matters:

- Each ward councillor has £1000 to spend across the ward, with a closing date of 26<sup>th</sup> February 2026
- 14 pod vehicles have been purchased, ahead of the new food waste collection service that will start in April 2026.
- Discussions have taken place with Police Inspection Ian Cotton to set up a new partnership for the area, to help raise local awareness.
- The ownership of the bridge and path that connects Algarkirk and Sutterton, is still ongoing. LCC have taken ownership of the pavement but are still disputing the bridge. Unfortunately, CLL Lock was not in attendance to discuss this further but a strong response has been made to LCC.

26/25. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Survey, Christmas Event.

27/25. NEXT MEETINGS

The date for the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2025, 7.20pm at the Village Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm

Signed -----

Date. -----