

Algarkirk Parish Council

<https://algarkirk.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/>

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ALGARKIRK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 14th MARCH 2023, 7.20pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ALGARKIRK

Present: Councillors: D Reid (Chairman), S Walker (Vice Chairman),
G Reid, M Spiller and E Taylor

Also Present: Mrs M Warr (Clerk)

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No items

15/23 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman opened the meeting by giving thanks to Boston Borough Cllr Mike Cooper for all his help over the past 10 years, as it was noted that he was standing down at the election. Unfortunately, he was not in attendance to receive a small gift and card but these will be delivered to the council offices.

The Chairman acknowledged that this was the last meeting before the election and said she hoped to see the Councillors once again in May.

16/23 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr E Walker and Lincolnshire County Councillor, Mike Brookes

17/23 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY OR NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

18/23 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th January 2023 were presented.

RESOLVED:

That, the minutes of the meeting, held on 10th January 2023 are approved as a true record.

19/23 PLANNING MATTERS

Two new planning applications were processed between meetings and the comments submitted were noted as follows:

B/23/0005 The Chestnuts, Green Lane, PE20 2AD - Algarkirk Parish Council strongly object to this caravan site application on a number of grounds. We feel this is not an appropriate location and this does not constitute a sustainable development, nor are there any benefits to this small village. If approved this could set a precedent.

We are a very small dispersed, village that is divided up by both the A16 and A17. With 45 dwellings, a closed church and village hall on this side of the A16 and 75 dwellings and farm shop, scattered around the other parts. We are a rural and predominantly farming community. Algarkirk has no services or associated tourist facilities, neither are we on any clear tourist routes or links. The village has absolutely no amenities, except a postbox, having to go a mile away, at the closest, to the next village which has a small shop, pub, open part time and a small touring caravan site. Any visitors would be reliant on private cars for travel in nearly all circumstances. We see very little value for our local economy.

Access and Highway Safety - Regarding the caravan site we have several concerns regarding this proposed site. It lies in what was a small neat copse, inhabited by the usual small country mammals. All roads (barring the A16) surrounding this area and proposed site, are single country lanes, have deep dykes running alongside, have 60mph speed limits, are unlit, have no pavements and have rare passing points which are not in the best of conditions, having gravel and grass coming through in places, due to heavy vehicles. They are constantly in use by large farm vehicles and machinery, heavy lorries and local traffic. They are not easy routes for emergency vehicles either. The single lane fly over that crosses the A17 comes close to the side and back of the site and is used by vehicles and people, often fast motorists trying to avoid the busy A16. We are extremely concerned regarding health and safety due, not only due to the Woodyard and the associated chemicals used in the wood barn, but to the close proximity of this proposed caravan site to the A16. There is no direct access to the site. This is a very busy road that is constantly in use, becoming busier each week with the continuing housing developments in the area. We are greatly concerned regarding the volume of the constant noise and pollution from the traffic. We feel that it is unacceptable to expect holiday visitors to the area to be subjected to this. We feel that visitors to our area should be afforded the same care regarding noise and pollution as full time inhabitants. Although the planting of trees may provide some mitigation, the planting of more trees does not take into account the challenges of climate change as trees need a constant supply of water. All of these barriers would do little for the caravan occupants or to enhance the site, the surrounding and distinctive landscape of the beautiful panoramic skies that we see in Lincolnshire.

On one side, close to the intended entrance, is a public footpath that crosses the A16. This path and gateway are very close to the proposed the site entrance. This public footpath must allow walkers through with no barriers, which will make it very accessible to visitors, which is an additional hazard. The closeness of the flyover overlooks the intended site, removing any privacy.

Woodyard and Processing Barn (Health and safety) The Parish Council completely supports that the environmental officer's report regarding the proposed linked planning for 2 conversions into holiday lets. The health and safety issues due to dust, noise, fumes and pollution affect both parts of the planning. This area is a large working, industrial area and apart from the dust and chemicals from the processing barn, there are forklift trucks and other vehicles moving huge tree trunks, logs and pallets around the site.

Design of Site - We have noticed a number of irregularities and items that do not appear to have been included:

Lack of concrete bases for caravans - Position of electricity connection to the caravans - Fire point - Fire alarms - Emergency phone box - Defibrillator - Waste bins - Refuse collection and recycling point - Drainage/sewerage entry points - Fresh water points

CONCLUSION

Apart from the large cabin and fishing lakes at Wyberton, within on our boundaries off of the A17, there is a purpose built site of lodges surrounding around fishing lakes - Walnut Lakes. In Sutterton, the next village, there is a small touring caravan site sitting in a wooded area for natural burial, behind the pub. Both of these sites are on or easily reach major roads. We feel that they already support any need there may be in this vicinity.

Algarkirk PC would urge a detailed site visit prior to any decision being made. However, should the Council be minded to approve the application, the Parish Council would like to see a number of conditions imposed, particularly in relation to the points raised above regarding the design of the site and health and safety aspects.

B/23/0032 Boundary House, Waste Green Lane, PE20 2AT – no comment

Approved Applications

It was noted that the following applications have been approved:

B/022/350 Poplar Farm, Marsh Lane - 5 No residential dwellings including a conversion and extension to existing agricultural building

B/022/0454 Crossgates Farm, Crossgates Lane - Demolition of existing agricultural barns and erection of 3no. dwellings with associated accesses and change of use of agricultural land to residential curtilage

20/23 POLICE REPORT

The police report for the end of January 2023 showed one crime of criminal damage and arson. It was noted that in February the shed used by the Community Payback team had been broken into and a number of strimmers and a hedge cutter had been stolen. It was agreed to buy a replacement strimmer and hedge cutter as a donation to the team for their excellent work around the churchyard.

21/23 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk circulated a report ahead of the meeting. The main item of note was the availability of funds from the UK Prosperity Fund for local projects.

Details of an increase in the rent for the playing field had been received. This will take effect on 1st April 2023 and rises from £215 to £240 per annum.

22/23 REPORT ON OUTSTANDING MATTERS:

Village Hall: Cllr Spiller reported that all the locks had been changed and the outside lights replaced as part of the refurbishment program. The ladies' toilets had also been replaced and work on the floor and walls was nearing completion. Cllr Spiller was warmly thanked for all her hard work and it was agreed to contribute £250 towards the refurbishment.

It was noted that the rent for the village hall had been paid, following a mix up with contact details.

RESOLVED: that, £250 will be donated to the Village Hall Association towards the refurbishment program.

Playing Field: No items to report

Churchyard: No items to report

23/23 FINANCE REPORT

The Clerk gave a financial report and submitted a bank reconciliation, which was accepted. It was agreed not to subscribe to the training package from LALC. Any training will be paid for on an ad hoc basis.

Chq 1161 for £323.70 will be cancelled as it remains uncashed from May 2022.

RESOLVED:

That, Chq 1161 for £323.70 will be cancelled

That, the following invoices are approved:

M Warr – salary for January and February (paid by Standing Order) - £407.84

M Warr – additional hours for January and March meetings - £64.64

Cestrian Signs – Notice Board - £245.99 (£41.00 VAT)

LALC - annual subs - £143.45

24/23 NOTICE BOARD

It was noted that the notice board had been received and will be installed by a local contractor in the near future.

25/23 FOOTWAY LIGHTS

After further consideration it was agreed to rescind the resolution, made at the last meeting, to change all the footway lights to the new LED version with night controls. It was agreed that the cost would not be compensated by the savings. Any blown bulbs would be replaced as required.

RESOLVED: That, minute 11/23 is rescinded and any blown footway light bulbs will be replaced on an individual basis.

26/23 CORONATION OF THE KING

Suggestions of how to commemorate the coronation of the King were discussed, these included a time capsule and planting a tree. However, no agreement was reached and it was decided to bring the item back to the next meeting.

Sutterton PC had contacted the Clerk regarding coronation mugs for children who attend the primary school. It was agreed to fund 12 mugs at £6.50 each. It was also agreed to display a poster advertising the mugs at £7 each for other children in the Village.

RESOLVED: that, Algarkirk PC would fund 12 coronation mugs at £6.50 each.

27/23 BUS STOP IN ALGARKIRK FOR 57 BUS

The Clerk had several email exchanges with East Midlands Stagecoach regarding the timetable for the 57 bus, as it intimated that there was a bus stop that serviced Algarkirk. However, it became apparent that the only service for the Village is through Call Connect as a bus stop is not viable. More information can be obtained from <https://lincsbus.info/callconnect/callconnect-area-guides/callconnect-boston/>

28/23 LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL AND BOSTON COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

Neither councillor was in attendance, but Lincolnshire County Cllr Brookes informed the meeting by email that Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership are going to install an average speed camera system on the A16 between Sutterton Roundabout and Surfleet Roundabout. The existing static speed camera near Sutterton roundabout will be recovered and an average speed camera system consisting of three average speed cameras will be installed along that section of road. The objective of this initiative is accident reduction.

29/23 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Kings Coronation commemoration
- Purchase of items to donate to the Payback team

30/23 NEXT MEETINGS

Due to the elections, it was agreed to reschedule the May meetings to Tuesday 16th May 2023 at 7.20pm. The meetings will start with the Annual Parish Meeting and be followed by the Annual Meeting and monthly meeting.

There being no further matters to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.45pm.

Signed -----

Date. -----