

## LAKENHEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Lakenheath Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022  
Held at Lakenheath Methodist Chapel commencing at 7:00pm

### **Present**

Councillors: E Morley (Chairman), R Norman, J Cahill, J Gentle, A Gyte, P Gyte, J Hastings, G Kelly, S Palmer, M Flint (Clerk) Lakenheath Squadron Leader: S Geary,  
Cllr: C Noble-District and County, Cllr: S Frost – District 5 member of the public.

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

Cllr: W Overy. Absent Cllr: Iain Frost

### **2 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr: A Gyte-Lakenheath Football Club  
Cllr: P Gyte- Lakenheath Good Neighbours  
Cllr: J Hastings-Lakenheath Keep Fit, Curling Club  
Cllr: Norman. Village Hall and Goward Evans Charity

### **3 Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

Two errors corrected as requested by Cllrs

It was agreed that the minutes were a true record of accounts and it was proposed and seconded that these should be signed as such. All agreed.

### **4. Representations from Members of the Public**

A member of the Public raised concerns over the fact that the street lights in Caudle Avenue have been off for the last two years.

A member of the public raised concerns in regards to footpath accessibility.

### **5. Reports & Questions:**

#### **(a)RAF Commander Lakenheath**

Operations/Exercises:

48FW aircraft deployed to Poland to conduct Enhanced Air Policing Operations. Aircraft also deployed to France for an ACE Exercise and to Spain for the Tactical Leadership Program. In addition, the F35A squadron conducted a 'cross-ramp' Exercise at RAF Lakenheath before deploying to Estonia and Lithuania in support of Enhanced Air Policing Operations. Finally, USAF F16s from Aviano Air Base arrived at RAF Lakenheath last week.

Visits/Meetings/Events:

11 Feb 22: RAF Commander attended the 48FW Annual Awards Ceremony at RAF Lakenheath.

Community Engagement:

11 Feb 22: RAF Commander attended the British American Committee (BAC) meeting at RAF Lakenheath. The BAC are keen to provide opportunities for young airmen to engage with the local community.

#### **Lakenheath Community Matters:**

Village overflights: Discussed with Ops Spt Sqn Cdr. Reviewed flying orders. Orders clear about not flying over village on arrival, but not clear about flying over village on departure. However, departure procedure from 06 runway has now been changed to avoid Lakenheath village.

	<p>Driving: Highlighted the plan to reintroduce the Community Speed Watch initiative in Lakenheath village and have continued to remind USAF personnel about the dangers of driving on the roads within the UK</p> <p><b>(b) West Suffolk District Council</b></p> <p>Cllr S Frost reported that he had attended the West Suffolk council budget debate the budget and asked for any questions there were none.</p> <p><b>(c) Suffolk County Council</b></p> <p>Cllr: Noble reported that he had attended both the West Suffolk at the County Council budget debates where the previously advised rises were passed. Parish Council members pointed out they had now received their 2022-23 Council Tax Bills. He then turned to the comments for the Public Speaking session and stated that he would be pleased to get the previously supplied SCC village Lighting survey updated to take account of recent upgrades to LED lamps and to look specifically at the problems face by residents in Caudle Avenue. He also agreed that he would be please to understand more the issues raised about Right of Way No.11 from South Road to Broom Road and to this end he met with a MoP outside the meeting.</p> <p><i>Cllrs:Frost and Noble left the meeting at 7.32pm</i></p>
6	<p><b>Financial Matters including: -</b></p> <p><b>(a) Payments of Accounts</b> It was agreed that the payments were an accurate account and it was proposed and seconded to pay the accounts as stated. This was agreed by all.</p> <p><b>(b) Bank Reconciliation for January</b></p> <p>It was accepted that it was an accurate record of accounts and it was proposed and seconded that this be accepted as an accurate record of accounts. All agreed.</p>
7	<p><b>Lakenheath Cemetery</b></p> <p><b>(a)To receive a Cemetery Report</b></p> <p>It was reported that there were a couple of issues to be addressed at the Cemetery, there is a bush growing on one of the graves on the old section Cllr: Gyte asked that this be removed, the toilet door is still sticking this has been reported as an issue before and it has been requested that the Village keeper plane the door to allow full closure of the toilet door.</p> <p><b>(b) To confirm Grant of Exclusive Rights of Burial</b></p> <p>There were none.</p>
8	<p><b>Emergency Action Plan Update</b></p> <p>Cllr: Hasting reported that the recent storm had cause disruption in the village with power outs. The EAPG had sprung into action and had visited vulnerable households in the village offering support where needed. A food welfare Vehicle had come into the area at 12.45pm on the Sunday providing hot drinks, food and phone charging. On reflection, Cllr:Hastings felt that the village was well supported but the incident did highlight the need for more resources and these have now been ordered in preparation for any future emergency.</p>
9	<p><b>Street lighting Quotation : Albert Rolph Drive and Clarification Anchor Lane 349/306</b></p> <p>Clerk confirm that the light fitting that was mentioned in last months Meeting ( Anchor lane 349 ) is not the same street light as 306 which is the light fitting that is being moved and cost picked up by the owner of the land next to 19 Anchor Lane. The Chairman and Clerk used delegated powers to approve this work.</p>

	<p>The Clerk has also received a quote for light fittings 285/287 Albert Rolph Drive, 2 Now obsolete 80W MBFU lanterns with new LED type For The Sum of £935.01 + VAT, the council voted to accept this quote and Clerk will contact Streetlighting to confirm. Finally the invoice for work carried out throughout the year has been received, the total cost is £16,423.12 + VAT which is in excess of the 21/22 budget, the Council voted to adjust the budget to cover the cost of this invoice.</p> <p><b>3 members of the public left the meeting 7:51pm</b></p>
10	<p><b>Queens Canopy -Update</b></p> <p>Cllr Cahill reported that the area at Mutford Green had been agreed as the site for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Tree and there was a discussion as to which tree to plant and also which plaque to purchase. It was agreed that the plaque would be purchased from the RBL and the Clerk should order it. Cllr Cahill asked for consideration to be given for a bench to be placed at the site. It was proposed that a budget of £500 be given for the project and this was to include the cost of the tree, the plaque and a bench if applicable. This was seconded and the vote was carried unanimously.</p>
11	<p><b>Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations</b></p> <p>Cllr Hastings reported that the preparations for the celebrations were going well and that several events were already planned for the Sunday these include a picnic, bouncy castle, Ice-cream van. The Assistant Clerk had been tasked with the road closure. We were waiting on a response from the ballon man. Wendy Barnes from the Scout's group had offered the assistance of herself and other Scout leaders to run the colouring table and craft tables. A sample flag pole had been sourced and the village businesses would be encouraged to purchase a flag pole for the front of their shop. The villagers would be encouraged to enter the window display competition. The celebration coins had arrived and would be distributed to the school in due course. Cllr: Hastings asked the PC to consider a budget of £2000 for the cost of the celebrations and this would be managed by the Clerk and Chair under delegated powers. This was agreed by all. The lighting of the beacon would take place on the Thursday evening and further details of this would follow in due course.</p>
12	<p><b>Planning Matters</b></p> <p>Cllr: Kelly reported that Station Road had disappeared off the list of developments for the village and the reason behind this is that there is no developer involved and that the development will now not go ahead until 2025. Rabbit Hill Covern, Eriswell Road and Briscoe Way are still active. Cllr Kelly also reported that there is often a comment that there have been very few houses built in the village in the in the last 20 years but that the amount of houses built correlates almost exactly to the amount of planning applications received.</p>
13	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan update.</b></p> <p>Bid is in for regenerating the High Street, setting up of a green gateway at north and south end of the High Street. Suggested 20 mph voluntary speed limit. It is important to get everyone in the village involved with ideas and suggestions of what they would like. This makes it a parish project and also links back to the NP which will soon be going to referendum.</p>
14	<p><b>Outdoor Gym Equipment</b></p> <p>Cllr A Gyte reported that the Playing Field Association have removed themselves from this project and that he would like to bring the item back to the agenda next month when he will have more details of other interested parties. This was agreed by all.</p>

15	<p><b>Business Forum Update</b></p> <p>As Cllr Overy has offered her apologies, Cllr:Kelly reported that one of the things that has been raised was that the Businesses do not receive copies of the Lakenheath Times and that as this is where updates to the business forum are published that it should be considered that going forward every business in the High Street should receive a copy. The Clerk explained that she normally has between 20 and 30 copies over and she could make these available.</p>
16	<p><b>Mower Service Quote</b> The council voted to accept the quote for the mower service and the Clerk was tasked with contacting Pecks to arrange the service to be carried out and the mower returned to the Cemetery keeper on completion of the work.</p>
17	<p><b><i>The Council voted to exclude members of the public from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the next items. 3 members of the public left the meeting at 7.45pm.</i></b></p> <p><b>Staffing.</b></p> <p>The Parish Council considered the best ways to advertise the leaving Clerk's position and this will be actioned as soon as possible by the Clerk.</p> <p>The National pay award was considered and it was agreed to backdate to April 2021 in line with NALC's recommendation.</p> <p>Other Staffing issue was voted on and will be actioned by Clerk and Chairman on her return from AL.</p> <p><b>Such other business which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered as a matter of urgency</b></p> <p>None</p>
18	<p><b>Agenda items for the next meeting:</b></p> <p>Adult Gym funding</p>
19	<p><b>To note date of next Meetings - Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022</b></p> <p>There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.10pm</p> <p>Sign ..... Date .....</p> <p>CHAIRMAN</p> <p>Signed as confirmation that they are a true record.</p>

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