

## PAUNTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

### **Minutes of a Meeting of Pauntley Parish Council held at Pauntley Village Hall on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

Present: Councillor Paul Gray (Chair), Councillors Paul Eastabrook, Anne Rawson, Chris Philipps, Mark Hargreaves, Nick Fowke, Mandy Hampton.

In attendance: District Councillor Philip Burford, Mrs Rachel Freestone, Lesley Harding (Minutes)

#### **1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND ACCEPTABLE REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from the clerk due to the adverse weather. Lesley Harding took minutes.

#### **2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no declarations of personal or prejudicial interest in items on the agenda.

#### **3. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF PAUNTLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2022**

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meetings of Pauntley Parish Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022, with the following amendment:

Item 5.2 – the tree work had taken place at Compton Green, not at the village hall, and it was noted that, contrary to the comment in the internal audit report, the necessary quotes had been obtained.

#### **4. TO DISCUSS AND RESOLVE ON ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Item 6.2 – the maintenance scheme for the defibrillators is not connected to the VETs scheme, and details of the maintenance scheme have been circulated on several occasions. Those maintaining the defibrillators are now aware of how the scheme works and how to request replacement batteries and pads from Community Heartbeat.

#### **5. FINANCE**

- a. It was resolved to defer the report on the Parish Council's accounts until the next meeting.
- b. It was resolved to defer the budget analysis for the accounts for the months of October and November until the next meeting. Cllr Eastabrook reported that councillors have been working towards figures for the budget for 2023-2024, and that more accurate information would be available for the January meeting.

#### **6. PAYMENTS**

It was resolved to make the following payments:

<b>Minute</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>
727/6.a	35.00	9/11/2022	ICO	Subscription

## 7. RECEIPTS

The following receipt was noted:

Minute	Amount	Date	Payee	Description
727/7.a	149.83	25/11/2022	HMRC	VAT refund on marquee

## 8. TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023-2024 AND MAKE AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO THE DRAFT DOCUMENT

It was resolved to defer this item until the next meeting.

## 9. TO DISCUSS THE PROGRESS OF THE SCHEME TO REDUCE THE LOCAL SPEED LIMIT TO 20MPH

As Cllr Gill Moseley was not present, it was resolved to defer this item until the next meeting. It was felt that this initiative would be of benefit to the whole parish as many of the roads were unsafe at greater speeds, with Cllr Hargreaves commenting that the road from Compton Green to Payford was a dangerous and fast road. The possibility of setting up a sub-committee to progress this initiative was discussed and this will be considered at a future meeting.

## 10. TO WELCOME THE NEW CLERK TO THEIR ROLE AT THE PARISH COUNCIL AND VILLAGE HALL

Rachel Freestone was welcomed as the new clerk to the parish council from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023, and arrangements were underway for the transfer from the current clerk.

## 11. TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF THE TERMINATION OF THE CURRENT CLERK'S CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT

It had already been agreed that the current clerk's contract of employment will terminate on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022. The parish council thanked him for his work over the past two years.

## 12. TO AGREE THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was agreed as Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023, for the purpose of agreeing the budget for 2023-2024 and setting the precept.

## 13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

District Councillor Philip Burford provided a brief report on the District Council. A full council meeting had recently been held. The leader of the council has removed the two Green members from cabinet as they had not been following the agreed line of the council and cabinet. The cabinet is therefore smaller in number as these members have not been replaced. As a result, the cabinet is entirely Independent. He also noted that elections will be held in May 2023.

Concern was expressed by Cllr Fowke regarding the precedent that the planning permission for the log cabin at Compton Green may have set, as agricultural land adjacent to his property has been sold and the new owners may be looking to erect a residential building.

It was agreed that this would not be considered ancillary accommodation, as the log cabin had been, and that this would therefore not necessarily be a precedent in this situation.

The subject of whether council tax would be payable for the log cabin at Compton Green was raised and Cllr Eastabrook will contact Andrew Knott at the Forest of Dean District Council to enquire whether council tax would be payable on this property, or whether the valuation for the main house would be increased instead to take this into account.

Signed *PGray*.....

Date...*13<sup>th</sup> February 2023*.....