



**MINUTES OF THE FERNWOOD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**held on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 7 pm**  
**at Fernwood Village Hall**

Present: Parish Councillors:	Neill Mison, Kimberley Shepherd, Ian McGregor, Lee Rixon, Dave Mack, Jim Weale, and Mollie Weale
Clerk:	Darryl Flinders
Residents/Public	2
Newark & Sherwood District Councillors	2
County Councillors'	0

**RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Under the Openness of Local Govt. Bodies Regulations 2014, members of the public may now film, photograph and make audio recordings of the proceedings of the formal Council meeting. In the interests of protecting privacy, it is asked that filming of the public seating area is not undertaken. Recording activity should be respectful to the conduct of the meeting, and behaviour that disrupts the meeting (such as oral commentary) will not be permitted.

- 274 Declaration of intent to record, film or photograph the meeting by members, members of the public or the press**  
The Clerk/RFO recorded the meeting.
- 275 Apologies for absence** – Cllr McGregor
- 276 Declarations of Interest** - None.
- 277 Public Forum**  
It should be noted that in accordance with the Parish Council's Standing Orders, the maximum time permitted for contributions is 5 minutes per item. Unless permitted by The Chair, only matters on the agenda (business to be conducted) can be discussed during this forum.  
**No items noted**
- 278 Approval of the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024**  
The minutes were approved as presented and signed by the acting chair
- 279 Councillors & Clerk's reports** The reports were presented and discussed by councillors.
- 280 District Councillors reports** - The reports were presented and discussed by councillors

## 281 Finance

- a. Bank reconciliations up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024
  - b. Items of income to be noted
  - c. Expenditure since last meeting under delegated powers/previously agreed expenditure to be noted
  - d. Approval of invoices due for payment
  - e. Approval of expenses
  - f. Spinal point annual staff salary increases, in accordance with Local Government Services Pay agreement and in line with staff contracts. With effect from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 (to be noted)
  - g. Items of expenditure for consideration
    - Safety check of PV installation – **Referred to VH committee**
    - SCRIBE bookings module – Council **RESOLVED** to approve subscription as presented
  - h. Items of expenditure for consideration
- Items a to h have been considered, noted and approved as presented.**

- 282 RFO requested a resolution to appoint Internal Auditor (IA) for the 2023/24 accounting Period. The previous 2022/23 IA was Kenneth Goddard, and the approximate cost of using the same auditor will be circa £300 (subject to the amount of time taken to complete the audit). The council **RESOLVED** to appoint Kenneth Goddard as IA as requested and approved expenditure up to £400 to cover costs.

## 283 Planning

None received.

## 284 Correspondence

NSDC communication relating to consultation and changes to planning policy has been shared with all councillors as requested.

Questions received via PC website:

- a) PC engagement with residents over their ideas for CIL expenditure?
  - Projects are currently under development/being implemented for Play Park renewal, Dog Waste Bins (larger bins), re-decoration of Village Hall, Development of Village Hall garden for use by hirers and attendees of events.
- b) Progress on land transfer?
  - Due diligence is currently underway relating to Land Transfer
- c) Clock Tower development?
  - No update to report
- d) John Jeys retirement, can this be mentioned in the Gazette?
  - Entry into the gazette is being progressed.
- e) Update on what is happening with the scrapyard and concerns expressed regarding its operation, dogs on-site and passing dog walkers.
  - All matters/concerns have been forwarded to NSDC for investigation.

- 285 Cllr McGregor requested an agenda item to seek council approval to research the cost of replacing the PA system in both halls. Unfortunately, Cllr McGregor was absent, so he could not present his item as proposed.

It was **RESOLVED** to defer the agenda item to a future meeting.

- 286** Cllr Mison is asking the council to agree to instruct The Clerk to order the framing of the Fernwood Coat of Arms from Hills of Newark at a previously quoted cost of £608.43+vat. And to consider and agree a maximum figure of up to £800 for The Clerk to spend, should there be a cost increase.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the instruction to The Clerk and the maximum figure for spend, as presented.

**Standing orders were suspended for consultation with an audience member.**

**Standing orders were re-instated.**

- 287** Cllr Mack is asking the council to create a Working Group to collect information regarding the the future of the Fernwood Gypsum site and the creation of a nature reserve.

It was agreed that a Working Group should be formed.

**The meeting closed at 8.15 PM**