

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING REPORT

As agreed at the June 2021 meeting of the council, the Chairman of the Parish Council, Alan Greenway, had resigned to allow for an election to the position.

Prior to the council meeting a councillor raised a concern with regard to the dangers of large farm tractors, straddling centre white lines and going fast through the village with their forks lowered. While the tractors' speeds were within the speed limit, the council will write about the danger to Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) so that, should an incident occur, the council would be seen to have taken action.

There was a concern with regard to the surface of the newly-laid path between Eagle Drive and Manor Park. It was reported that the path had been closed, and appropriate notices placed, pending the completion of the work in mid-September.

The council meeting began with the election of a new chairman. In the secret ballot Alan Greenway defeated Roy Loble and was re-elected.

The new deputy clerk, Louise Gibbs, was introduced to the council.

There were, again, no applications for the current vacancy on the council.

A debate took place about whether the council should join the West Lindsey District Council (WLDC) Defibrillator Member Scheme where, for an annual fee of £100 per defibrillator, WLDC would sell and maintain defibrillators while also advising on suitable locations. It was pointed out that the existing three, parish council-installed, defibrillators were currently maintained by council staff and WLDC advice on locations is mainly for a public accessible location with a power supply. There was some uncertainty about the current number, location and accessibility of defibrillators in the village. The council has three; one at the parish office, one at the Sports & Social Club and another at Manor Park. There is one outside St Mary's school which is accessible to the public and one inside the health centre, but it was uncertain if there was one at the village hall and whether it was accessible [There isn't one]. It was stated that none of the council's defibrillators had been used since they were installed. One councillor questioned if training might be provided to the public as people might be nervous of using these devices. It was said that the instructions for usage are very clear and easy to follow and in any case they are only used when a person's heart has stopped and the action is to resuscitate the victim. It was agreed that the council would join the WLDC scheme and purchase an additional two defibrillators at £400 each and at a total maintenance cost of £500/year with possible locations at Ryland Bridge and at the police station. District councillor Caralyne Grimble stated that she had tried to use her councillor initiative fund to contribute towards the purchase of the defibrillators but it had been explained to her by WLDC officials that this was not allowed. Pressed on the matter she could not recall the reason for the prohibition.

The public open space at the Roman Meadow development was reported as "looking good" and the proposed transfer of ownership to the council is currently with the council's solicitors.

There was a concern that LCC approved advertising boards on the new A46 roundabout could be a distraction to motorists.

The council heard reports on recent meetings which included the following:

- Terry Peachman has stepped down after 10 years as Chairman of Welton Football Club; he has been replaced by Jonathan Hodges.
- Three vehicles were locked in at Manor Park after the barrier closed at 10.30pm, despite a prominent notice warning of the closure time. One owner tried to raise the barrier, one rang the parish office and another rammed the barrier.
- The Christ's Hospital Endowment Trust has in recent years concentrated on providing endowments of £250 to suitable applicants who were about to go to university. The trust is now exploring the possibility of also focusing on primary and secondary school pupils.
- The Village Hall Trust is working on a proposal for alternate use of the Nissen hut and the enclosed green area to the rear of the village hall

A report was provided on the use of Facebook. The council's Facebook is now up and running and ready for followers.

The proposal for the change in use of the defunct bowls area at Manor Park to a multi-use games area and outdoor gym was referred to the Facilities and Recreation committee for consideration.

A representative of the Welton, Dunholme and Scothern Benefice will be invited to the council's October meeting to present proposals for its good neighbour scheme.

The next full parish council meeting is on Monday 11th October at 7.30pm at Manor Park.

Hugh Gilfedder