**Minutes of a Meeting of Paston Parish Council**

Held on Thursday 7th September 2023 at 7.00 pm in St Margaret`s Church, Paston.

**Present**: Nick Bardswell (Chairman), Boo Tumber (Vice-Chairman) Maggie Brett, Jessel Manricks, Pip Clabon, Dee Holroyd (Clerk), Cllr Pauline Porter (NNDC),PC Barrie Cresswell (MOD).

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**1** **Apologies for Absence**: Denise McKeough, Ashlee Cotter, Cllr Ed Maxfield.

**2** **Declarations of Interest**: none

**3** **Ed Maxfield** (NCC): had sent his report.

**Cllr Pauline Porter** (NNDC)**:** had passed on to the police concerns about disturbing behaviour at the playground. The police could only take action while a crime was actually being committed. A current improvement in behaviour was put down to the presence of a camera and regular evening patrols by members of the PC. PP also reported that there had been many complaints about speeding in Norfolk villages. The Speed and Crime Commissioner will be in Cromer on Friday 8th September and Duncan Baker MP is having a meeting with Highways to discuss this problem. Some villages already have a 20mph limit in place.

**4. PC Barrie Cresswell** (MOD) confirmed that income from speed camera fines funds road safety improvements. A suggestion was made that Paston would benefit from a one-way system. Bears Road was too narrow to support two-way traffic and cars tended to speed uphill to the sharp right hand bend. DH to contact Cllr EM to ask for this and a 20 mph speed limit through the village.

**5. Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th July** were agreed and signed by the Chairman. Proposed MB, seconded BT.

**6. Matters Arising:**

The security camera was in place on the playground.

The village gates had been ordered and it was hoped would be in place by the end of the year.

**7. Parish Councillors reports:**

BT reported that downloads from the speed camera in July, when at the church end of the village, had showed an average speed of 30mph with the highest recorded being 42mph. Average recorded speed at the pond end had been 28mph with the highest recorded being 50mph. An average of 300 cars per hour passed through Paston.

MB reported that the wood supporting the flower bed in front of the playground had rotted. It was agreed that a new support of a concrete base with fixed sleepers attached should be installed.

It had been noted that the zip wire was too low at its central point. DM would contact the installers with a view to either tightening or replacing the overhead cable.

**7. Consideration of route of Vattenfall cables within the parish:** The proposed route through the south of the parish had not been confirmed nor in what type of housing they would be contained. It was not believed that anyone in Paston village felt strongly about this. Once these decisions were made there could be discussion.

**8. Request for mowing of Paston Green**.

A request had been made for the PC to cover the cost of mowing this area. The land was known to be in private ownership so this request could not be granted.

**9**. **Any Other Business: Hemp Lane** This was a historic path but long disused leading from the forge into the middle of what is now a big field belonging to PC. By way of recap an Edingthorpe resident and footpath campaigner Ian Witham had applied to register this path on the County Council definitive map. The PPC had indicated they did not support the application because the path only ever accessed historic fields (which no longer existed) and it had not been used for decades. It stopped well short of the clifftop so in the view of the PPC and the County Council could never have been a public right of way. The County Council had accordingly refused the application. Mr Witham had however lodged an appeal with the Planning Inspectorate. PC said he and his solicitors had recently been informed that the Planning Inspector had allowed the appeal and ordered the County Council to register the path. NB would contact Ian Sharman the footpath officer dealing at the County Council (with whom he had already been in correspondence re the path) to find out where the matter currently stood procedurally and generally. Having spoken hopefully with Mr Sharman NB would report back to the PPC.

**The Meeting closed** at 8.20 pm

Date of next meeting: Thursday 2nd November.