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

**Thursday 2nd November 2023 at 7.00pm in**

**Paston Church**

Present: Nick Bardswell (Chairman), Boo Tumber (Vice-Chairman), Maggie Brett, Pip Clabon, Ashlee Cotter, Jessel Manricks, Denise McKeough, Dee Holroyd (clerk), Cllr Ed Maxfield (NCC) and Coralie Martin, Community Connector, NNDC.

1 Apologies for Absence: Cllr Pauline Porter (NNDC) Barrie Cresswell (MOD police)

2 Declarations of Interest: Pip Clabon, item 4, Hemp Lane.

3 Cllr Ed Maxfield: had sent his report. He added that NCC might have to cut some services due to lack of funds. To get extra central government funding might mean the NCC has to agree to a directly elected leader (as a mayor).The weather had led to a number of calls to Highways.

EM would take request for a one-way system on Bears Lane and Pond Lane to the Highways team. If it went ahead it would be expensive. Any objections would put the cost up but residents had been sounded out by MB and all so far were in favour. NCC might cover the cost or 50% Parish Partnership funding could be available or EM`s fund.

4 Minutes of the meeting held on 7thSeptember: were agreed and signed by the chairman, proposed BT, seconded DM.

Off Agenda The chairman invited Coralie Martin to address the meeting. CM explained that the role of the seven Community Connectors in the north Norfolk area was to support people in the community, both as groups and in their own homes. `Warm and Well` drop ins with hot drinks and baby packs, would be at libraries during opening hours. There was a lot of information and CM would leave a comprehensive folder in the church. Notices were left for the notice board. CM emphasised that the CC were easy to contact by telephone or e mail. NB thanked CM and she left the meeting at 7.20pm.

5 Matters Arising from the Minutes:

Hemp Lane: PC had declared an interest. This lane had originally provided access to some of the forty individual fields and terminated before reaching the cliff top and access to the beach there was not possible now let alone before the sea defences were put in place. These fields were now one, there was no need for a path across them and there was now a well used permissive path put in by the farmer some 12 years ago.

The County Council had refused Mr Witham’s application to add Hemp Lane to the definitive map. He had appealed to the Planning Inspectorate who had allowed the appeal and directed the County Council to register the track. It was agreed that the PC should challenge this as it was based on incorrect information. The village did not want it reinstated. It would not be used by anyone, it was not needed, and it would interfere with cultivation NB would draft and circulate a letter objecting to the Order, with reasons.

All agreed.

6 Parish Councillor`s Reports:

MB had received requests for the PC to address flooding on the Paston road. Water had collected on the road due to a blocked drainpipe from the pond at Green Farm. The pipe needed rodding properly. NB would talk to the owners

The playground gazebo had not yet been painted, probably due to the wet weather.

DM was hoping to get the last quarter of grant next week so the polytunnel could go ahead with permission of the landowner achieved. AC would advise on a suitable base.

The zip wire and basket on the playground had both been raised by Action Play.

BT: the SAM sign needed a new battery to enable data collection. It was agreed that BT`s husband Pete could install this at a considerably lower cost than if done by Westacot.

7 Planning: Holiday Village

The PC had no objection to application PF/23/2025 (Holiday Village) to convert a building to accommodation. DH to put in comment.

Banked Area: It was believed this area, previously grass and gravel, should have planning permission for its present use, which included a large skip, storage tanks and various stored items. NB draft an on line request for a view on whether the present use required planning permission.

8 Financial Report, Budget Approval, Precept setting. Cash book had been circulated showing a current credit balance of £12,753. The precept application had to be in by 31st January, so precept and budget would be agreed at the January meeting.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 4th January 2024 at the church.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm