**Glemsford Parish Council**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8th Oct 2024 at the Village Hall**

Present: Cllrs: Southgate (chairman), Mills, Ansell, Michael Holt, Margaret Holt, Hall and Broadbent

Cllr Kemp. The clerk.

5 members of the public

**01.10 Parish announcements**

No announcements

**02.10 Apologies for absence**

DCllr Plumb, Cllrs Tunbridge and Marks

**03.10 Declarations of interest/dispensation requests**

Cllr Holt declared an interest in all planning matters due to being a member of the planning committee at BDC.

**04.10 To adopt minutes of council meeting held on the 10th September 2024**

***It was resolved*** to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the 10th September 2024 subject to change of 10.08 (finance). Resolution should read ‘it was resolved to set a budget of £3883.00 for the supply and installation of new lights’ not £36,883.00. Cllr Hall abstained from voting.

**05.10 Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting**

No matter arising

**06.10 To receive reports**

CCllr Kemp reported – report can be viewed on the website.

DCllr Holt reported – report can be viewed on the website. Waste collection will change in 2026, details to be confirmed.

**07.10 Planning New applications:**

 **DC/24/04174 – 43 Tye Green**

Application for works to trees in a conservation area – crown reduce 2no sycamore trees and 1no cherry tree by up to third of height

 ***It was resolved*** to recommend: no reason to object

 **DC/04435 – 1 Bells Lane**

Application for works to trees in a conservation area – T1 willow tree – reduce to previous pollard points

 **Granted applications:**

 **DC/24/03678 – Lynward, 4 Hunts Hill**

Application for works to a tree in a conservation area – T1 plum to reduce the height by 2m leaving it 4m tall

 **DC/24/02751 – Wongs takeaway, 31 Egremont St**

 Change of use from takeaway to office (granted subject to conditions)

 **DC/24/03677 – South House, Bells Lane**

 Application for works to a tree in a conservation area – reduce 1no yew tree (T1) at the sides by 1.5m (leaving a width of 4m), keeping it a sensible size for its location next to the house.

**08.10 Public question time**

No questions

**09.08 Accounts for approval**

***It was resolved*** to agree the accounts

Payments for authorisation: Oct

 Main account: payments:

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| Charge card | 94.93 |
| Comm Action Suff - email adds | 282 |
| PKF Littlejohn - external audit | 504 |
| Sound Solution - acoustic test | 1074 |
| SALC - payroll | 129.6 |

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| Income main account: ZeroVillage Hall account: payments

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| AWA | 95 |
| Octopus  | 180.69 |

Income Village Hall account:Rent: £836.50 |  |
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**11.10 Reports from working groups**

**Cemetery**

No report

**Finance**

No report

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**Village Hall**

No report

**Neighbourhood Plan**

Ian Poole from Places4People attended an informal meeting to advise new councillors on the process of establishing the Neighbourhood Plan.

The plan is nearing the end of its process.  Once any amendments to the plan are agreed by the Parish Council and all necessary reports are ready it will be submitted to BDC.

BDC will do a 6wk consultation of the amended plan and an independent examination will take place to ensure all national and local plan strategic policies are followed. The Examiner will identify any changes to the Plan that are required to take it forward to referendum.  BDC will then make the decision to send the plan to a Parish referendum, this will take place in the same format as an election; voting at a polling station.  It is anticipated the referendum will take place 5-6mths from submission of the plan.

**Climate Emergency (Greening Glemsford)**

No report.

**11.10 Bus shelter repairs – update**

To date there has been over 60 responses to the shelter survey. Due to restrictions of the survey format not all responses can be viewed. The survey shows that people would like work done to make it more attractive and user friendly, also for the overhanging tree to be cut back. Works will be discussed further at the meeting next month.

**12.10** **Drainage issues – village hall**

Awaiting quote.

**13.10** **Solar panels, Village Hall – update**

There is to be a Cabinet meeting at BDC in Dec at which time it is hoped our application for funding for the solar panels will be discussed. Updated quotes have been provided for this purpose The provider has recommended the use of Sigenergy batteries which have a larger storage capacity. The updated quotes are as follows:

Solax - £30,334 plus VAT

Sigenergy - £38,024 plus VAT

Both quotes remain within the funded project costs.

***It was resolved*** to progress with the Sigenergy quote at £38,024 plus VAT subject to receiving funding.

Congratulations and thanks were given thanks to Cllr Tunbridge for all her hard work with this project.

**14.10 External audit report – to agree and action if necessary**

***It was resolved to*** agree the external audit. No actions necessary

**15.10** **Use of Suffolk Association of Local Councils as internal auditors – to confirm**

***It was resolved*** to continue with SALC as the internal auditors

**16.10** **Clerk to hold position of Responsible Financial Officer – to agree**

***It was resolved*** that the Clerk holds the position of RFO

**17.10** **Co-option of new Parish Councillor**

Bill Dotesio-Ayres gave a brief report to councillors

Proposer: Margaret Holt

Seconder: Wendy Hall

***It was resolved*** to co-opt Bill Dotesio Ayres as a new Parish Councillor

**18.10** **Correspondence to report**

Enquiries were made on behalf of St Marys and the Methodist Church regarding the possibility of funding for a warm space. Cllr Holt is to make enquiries at BDC and the Parish Council will make this an agenda item for discussion next month.

Allowing dogs in the village hall was discussed. It was agreed to allow assistance dogs only.

Placement of a sign on Tye Green was requested by a business owner at Clock House Farm. This will be an agenda item next month; to include discussions on how to help small businesses with advertising.

Cllr Southgate is to meet with a hall user regarding the request for additional storage at the village hall.

Babergh District Council forwarded the following correspondence:

*“Babergh District Council are seeking information in relation to a dog fouling incident which took place at 10:48 on Thursday 1st August 2024, at Bells Lane, Glemsford.*

*This incident involved a male of average build, with short grey hair and a bald patch at the top of his head, believed to be aged 45 to 55, walking a small white or cream coloured dog with moderate amount of hair. At the time of the incident the male was wearing black rimmed glasses, a blue t-shirt, navy shorts with a white logo on them and dark coloured trainer with a white stripe at the bottom of them.*

*If you have any information in relation to this incident, please email**Conor.Broderick@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk**or call 0300 1234000, quoting reference*

*WK/339261.”*

Harriet North wrote:
*Thank you for the recent Parish News newsletter with such good news and updates about projects in the village – please would it possible to add to the website as well?*

*I echo the comments about past councillors and as a regular member of the public I wish to thank all those who have stepped up to the councillor role, some for several years, to help make Glemsford a good village to live in. Thank you.*

*It has been heartening to see all the councillor positions now filled - thank you too!*

A letter of resignation has been received from the clerk. Debbie will be retiring at the end of the year.

**19.10 Date of next meeting** – The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th Nov 2024 at the village hall at 7pm

Meeting finished at 7.55pm

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