



Minutes from a meeting of North Thoresby, Grainsby & Waithe Parish Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024

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Attended by: Cllr Buckenham (Chair), Cllr Gale, Cllr Marshall, Cllr Howard, Cllr Jones and Cllr Snell  
Clerk: Simon Baxter (via Zoom)  
Also attended by: 70 members of the public  
Minutes by: Jo O'Donoghue (FSLCC)

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## **1. Welcome**

**NOTED:** The Chair welcomed councillors and members of the public to the meeting and it was noted that the meeting was being recorded.

## **2. Public participation and questions**

**NOTED:** 70 members of the public attended the meeting and raised issues relating to the following matters: failure of the council to provide defibrillators, refusal of the Chair to allow public participation.

## **3. Motion to exclude members of public from participating in the meeting.**

**RESOLVED:** It was resolved to exclude members of public from participating in the meeting.

## **4. Apologies for absence**

**RESOLVED:** Apologies were approved and accepted from Cllr Spence, no reason was given.

## **5. Declarations of interest**

**NOTED:** There were no declarations of interest.

## **6. Approval of minutes**

**NOTED:** It was noted that the November minutes have been amended and are inaccurate following changes and redactions made by the Clerk which were not approved and have since been published. The minutes from the meeting held 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 were not approved and were not signed.

## **7. General expenditure**

**RESOLVED:** It was agreed to make contractual payments to the Clerk, including PAYE, NI and pension contributions however the payment amounts were not disclosed at the meeting due to confidentiality as requested by the Clerk. No other payments were approved.

***The Chair changed the order of the following agenda items and brought forward item 11***

## **8. Update and recommendation from the Finance Committee Meeting held 8th January 2024**

**NOTED:** Cllr Marshall (Chair of Finance Committee) provided a brief overview of the recommendations from the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 which was attended by 3 Councillors. Cllr Marshall stated that the VH bookings have increased by 43% and also stated that the VH makes an annual loss of around £4,000. No detailed report was provided to the meeting. The Clerk stated that information would be provided on the website.

## **9. Budget & Precept**

**NOTED:** No detailed discussion took place on individual budget items. The Clerk referred to a report which was not available at the meeting. Cllr Marshall reported that funds had been transferred into a high rate interest rate. It was noted that the council had not paid for the Clerk to be a member of the Society of Local Council Clerks.

**RESOLVED:** It was agreed to request a precept of £38,000 which, assuming there has been no change to the tax base, represents a 0% increase on the previous year. It was noted that the Chair and Clerk had signed the precept request prior to the meeting.

## **10. Planning Applications**

**NOTED:** *No planning applications were circulated to Councillors by the Clerk.*

## **11. Village Hall defibrillator**

**NOTED:** The Chair and Cllr Marshall provided a report and it was noted that they were unable to answer questions from residents present at the meeting. Cllr Marshall recommended that the council lease a defibrillator.

**RESOLVED:** It was agreed: to lease a defibrillator from Defib UK at a cost of £1.00 per day for a period of 5-years with an initial £150 deposit: costs to be paid annually in advance; cost includes full training to be offered to all residents; free workshop; signage; cost includes full maintenance and service of the defibrillator; cost to include regular on site checks and replacement pads/batteries as necessary. Clerk agreed to circulate the contract (with Defib UK) to councillors.

## **12. Councillor resignations and co-option**

**NOTED :** 2 x councillor resignations were noted and have been notified to ELDC. 1 application for co-option to a previously confirmed vacancy has been received. The Clerk and Cllr Marshall refused to accept the application for co-option. The Clerk was unable to offer clear advice and the process was deferred. No vote took place.

## **13. Date of next meeting**

**NOTED:** No date was agreed.