

# Sinnington Parish Council

## DRAFT Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023

PRESENT: Cllr Swinnerton, Cllr Stephens, Cllr Nightingale and Alison Mitchell Parish Clerk.

47. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Asquith and Cllr Morse.
48. **Declaration of Interest and dispensations:** There were no applications for dispensations or declarations of interest.
49. **Approval of Minutes:** The council **resolved** to approve the minutes from the meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023.
50. **Public Participation** – There was one member of the public present.
51. **To receive updates on the following and decide on further action if necessary:**
- i. **Trees** – The clerk advised the council that the arboriculturist had been contacted to carry out a tree inspection late spring or early summer next year when the trees are in leaf. The clerk will arrange a date nearer the time.
  - ii. **Parking Area and fencing on Village Green** – The clerk advised the council on a quote submitted by a local fencing contractor to replace the birds mouth fencing on the green. There is 55m of fencing and the cost would be £1518 + VAT to supply and erect. The council **resolved** to accept this quote and asked the clerk to contact the contractor to start the work as soon as possible. They were also advised that if further fencing work was needed in other areas of the green this would be at a cost of £27.60 + VAT per metre. A groundwork contractor had been out to look at the repair work needed to the green, but at the time he was unable to get access into the village as the road was flooded. They will supply a quote as soon as they are able.
  - iii. **Grass cutting on the Green**– The council were advised that the clerk has been in touch with a local farming contractor as per councillor’s request and is still awaiting a quote for the work. They did say it would be possible, but they would have to cut part of the green from the road as their machinery would not fit under the large trees on the Green. Councillor Nightingale offered to contact another local contractor who undertakes work for other Parishes to see if they would be interested in the work and supplying a quote to the council.
52. **Matters requested by Councillors:**
- i. **Self-seeded saplings in river**– The council were advised that anything in the river is the responsibility of the Environment Agency and not the Parish. As these are very small saplings the council **resolved** to ask a local contractor if he could carry out the work providing it was safe to do so and they were happy with this.
53. **Financial Matters:**
- i. **To note income and expenditure to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023** – The council noted income and expenditure from the 1<sup>st</sup> September to the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023 as listed below.
  - ii. **To receive and approve the September/October accounts paid and due for payment** – The council **resolved** to pay the accounts totalling £380.40 as listed below.

54. **Asset movements and register** – The council noted the removal of a Highways owned grit bin that had been on the asset register in error and the disposal of the pasture topper which was unfit for purpose. The balance of the asset register stands at £10,298.02.

55. **Budget Forecast and Precept** – The council were given a budget forecast for next years income and expenditure. After much discussion regarding the forecast and the substantial increases in maintenance to the village green grass cutting and trees in the next year the council **resolved** to set the precept for 2024-2025 at £4,600, with £5,000 left in reserves for tree work, £3,000 in reserves for Village Green maintenance and £2,000 in reserves for any by elections required the village now has to pay for.

**The meeting closed at 19.15pm**

<b>Payments September/October 2023</b>								
<b>Date</b>	<b>Cheque No.</b>	<b>Beneficiary</b>	<b>Merchant</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Summary of the purpose of the expenditure</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>Vat to be</b>	
<b>incurred</b>						<b>amount</b>	<b>reclaimed</b>	
						<b>amount</b>	<b>amount</b>	
18.09.23	739	Clerk	Administration - Stationery		16 x 1st class stamps	£17.90	£0.00	£17.90
29.09.23	740	Clerk	Staff		M6 salary	£161.85	£0.00	£161.85
20.20.23	Direct Debit	HMRC PAYE & NI	Staff		PAYE & NI Aug/Sept/Oct 2023	£38.80	£0.00	£38.80
31.10.23	741	Clerk	Staff		M7 salary	£161.85	£0.00	£161.85
<b>TOTAL FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER PAYMENTS</b>						<b>£380.40</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£380.40</b>
Parish Clerk .....								
Chair .....								
Councillor .....								

<b>INCOME &amp; EXPENDITURE SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2023</b>	
Balance of funds as at 31st August 2023	£15,650.34
Income September/October 2023	£373.06
Expenditure September/October 2023	-£380.10
Balance of funds as at 31st October 2023	£15,643.30
Represented by:	
Nat West Current account	£15,967.00
Less unpaid cheques	-£323.70
Total council funds as at 31st October 2023	£15,643.30