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## Meeting minutes of Mulbarton Parish Council

Monday 22 January 2023 at 7:30 PM, held at The Committee Room, Mulbarton Village Hall

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Parish Councillors present: Adam Banham, Louis Kaszczak, Danny Gaskin and Dennis Wells

District Councillors present: None

Also, present Lorraine Trueman (clerk) and members of the public

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Adam Banham, as Vice Chair, opened the meeting 7.33pm

### **1. To appoint Chair to the council, following the resignation of Mark Kerr**

The council thanked Mark Kerr for his contribution to the Parish Council and welcomed his continued support.

Adam Banham was nominated by Dennis Wells, seconded by Louis Kaszczak and unanimously voted in as Chair. Adam Banham signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

### **2. To appoint Vice-Chair, if vacant**

Dennis Wells was nominated by Louis Kaszczak, seconded by Danny Gaskin and unanimously voted in as Vice-Chair.

### **3. To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from District Councillors Ian Spratt, Jim Webber and Bob McClenning and Parish Councillor Suzanne Aylmer.

### **4. To receive declarations of interest in agenda items and consider any dispensation requests**

None were received.

### **5. To co-opt members onto the Parish Council**

The council had received an application from Steve Sewell ahead of the meeting.

Adam Banham proposed to co-opt Steve on to the council, seconded by Danny Gaskin and unanimously **AGREED**. Steve signed the declaration of acceptance of office and took part in the rest of the meeting as a parish councillor.

### **6. Open forum for public participation: an opportunity to hear from members of the public and the District/County councillors**

The District Councillors report was shared ahead of the meeting.

### **7. To agree 2024/25 budget and precept**

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The council discussed an increase in the precept and proposed expenditure. The increase in expenditure for 2024/25 is largely due to a budgeted purchase of play equipment and rising costs. The council will fund any deficit from reserves but noted they may need to delay the new play equipment.

The council unanimously **AGREED** to increase the band D rate by 5% giving a precept of £87,208 and to set budgeted expenditure at £151,672.

Steve Sewell did not take part in the vote.

## **8. To agree grounds maintenance contractor(s) for 2024**

The council had received 4 quotes and these had been shared with councillors ahead of the meeting. The council **AGREED** to appoint Norse for Orchard Park (section 1), Top Garden Services for The Meadows (section 3), Ribbonsdale for The Common, Other and Highways (sections 2, 4 and 5) and Icení for Jubilee Gardens (section 6).

## **9. Open forum for public participation: second opportunity to hear from members of the public and the District/County councillors**

Village Hall entrance for disabled access is awaiting a quote.

Highways are aware of the pothole on the road by the Common/Village Hall car park. They will advise when the work will be carried out.

The lost yellow markings on new speed humps in the Common/Village Hall car park has been passed to South Norfolk Council who is contacting the contractor.

The "Give Way" sign on the junction of Rectory Lane and Shoteram Road is down. This has been reported to Highways.

The Primary School possibly feeding into Hewett instead of Hethersett was briefly discussed. It was noted that some residents were not opposed this.

## **10. To receive items for the next agenda**

Clerk to consider items from previously cancelled council meeting

**Meeting closed at 8.07pm**