



The Old School House  
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These are the minutes of the Amenities Committee on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 7.30pm in the Old School Hall. Members of the press and public are welcome to attend.

## MINUTES

		Legal Power/ Budget Heading
1	Apologies for absence – Cllr Whittaker, Cllr Gadsby, Cllr Mulcrone	
2	Minutes of last meeting dated – 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2024 - Approved	
3	Matters arising from previous minutes – None	
4	Members Declaration of Interest for agenda items - None	
<p>Public Forum: If residents of Sawtry wish to speak on any item on the agenda (max 3 mins) the meeting will be suspended for a 10-minute open forum. If you wish to speak, please inform the Clerk or the Chairman at least 24 hours before the meeting. <b>Ten members of the public attended – see item 10.2</b></p>		
5	<p>Allotments – Lead Councillor – Cllr White</p> <p>5.1 Update – Rowell Way is generally in very good condition, with one plot in need of work to bring it up to standard, St Judiths is generally ok there are some plots that need attention, which the office is dealing with.</p> <p>Points to be raised – the dog fencing needs attention and the hedges around the allotment need some work, The clerk advised the main hedge between the allotment and the skatepark was cut a month or so ago, will look into the points raised.</p>	Smallholdings and Allotments Act 1908
6	<p>Green Spaces – Lead Councillor - Cllr White</p> <p>6.1 Update – Overall no real issues, only area of concern are the green bins and residents fly tipping their green waste as seeing this a lot around the village, the clerk advised to report all cases online.</p> <p>6.2 Wildflowers areas – Cllr white asked if anyone would like any areas around the village to have more wildflowers, Cllr Sanderson will arrange a walkaround the village with the Clerk and ask Tom Gosling to assist.</p>	Open Spaces Act 1906
7	<p>Play Areas – Lead Councillor – Cllr Whittaker</p> <p>7.1 Update from the clerk – We have just had the annual play park inspection carried out, no real issues, just a couple of low-risk areas of maintenance, will add these repairs in the budget for next year.</p>	LGA 1972
8	<p>Cemeteries – Lead Councillor – Cllr Tuplin</p> <p>8.1 Update on St Andrews drainage – Work is due to begin in the next 3 weeks, there have been a few changes on the industrial land at the back of the cemetery which will result in the design plans changing slightly, so the</p>	LGA 1972

	CDS group will meet with Amicis Developments and the drainage contractors, the meeting is planned for 30 <sup>th</sup> July.	
9	<p>Benches/Bus Shelters – Lead Councillor - Cllr White</p> <p>9.1 Update – The new butterfly bench opposite the Old School Hall looks fantastic, query raised over the new bench by the bus shelter on the green that is it smaller than the previous one and why doesn't it have any arms, so why it was fitted – it's an accessible bench and does have arms and is approximately the same size. A light in the bus shelter was raised again and the clerk explained there is too much shade for a solar light, and we have no electricity supply to go into as street lighting wont usually allow us to link into their supply, but we will send a request.</p> <p>The Bus Shelter on Green End Road next to the Co-operative funerals will soon have the safety bollards fitted, and all the road markings are to be repainted.</p>	LGA 1953
10	<p>Working Party - Accessibility around the village – Lead Councillor - Cllr Bingham – Update – The open day on 13<sup>th</sup> July was well attended and had lots of great discussions and some great ideas to take away. One issue with the zebra crossing on Gidding Road is one side has a raised curb – the clerk will investigate.</p> <p>10.1 Accessibility Survey – Public consultation – Cllr Bingham will work with Cllr Potter to create a public consultation, update to follow.</p> <p>10.2 Belgrave Square Car Park Barrier – members of the Social Club raised some concerns over the restricted height barrier, the clerk explained the reasons behind the need for the barrier, as the residents are blaming the Parish Council for all the heavy traffic going into our car park, the Parish Council have agreed to a one off fix to the unadopted road, which all the residents must agree to the terms and a letter will be posted this week. Then the Parish Council will look to install the height restriction barrier to prevent any further blame being attached to the Parish Council.</p> <p>One resident raised concerns via email which was forwarded to all the Councillors prior to the meeting in which they expressed concerns over emergency vehicles having access, the clerk confirmed he had been in contact with the emergency services and advised there would be no access issues or concerns if the barrier was installed.</p> <p>One Member of the social club also asked when was the last time the Parish Council actually repaired the car park – the clerk advised as per the lease agreement previously held with the club, it was actually the club who were responsible for the maintenance of the car park, and this should have also been handed back to us at the termination of the lease in the same condition the social club started the lease, which it wasn't as the car park is now in terrible condition.</p> <p>10.3 Electric Door / Wheelchair access for entrance for the Old School Hall. The Clerk advised we have received 2 quotes back out of the 4 requested, and we are now waiting on the lottery funding decision before we move forward.</p> <p>10.4 Accessible allotment – Cllr White expressed his desire to have this in the Belgrave Square car park and asked for opinions, Cllr White wants 33 meters long by 9 meters wide allotment to be fenced in and has received a</p>	

	<p>quote for fencing by Bradgate for over £7,000, the clerk advised in his opinion that the costing for this was too high, we also have 3 new accessible allotments coming with the new development on Glatton Road, Cllr Sanderson also advised that the Parish Office garden would be a more suitable siting as a trial</p> <p>It was also raised that the car park gets very busy at the weekend, and this would take up a huge amount of space, so this was decided it would go back to the accessibility working party.</p> <p>10.5 Request to replace bench near the medical practice – it was decided that the current bench is too low down, and residents are struggling to use this, so under the accessibility guidelines we will be replacing this bench with a more suitable bench. Cllr Bingham also suggested if anyone would like this bench to let us know, or we can donate it to CARESCO.</p>	
11	<p>Planters and Biodiversity – Lead Councillor – Cllr Sanderson</p> <p>11.1 Update – With the warmer weather here now, the clerk has managed to source the water bowser that fits inside the van, which will make the caretakers jobs much easier, the total cost was under £650.</p> <p>11.2 Anglia in Bloom – The 3 judges attended last week, and Cllr Sanderson took them on a guided tour of the village, they were especially impressed with the fishing lake and All Saints cemetery and awarded special certificates to the teams involved. The main award ceremony will be held 6<sup>th</sup> September 2024.</p> <p>11.3 Bug Hotels – Cllr Sanderson will look into which areas these can go in.</p>	
12	<p>Memorial Benches – 2 requests from residents – on Tinkers Lane and Oakley Drive both requests approved, proposed by Cllr Sanderson seconded by Cllr Harber all in favour.</p>	
13	<p>St Judiths - Relocate the Beacon – VE80 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – Agreed to relocate the Beacon and it was agreed to have a site visit with the clerk and a couple of councillors to agree the new site – Proposed by Cllr Tuplin seconded by Cllr Sanderson and all in favour.</p>	
14	<p>CCTV in Green End Road play park – Upgrade – The clerk advised looking to move the CCTV across from the Old School Hall site into the play park for a clearer picture, details to be confirmed.</p>	
15	<p>Greenfield Development – Update from the Clerk – The grand opening has been confirmed as 7<sup>th</sup> September at 10.00am, further details to follow</p>	
16	<p>Belgrave square parking restriction barrier – Concerns raised from resident – see 10.2</p>	
17	<p>Bowlands Place – Play Park request by residents – The Clerk explained that the original planning permission included a small play park, Will discuss for next budget planning.</p>	
18	<p>Chapel End Parish Land – Request for car park improvements – Defer due to absence.</p>	

19	Date of next meeting – 18 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	
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Steve Browning, Clerk to the Council/Proper Officer,

Committee: Cllr Bingham (chair), Gadsby, Mulcrone, Potter, Sanderson, Tuplin, White, Whittaker, Bhamra, Harber,