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**MINUTES of an Extraordinary Meeting of Little Downham Parish Council held in the Village Hall,
Main Street, Little Downham, on Thursday, 4th June 2019 commencing at 7.00pm.**

Councillors present: MM Oldfield, in the chair, and JW Barker, GJ Hayter-Smith, RA Maxey, DR Parson, GH Taylor, RJ Taylor (7.24pm), JL Waters and KO Winters. **Clerk:** Mrs J Wardle

Other attendees: Three parishioners.

21/19 TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Dist. Cllr A Bailey and County Cllr L Dupre.

22/19 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1. **Cllr GJ Hayter-Smith** declared a personal interest in item 23/19. (Co-option of new councillors) because an applicant was a friend (Declaration 006-2019).
2. **Cllr GH Taylor** declared prejudicial interests in item 23/19 (Co-option of new councillors) because an applicant is her son and another is her nephew and item 25/19.1.2 (Application 19/00560/VAR) because the applicant was her daughter (Declaration 007-2019).
3. **Cllr JL Waters** declared a personal interest in item 23/19. (Co-option of new councillors) because an applicant was a friend (Declaration 008-2019).
4. **Dispensations** - The Clerk reported that Dispensations had been requested and granted to **Cllrs MM Oldfield, JL Waters and KO Winters** for their terms of office to May 2023 in relation to matters regarding the Downham Feoffees Charity because they are Parish Council representatives appointed to the Downham Feoffees Charity and have non-pecuniary interests that without the dispensation so great a proportion of the council would be prohibited from participating in that business as to impede the council's transaction of that business.

Interests declared later in the meeting:

5. **Cllr RA Maxey** personal interest – see prior to item 23/19.1 (Declaration 009-2019).
6. **Cllr RJ Taylor** prejudicial interest – see prior to item 25/19.1.2 (Declaration 010-2019).

23/19 PARISH COUNCIL VACANCIES

1. To co-opt new councillors to fill three vacant seats:
The Clerk announced the names of the six candidates who had applied to fill the three vacant seats.

Cllr RA Maxey declared a personal interest because he had become aware that a friend was an applicant (Declaration 009-2019).

The Clerk read out the 'one councillor, one vote' procedure and explained that the three vacant seats would be voted on individually to ensure that each elected member had an absolute majority of votes, in accordance with Standing Orders 8.1. She read out each applicants' reasons for wanting to be a councillor.

7.12pm Cllr GH Taylor left the meeting.

- 1.1 **Co-option for vacant seat no. 1** – Members were each given a ballot paper with the name of all six candidates on. Following the first ballot vote, Mr Ross Taylor had received an absolute majority of 4 votes and was declared as a new councillor.
- 1.2 **Co-option for vacant seat no. 2** – Members were each given a ballot paper with the remaining five candidates' names on. Following the first ballot vote, ~~Ms~~ Amber Collins had received an absolute majority of 4 votes and was declared as a new councillor. MISS.
- 1.3 **Co-option for vacant seat no. 3** – Members were each given a ballot paper with the remaining four candidates' names on. Following the first ballot vote, no candidate had an absolute majority of votes. The candidate with no votes was eliminated. Following the second ballot vote, Mr Mark Taylor had received an absolute majority of 4 votes and was declared as a new councillor.

7.24pm The two parishioners in attendance were thanked for their interest. One parishioner left.
Cllr GH Taylor was invited back to the meeting.
Cllr RJ Taylor signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took his seat at the table.

24/19 TO ADJOURN FOR PUBLIC FORUM – 7.25pm. No comments.
Meeting was reconvened – 7.26pm.

25/19 PLANNING MATTERS

1. Planning correspondence -

1.1 **PREAPP/00064/19** California House, California, Lt Downham – Re development of commercial site to rear of California House, 2no. three bed two storey detached dwellings and 1no. three bed single storey dwelling

Resolved - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns regarding this application.

Prior to the next item being discussed, **Cllr RJ Taylor** declared a prejudicial interest because the applicant was his sister (Declaration 010-2019).

7.31pm Cllrs GH & RJ Taylor left the meeting.

1.2 **19/00560/VAR** Spinney End, 26 Straight Furlong, Pymoor – To vary condition 1 (Plans) of previously approved 18/01628/FUL for Construct a two storey rear extension, a single storey side extension, convert attic, convert and extend the garage and internal alterations

Resolved - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns regarding this application.

It was noted that some accompanying papers did not correspond with the application.

7.35pm Cllrs GH & RJ Taylor were invited back to the meeting.

1.3 **19/00685/FUL** 24 and 26 Main Street, Lt Downham – Construction of a two storey rear extension to 24 and 26 and alter the boundary line of the fence

Resolved - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns regarding this application.

1.4 **19/00698/FUL** 67 & 71 Main Street, Pymoor – Installation of new gates, erection of summerhouse to No. 71 and installation of hedgerow and post and wire fence to form part of northern boundary to No. 67

Resolved - Little Downham Parish Council had no concerns regarding this application.

26/19 PARISH COUNCIL LAND AND ASSETS

1. **To consider reduced rates on the All-Weather Court during the summer school holidays** – It was proposed by Cllr DR Parson and seconded by Cllr JW Barker.

Resolved unanimously to approve that the All-Weather Court fees be reduced to half price during daylight hours of the school summer holidays and that the booking clerk may use her discretion regarding further reduced fees for school children hiring the court.

The Council agreed that the Tennis nets should be set up to encourage use of the court for Tennis and football.

27/19 REQUEST OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION - None

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 7.59 pm.

Signed *Muddfield* (Chairman) Date *20-6-19*