**Minutes of East Keal Parish Council 13th March 2025**

**Held at Keals Village Hall at 7pm**

**Present**Cllr Mahoney (Chair), Cllr Cooper, Cllr Pearson, Cllr Wrisdale, Cllr Stickland & 1 member of the public plus Pauline Murray (Parish Clerk) and County Cllr Gray.

**Public Forum –** a member of brought some memorial crosses in.

**Meeting commenced at 7.05pm**

1. **Apologies for Absence**None
2. **Declaration of Interest (if any) -** none
3. **Approving and signing minutes of a meeting held on 9th January 2025**The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted by all councillors and a copy signed by the Chair Cllr Mahoney.

1. **Co-option of a new councillor applications**

As yet no applications have been received so due to Cllr Thornley’s resignation we are down to 5. The application will be kept open on the website.

1. **Reports from representatives on outside bodies:**
   1. **County Councillor** – Cllr Gray mentioned to be wary of rogue traders and that the gritters may be out again tonight as the temperature dips. 1st May is the Mayoral elections leading to Local Government reorganisation – current thinking is 2 unitary authorities would be best – North Lincolnshire and South Lincolnshire. The new Government’s agenda is devolution. There was a successful highways walkabout which is mentioned below.

**b. District Councillor –** Cllr Taylor was not available but has sent information through which

has been circulated to the Parish Council.

1. **Update from Delegated Groups**
   1. **HR Committee –** Cllrs Thornley and Mahoney carried out the Clerks appraisal which went well. As Cllr Thornley has resigned Cllr Cooper was unanimously voted on to the HR Cttee.
   2. **Update by the Highways Working Group** – Cllr Pearson thanked Cllr Gray for the work that has been carried out in the village. A new grit bin is required near the electricity sub station – Cllr Gray to chase Barrow Hill footpath not cleaned yet – Cllr Gray to chase. Verge on roads to be sided back near reactive sign – Cllr Gray to report back on progress with the land owner. Walkabout up Keal Hill – this is a different team and work is on-going.

1. **Training**

Cllr Mahoney is to commence training in communications and the Clerk will be catching up on CILCA shortly.

1. **Options for recreational area/play park/fitness trails**

This would be relevant if we got a large housing planning application in but this isn’t very likely. However it would be good to have a discussion on what the village requirement might be if this happened. Cllr Mahoney put forward the necessity of a zebra crossing as the main road is dangerous to cross with a blind corner.

1. **Standing Orders for review and approval**

Approved unanimously.

1. **Purchase of sound recording equipment**

The Clerk told the meeting that this was on sale at the moment for £19.99 and it was approved unanimously to purchase one.

1. **Review of banking**

The Clerk is to carry out a cost benefit exercise and report back to the next meeting.

1. **Data Breach policy**

Approved unanimously

1. **Data Protection policy**

Approved unanimously

1. **Social Media and Communication policy**

Approved unanimously. Cllrs should not enter in to arguments on social media – should the Parish Council have its own Facebook page? Let’s see what the questionnaires say.

1. **Publication Scheme**

There is an ICO publication scheme for use by Parish Councils – the Chair will send it out before the next meeting for discussion.

1. **Councillor Surgeries**

Possibility of having a slot in the Community Café on a Wednesday or be present at a Garden night. A police presence for information could be good too – Cllr Pearson to speak to his contact and pass this information on to the Chair.

1. **Great British Spring Clean**

Chair suggested a slot of a couple of hours either 29th or 30th March to be decided. The Chair will organise with the help of the Clerk.

1. **Flag for VE Day – 8th May 25**

Clerk to purchase flag circ £9 **-** approved unanimously

1. **Planning**

The Ossian project is a solar windfarm situated off the east coast of Scotland which is going to send the energy under the sea to Lincolnshire where it will connect to 2 sub stations one near Alford and one near Spalding. Clerk to send an email of objection.

1. **Financial Update:**
2. An update on payments made since the previous meeting:-
   * 1. 9th Jan 25 – Room rental £20
     2. 9th Jan 25 – Wreath contribution £19.99
     3. 10th Feb 25 – Clerks salary – Nov 24 to Jan 25
     4. 10th Feb 25 – HMRC income tax re clerk salary £121.20
3. Bank reconciliation statement and financial report as at 28th Feb 25

The amount in the bank at 13th March was £4,035.76

1. **Update on audit list of tasks**

Risk assessment and risk scheme left to finish

1. **Welcome booklet**

Update at next meeting

1. **Matters arising for next meeting.**

Review of banking

Publication scheme

Facebook Page

Risk Assessments

Welcome booklet

AGAR

**The meeting closed at 8.50pm - next meeting AGM/APM Wednesday, 21st May 2025 at 7pm at Keals Village Hall.**