

Necton Parish Council



Minutes of Council Meeting held Monday, 03 November 7.30pm in the Necton Rural Community Centre

Present: Cllrs Frank Woodward (Chair), Ms Louise Willis, Ms Denise Axham, Mr Ian Thompson, Mr David Matthews, Mrs Jeanette Webb, Ms Gabrielle Joyce, Parish Clerk.

14 members of the public present.

Pre-meeting Speakers – Cllr. Kiddle-Morris, Norfolk County Council. Mr Philip Kirkby, Chair Necton Rural Community Centre.

Cllr. Kiddle-Morris updated those present about his progress on issues raised last month. His recent site meeting with NCC Highways and others regarding the flooding problems, found blockages in ditches in Kingfisher Drive and Bitterne Way, which are causing flooding issues right back to Tuns Road and Chantry Lane. Highways have committed to clearing this out. Also looking to install a bigger pipe along Chantry Lane to Tuns Road. Cllr. Kiddle-Morris made special mention of the good work residents on Biterne Way are doing in keeping their sections of the ditches clear. The other problem of surface water entering the foul water system is likely to be too expensive to rectify. Cllr. Woodward asked if Anglian Water or other authorities would be prepared to insure residents against flooding damage as they are unlikely to upgrade the current drainage systems. Cllr. Matthews raised concern about the continued development of the village without due regard to current infrastructure shortfalls. Cllr Kiddle-Morris explained that a new planning condition, anticipated late 2015 - sustainable drainage systems – will require developments of 15 or more properties to consider sustainable solutions and future maintenance requirements, ultimately taken over by Anglian Water.

Mr Philip Kirkby informed those present that the current committee are retiring in March 2015 following many years of dedicated service. At present, there are no new volunteers forthcoming. Anybody interested in stepping forward are invited to attend the next committee meeting on Tuesday, 25 November.

1. Apologies

None received.

2. Declarations of interest

Cllr. Woodward declared a personal interest in Item 6.2 revised planning application 3PL/2014/0528/F.

3. To approve minutes

3.1 Minutes of Council meeting held on 6 October 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3.2 Minutes of Council precept meeting held on 23 October 2014 were amended to include wording; “in accordance with power under S137” under item 9. The minutes were then confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. To report progress on items not on the agenda from last meeting (Clerk's report)

The Clerk provided a written report to Councillors prior to the meeting and summarised some of the key points.

A recent survey of the parish owned lighting identified two risks where residents have connected their property fencing to a lamppost using metal wire. The risk is that an electrical short may result in the property fencing becoming 'live' and a safety risk. **It was resolved** that letters be written to the residents requesting removal of this risk.

Cllr. Matthews asked why the Council's current maintenance contractor did not identify this risk. The Clerk stated that she is reviewing the current contract terms to understand what exactly the Council is paying for. **It was resolved** that the contractor be invited to the village to discuss matters on site.

5. Finance

5.1 It was resolved to agree payments of invoices listed:

Payee	Amount
Mr Martyn Sier	135.00
Norfolk ALC	135.00
Necton RCC	22.00
Ms G Joyce	98.36
SLCC	101.00
Mazars	270.00
Mona Hill Trust	750.00
K&M Lighting Services	237.84
EON	301.92
Ms G Joyce	48.08
NPTP	35.00
Mr L Luff	219.75
Ms G Joyce	509.00
SLCC	69.00
Douglas Tonks	153.80
Necton Allotment Society	181.25
Norfolk Hospice	100.00
CAB	100.00
Mr L Luff	19.99
Ulric Web Design Ltd	155.99
total monies	3,642.98

5.2 Clerk reported on the current financial statement, bank reconciliation from April to September and current account bank balance stands at £26,406.53 on 31 Oct 2014.

5.3 **It was resolved** to commission Mrs L Cantera as the Council's Internal Auditor for year-end 2015.

5.4 Cllr. Webb informed meeting of the requirement for and purchase of a water meter key for control of water supply on the Allotments. **It was resolved that** this was to be purchased and provided to the Allotment Committee for their use to control the supply, ensuring that it is off during the winter months, so reducing the risk of frost damage. **It was resolved** to establish a protocol regarding meter readings.

6. To consider the future options for Necton Rural Community Centre.

It was resolved that a working party be established comprising councillors and NRCC committee members to explore what options are available to ensure the centre remains open for business. Council members of this working party were agreed – Cllrs Matthews, Thompson and Willis. The Clerk reminded members of the circulated documents relating to adoption of Charity assets by Parish Councils, to aid their research on this matter.

7. To receive an update on street light refurbishment project.

The Clerk provided a report prior to meeting outlining 3 quotes from contractors to upgrade the remaining 101 lights to LED. The Clerk also provided information about Parish Council loans, for which this refurbishment would qualify. Discussion considered the overall savings the refurbishment would make in terms of energy saving and maintenance. **It was resolved** to firm up the existing quotes, invite one more contractor to quote for balance, investigate a loan repayment for a number of periods for about £40,000 and get a quote for steel column replacement to incorporate into a long-term upgrade programme.

8. Planning matters**8.1 Results of applications considered by Breckland Council**

3PL/2014/0940/F	23-Oct-14	Mr Manning, Shangri-la, North Pickenham Rd	single story rear extension - <i>permission granted</i>
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3PL/2014/0943/F	31-Oct-14	Mr R Barney, Redgates, Necton	Extension to agricultural storage barn at Shell Field, retrospective - <i>permission granted</i>
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8.2 New applications (comments sent to Breckland Council)

3PL/2014/0528/F	29-Oct-14	Ms K Burgess, Tuns Road	erection of new dwelling at land behind School Rd, accessed from Tuns Rd - <i>amendment</i> <i>PC previously commented. PC recommend stating their concern about ongoing development without due consideration for already under equipped infrastructure.</i>
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3PL/2014/0776/F	28-Oct-14	Mr AC Williamson & Son, land adjacent 25 Chantry Court	construction of two new two- bedroom houses - <i>appeal</i> PC continues to support Breckland's original decision to refuse.
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9. It was resolved to adopt the revised Freedom of Information policy and a copy was circulated to all members, who signed receipt of same.**10. To receive updates from individual Council Members (for information only)**

Cllr Willis reported that the recent New Councillor training course she attended was informative and beneficial. A resident asked Cllr Willis if there was a TPO on the trees within the old school grounds as it would be a shame to lose them to development. Cllr Willis to contact the Conservation office of Breckland for clarification on this matter.

Cllr Thompson enquired about progress on tree management at the land behind Briar Close,

belonging to Flagship Housing. This area has been cleared by Flagship as agreed.

CLlr Matthews informed the meeting of various NALC events forthcoming. The new NPTP is working well.

CLlr Sisto enquired about access to the funds in respect of children's play area and recreational areas. CLlr Sisto also asked for consideration of the ongoing speeding issues around school times and he has committed to speaking to the school about their involvement in a solution.

CLlr Matthews offered to clear the hedging overgrowth on the A47 by the bus shelter.

Public Recess

Various comments were made in relation to CLlr. Kiddle-Morris's report on drainage.

A resident has identified that the light close to the shop is still out.

The crime stats for the area were noted. Most common crime remains burglary – residents are asked to remain vigilant particularly in the run up to Christmas.

A resident reported a light out by No 7 Kett's Hill.

3 welcome packs delivered during the month.

Meeting resumed.

11. Resolution (under the public bodies admission to meetings Act 1960) to exclude members of the public and press for a confidential item:

11.1 CLlr. Webb provided update on confidential HR matter.

The Chairman closed the meeting 10pm. The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, 01 December, 2014, 7.30pm at the NRCC. Members of the public are invited to share seasonal refreshments following the meeting.

Minutes signed by Chair (or designate) _____ on _____