

Necton Parish Council

Minutes No: 2016/7/1

Minutes of Council Meeting held Monday, 07 November 7.30 pm in the Necton Rural
Community Centre



Parish Councillors (6) present:

David Matthews (Chairman), Frank Woodward (Vice-Chairman),
Joe Sisto, Ian Thompson, Phil Hayton, Denise Axham.

Also in attendance:

Gabrielle Joyce (Clerk)
22 members of the public
Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris (Norfolk County Council)

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence

Received from Cllr Wilkin (Breckland Council) due to attendance at meeting in another ward (Holme Hale)

2. To receive any declarations of interest from Members & consider requests for dispensation

None.

3. To approve minutes of Council meetings held on 03 October and 21 October 2016

The minutes from both meetings were **agreed** by all and signed by the Chairman as true records.

4. To report progress on matters arising (Clerk's report)

The Clerk circulated a written report prior to the meeting and summarised some of the key points:

- **Bus shelters on A47:** The contractor has been commissioned; site drawings, specifications and method statements have been sent to Highways England for approval. Approval for commencement of works on the westbound site has been received.
- **Tun's Road drainage system:** NCC Highways are still assessing the best alternative option.
- **Warning triangles on Tun's Road for play area:** Installed on 25 October.
- **Fly-tipping:** Two incidents on St Andrew's Lane and Ramm's Lane were reported to Breckland Council.
- **Trod on North Pickenham Road:** Awaiting update on installation dates.
- **Play area:** The new see-saw has been installed and rubber-mulch surfacing completed.
- **A47 left filter lane:** The Clerk has approached David Cumming, NCC Highways and Cllr Kiddle-morris for an update on this scheme. It is understood that the scheme has been costed up and is on a list awaiting priority status.
- **Necton Little Oaks:** provided a report on their Parish Grant spending.
- **Parish Council vacancy:** An expression of interest in joining the Parish Council has been received from Mrs Bass. This item will be added to next month's agenda.
- **Request for footpath along Kett's Hill:** This matter will be added to next month's agenda for consideration.
- **Red phone box:** A resident has asked if the Council would consider retaining the red phone box as a community asset should BT decide to retire it from active service. Cllr Woodward clarified that our red phone box outside the church is protected as a listed building. Cllr Hayton confirmed that the other red phone box had been removed by BT.
- **No Cold Calling Zone:** a resident has asked if the Council would support a community led application to be classified as a no cold calling zone. This is an NCC initiative: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/business/trading-standards/consumer-advice/no-cold-calling-zones>. This scheme received Council support.

5. Reports from:

5.1 Norfolk County Council, Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris:

Budgets continue to be a challenge at County Hall. Council tax increase is likely to be 3.8 %, with 2% supporting Adult Social Services budget and the remainder 1.8%, the rate of inflation, across the remaining budgets. NCC may get an increase in central government funding following the Autumn Statement.

The proposed devolution continues to be debated, which will bring new money, powers and local governance, but there is still concern about the role of Mayor and some unease about the lack of political balance.

Cllr Kiddle-Morris supported the cold calling initiative.

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5.2 Breckland Council, Cllr Nigel Wilkin:

No report.

Public Participation Session opened at 7.55 pm

- A petition from the Anti-substation campaign group was presented to the Parish Council.
- A resident asked if the speeding along St Andrew's Lane could be monitored with the introduction of a speed-recording device. Cllr Hayton clarified that the device is a SAM2 and is available as a scheme under the NCC Parish Partnership Scheme. The Council agreed to consider this within their budget discussions.
- A resident asked if the speed terminals for 30 mph on St Andrew's Lane be moved to include all the properties along the road. The Clerk explained the discussions already undertaken with NCC Highways and the matter is still under investigation.
- A resident reported speeding along Ramm's Lane, of particular notice is a red car.

Session closed at 8.07 pm

6. Planning Matters

6.1 To receive results of outstanding applications (from Breckland Council)

3PL/2016/1088/F Refusal for 2 new dwellings at 14 Mill Street

3PL/2016/1003/HOU planning permission, extension to 10 Hale Road

6.2 To receive new planning applications relevant to the village and make comment

3PL/2016/1292, 8 Eastgate Park: There were no comments or objections to this application.

6.3 To receive update on Local Plan

The second round of consultation closed on 31 October. Results will be discussed by officers and members and changes will be incorporated into a revised document. This will go out for a pre-submission consultation in spring 2017. The purpose of this final consultation is to check that the document is legally compliant, and has adhered to government guidance. Following pre-submission consultation the Local Plan will be submitted to the Government Planning Inspectorate for examination in public and if considered to be sound and can then be adopted. It is anticipated that the new Plan will be adopted in autumn 2017.

6.4 To receive an update on the Parish Council's request to Breckland Council to issue a section 215 notice on the old diner site and the old school sites

Breckland Council are now aware of the new owner of the site and will ask them to secure the site and remove rubbish. The old school sites have been tidied up and Breckland Council are satisfied they are no longer a cause of concern.

Cllr Matthews urged that any sightings of antisocial or suspicious behaviour on these sites be reported to the police on 101.

6.5 To report on the outcome of a meeting with Dudgeon Wind Farm on matters of concern for residents of St Andrew's Lane

This meeting was arranged by Statoil to consider the issues raised by residents affected by light pollution and negative visual impact of the current site and infrastructure. A concern about the future impact of noise was also addressed. Statoil agreed 3 actions to help resolve the issues and a further follow-up meeting will be held in the new year.

6.6 To report on the proposal by Vattenfall for a new sub-station within a 3KM radius of the existing National Grid substation at Necton

Cllr Matthews read out a statement explaining the Council's current position on this matter. The highlights of this statement are:

- The Parish Council were informed in October of the opening of a public consultation by Vattenfall on a proposal to build one and maybe a second sub-station close to the existing National Grid station in the village.
- The Parish Council submitted a letter to the Secretary of State on the 28 October, detailing what the Council

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wishes to see in an Environment Statement from the applicant.

- The Parish Council cannot yet make a clear statement of position on this matter and awaits further clarification and/or proposals from Vattenfall.
- The Parish Council continues to listen to resident's comments. They will help inform their formulation of a decisive statement of support or objection when the Council is called upon to engage within a planning application.

A copy of the full statement and the letter sent to the Secretary of State are available on the Council website.

7. To receive a concluding report on the matter of residential flooding at Elizabeth Drive

Cllr Kiddle-Morris advised that Anglian Water attended the site in October and spoke directly with residents. The main contributing factor is a number of private surface water gullies feeding directly into the foul water system. This would appear to be a matter that the specific residents must manage themselves. The inspections carried out found the systems to be clear. There is a further inspection scheduled for the channels in the field behind the properties to ensure they are also clear.

Cllr Kiddle-Morris left the meeting at 8.29 pm to attend a meeting in another of his wards.

8. Footpath working group

8.1 To receive a report on progress from Cllr Hayton

Cllr Hayton reported that the group meeting with Helen Chester was very informative and suggested a number of possible routes that could be considered worthy of detailed research.

8.2 To agree a further budget to enable research work to be carried out

Cllr Hayton proposed that a budget of £500 would enable this research. The RFO confirmed that this could be provided from within general funds. Council **resolved** to agree this budget.

9. To receive update from Necton Allotment Society

Cllr Matthews reported that the allotments new Chairman is progressing a solution to the muddy entrance. There are a number of plots towards the back that are more suited to boating than growing. There is a committee meeting on Wednesday, 9 November at the Windmill and all allotment tenants are welcome.

10. Finance

10.1 To agree payments of invoices received during October

The following payments were agreed. The total payment being £8,366.46

Payee	Reason	Chq no	Amount	VAT portion
The Barns Music Group	New conference system for PC meetings (funded by Dudgeon Community Fund)	102627	1,340.00	223.33
BT	Phone rental for Oct	DD	31.24	5.21
G Joyce	Oct Salary	DD		
Swaffham Community Hospital - League of Friends	To replace returned cheque. PC min ref: 2016/3/4.15	102628	50.00	
L Luff	Oct Salary	102629		
HMRC	Oct NI/PAYE (end of credit on account)	102630	44.13	

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Payee	Reason	Chq no	Amount	VAT portion
TT Jones	Street light maintenance for Sept	102631	153.05	25.51
Eon	Street light energy for Sept	102632	321.31	53.55
Fenland Leisure Products	Completion of rubber mulch surfacing (funded by s106 monies)	102633	4,256.70	709.45
Fenland Leisure Products	Replacement toddler swing seats	102634	156.00	26.00
David Bracey	Annual play area inspection	102635	120.00	20.00
F Woodward	Sep expenses (mileage)	102636	4.41	
Gary Lake	2 nd instalment of grass cutting playing field & weed control of village entrance area	102637	700.00	
G Joyce	October expenses (mileage & postage)	102638	26.40	

10.2 To receive current financial statement and progress against budget

Receipts in October:

05-10-2016	1,117.00	grant from Dudgeon Community Fund 2016 for audio equip
05-10-2016	228.00	admin fee from NRCC

Current actual income yr. to date: £85,847. Actual outgoings yr. to date: £74,450. A reconciled bank statement and budget check were circulated to members. There were no questions raised.

10.3 To receive and consider draft budget 2017/18

A draft budget version 2 and a background explanation were provided by the RFO. The recent resident survey results that includes consultation about community spend will be collated and circulated shortly. Cllr Matthews recommended that members meet informally to inform themselves fully and be prepared for decision-making in December.

10.4 To consider a review of the Council's reserves policy

A reviewed policy was circulated ahead of the meeting. It was **resolved** to adopt the identified changes.

10.5 To consider a request from Necton Little Oaks to use a small leftover balance of their awarded grant on other items

Little Oaks have a balance of £75.60 left over from their parish awarded grant in April 2016, due to un-expected train ticket reductions. They would like to apply this against new educational toys for the children. It was **resolved** to agree this request.

10.6 To agree the replacement of a light lamp outside 5 Jubilee Way

This light (9107) has been reported as beyond repair by TT Jones due to excessive water damage. They have provided a quote for a like for like replacement and an upgrade to LED. The Clerk has asked another supplier for a quote for an LED replacement. In recognition of the approaching winter, it was **resolved** to replace this light once consideration is given to received quotes. The Clerk will communicate with members through email.

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11. To consider a review of the Council's Code of Conduct

The Clerk has reviewed the current document against the current Breckland Council code, upon which this Council's Code is modelled. No changes were identified and it was **resolved** to retain the existing version of the Council's Code of Conduct.

12. To receive updates from individual Council Members (for information only)

Cllr Thompson: Confirmed that the internal audit control check for July to September was carried out and no concerns were identified.

Cllr Matthews: expressed his thanks to all residents who attended the village open day on 5 November. He announced that the Parish Council will be hosting their annual Christmas reception immediately after the December meeting and all are welcome.

13. To receive any items for inclusion on the next agenda (for information only)

Budgets, Kett's Hill footpath, cold calling scheme, co-option

14. To confirm date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting Monday, 05 December 2016, 7.30 pm.

Confirmed. The Chairman extended an invitation to join the Council in a social reception immediately following the December Parish Council meeting.

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Minutes signed by Chair (or designate) _____ on _____