

Necton Parish Council

Minutes No: 2017/3/1

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held Monday, 03 July 2017 7.30 pm in the Necton Rural
Community Centre



Parish Councillors (7) present:

David Matthews, Frank Woodward, Joe Sisto, Phil Hayton, Jean Bass, Fraser Bateman, Denise Axham

Also in attendance:

Gabrielle Joyce (Clerk)
12 members of the public
Cllr Nigel Wilkin (Breckland Council)
Mrs S Fatch-Lovesey, Mr J Lister representing Vattenfall

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllr Thompson (work commitment). Apologies also received from Cllr Kiddle-Morris (Norfolk County Council)

2. To consider the co-option of Mr Frank Stopp to the Parish Council

Mr Frank Stopp presented himself for co-option to the vacancy on the Council. His co-option was **approved** and he was welcomed to join the meeting. He signed his declaration of office in the presence of the Clerk. A Declaration of Interest form was provided for his completion and return. The Chairman stated that the Council now has its full complement of nine councillors.

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

Cllr Matthews declared a personal interest in item 7.3.

4. To approve minutes of Council meetings held on 05 June 2017

The following corrections were proposed:

Min ref 2017/2/4 item 8.6. Removal of 'I am setting...' to 'the RFO is setting...'

Min ref 2017/2/4 item 8.7. this should read 'Apr-Jun' account audit and not 'Apr-May'

The minutes with these corrections included were **agreed** to be a true record of events and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters arising

5.1 progress on matters arising from last minutes

No matters raised.

5.2 Clerk's report

- The Clerk has a meeting scheduled with the NCC Highways Engineer to discuss a number of ongoing and recently presented highway related issues, including the recent resurfacing of the Hale Road/Tun's Road.
- Repairs have been made in the Play Area to the wooden shelter and a routine detailed inspection of the zip-wire has been carried out.
- The public toilet provided at the community centre has been deliberately held open overnight. To alleviate this, the opening times have been modified so that staff may be able to check evening closure.

6. Reports from:

6.1 Norfolk County Council, Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris (presented by Clerk):

- £35M received from central government to support NCC Adult Social Care.
- Parish Partnership Scheme 2018/19 is now open for applications.
- Cllr Kiddle-Morris has a small budget of £6,000 to support highway related schemes, which he hopes to utilise for some of his unparished villages.

6.2 Breckland Council, Cllr Nigel Wilkin:

- The resurfacing on Tun's Road/Hale Road is "appalling" and requires re-work.
- There are a number of local thefts of vehicles by what appears to be an organised network covering Norfolk

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and Lincolnshire. There needs to be great awareness of unusual activity or unknown people within the village especially at night.

- Necton Diner is progressing through a sale and at this time, Breckland Council have ceased progression of the section 215.

6.3 Necton Little Oaks on the outcome of the Parish Grant 2016

- The Clerk showed a short presentation received from Necton Little Oaks showing how they spent their Parish Grant. Cllr Matthews asked that a note of thanks be sent to Little Oaks for this presentation.

Public Participation Session opened at 7.59 pm

- A resident reported the risk associated with the excessive level of stone chips on the Hale Road, particularly where cars are not adhering to the speed guidance. In addition, there are a number of cars regularly parking on the footpath blocking access.

Session closed at 8.01 pm

7. Planning Matters

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

- 3PL/2017/0536/HOU - 7 Tun's Road – approved. (06 June)
- 3PL/2017/0529/F – one dwelling, behind 14 Mill Street. Approved. Was presented as 2 new dwellings which PC objected to on grounds of density. The application was amended to one dwelling – approved. (16 June)

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

None received.

7.3 To consider matters relating to Tree Preservation Orders on North Pickenham Road

Breckland Council placed a Tree Preservation Order (on 15/06/2017) on a linear strip of oak trees along North Pickenham Road. This follows the recent felling of a number of such trees by a property owner. The trees are considered to have high amenity and habitat value, contributing to the rural feel of this country road. This TPO was served to residents whose properties lie adjacent to these trees. The Parish Council received copies of correspondence to Breckland Council from two of these residents raising objections and questions on ownership of these trees. Cllr Hayton asked if clarification has been sought with NCC Highways on the extent of the highway to help identify tree ownership. Cllr Wilkin clarified a TPO is placed on a tree but it needs to be served to the owner. It would appear in this case that further investigation on ownership is required by Breckland Council. It was **agreed** that these comments would be shared with Breckland Council.

7.4 To receive update on Breckland Local Plan Working Group meeting, 16 June 2017

On the lead up to the LPWG meeting of 16 June, conversations between Breckland Officers and this Council resulted in the removal of the land behind Brackenwoods as an alternate site. The following was proposed by Officers, supported by this Council and agreed by the LPWG to be Necton's allocation to 2036:

- Erne Farm site, LP[067]010, 40 dwellings and retention of non-designated heritage assets if viable
- North Pickenham Rd, LP[067]011, 15 dwellings
- Remaining balance of 17 to be secured through criteria based policies during the life of the Local Plan.

Cllr Wilkin congratulated the Parish Council for their diligence on this matter.

7.5 Vattenfall proposed windfarm substations

7.5.1 To receive details of the next public consultation events

The Chairman introduced Sue Fatch-Lovesey and Jake Lister, representing Vattenfall, to explain the next steps of consultation. Prior to the formal consultation period, anticipated to begin in November, a workshop will be held on 19 July where invited participants will consider four possible footprints within the refined substation zone. Another event for the wider community will be held on 20 July, where anonymised contributions from the 19 July event will be available for viewing. Cllr Hayton asked if there would be cross-section displays to assist visualisation. Mrs Fatch-Lovesey believed that will be the case.

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Cllr Matthews asked that the village be widely represented at this event. Mrs Fatch-Lovesey confirmed that there are approximately 80 delegates on the list representing various groups within the village and this list would be checked with the Parish Clerk to ensure the widest possible engagement.

7.5.2 To agree Parish Council representation at these events

Cllr Matthews reiterated that the Council is not yet in a position to make a decision, as there is nothing yet on which to make a decision. It was **agreed** that all members of the Council would attend the event on 19 July.

7.5.3 To note correspondence received

The Parish Office has a significant stock of the latest Vattenfall Newsletter for anybody who may not have received their copy in the post.

Vattenfall representatives left the meeting at 8.37 pm

8. To receive an update on the SAM2 project

Cllr Matthews confirmed that a training session is arranged for Friday, 7 July at noon to be delivered by Westcotec. All members who volunteered will be attending.

9. Finance

9.1 To agree payments of invoices received during June

The following payments, which total £4,426.48 were agreed.

Payee	Reason	Chq no	Amount	VAT portion
BT	Phone rental	dd	32.28	5.38
BT	Broadband Jun-Aug	dd	108.00	18.00
G Joyce	June Salary	SO		
NEST pension	June Pension emp & ers contribution	dd	60.30	
NSSC - grant 2017	Approved under minute item 2017/2/4 10	102705	592.95	
L Luff	June Salary	102706		
HMRC	June liabilities	102707	349.82	
TT Jones	May light maintenance	102708	153.05	25.51
Eon	May streetlight energy	102709	332.27	55.38
SLCC Enterprises Ltd	Training	102710	174.00	29.00
Fenland Leisure Products Ltd	Play area repairs	102711	723.45	120.57
G Joyce	Expenses: Allotment, travel, training, admin, postage	102712	545.82	58.75
G Joyce	Expenses: phone	102713	6.60	1.10

9.2 To receive current financial statement and progress against budget

- Actual income yr. to date: £40,958.93. Actual outgoings yr. to date: £17,701.62 (this includes the above approved payments). Income includes payment from Dudgeon Community Fund for the path to school project and new solar PV panels on the community centre. Both projects will be progressed over the next

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few weeks.

- Bank reconciliation to 29 June 2017 was circulated to members prior to meeting.
- Budget July 2017 also circulated prior to meeting. Significant overspend on play area maintenance, due to under estimation at budget setting.
- The internal control check for April to June was carried out by Cllr Thompson on 3 July. There were no issues identified.

9.3 To consider a request for donation from Norfolk Family Mediation

Norfolk Family Mediation is fund-raising to recruit and train more mediators to meet growing demand. Cllr Sisto proposed a donation of £100. The Clerk confirmed that the Grants 2017 budget has funds to support this motion. This donation was **approved**.

10. To receive a progress update on the Community Garden project

A draft design plan is out for public consultation at present. Deadline for response is 10 July. A number of comments already received are very positive with some specific suggestions. All will be collated into a report and used for the next consultation with designer in order to secure a final plan. Comments have been invited from the police for their view on security. We have asked if the Community PayBack team would be able to help with some groundworks. Fund-raising via Tesco and Waitrose concluded at the end of June.

11. To consider the revised Standing Orders for adoption

The Clerk reviewed this policy and recommended the following amendments:

Item 18.a.5: £25,000 be set as the value below which the formal tender process does not apply.

Item 18.c: noting again £25,000 as the value.

It was **agreed** to adopt the Standing Orders with these amendments.

12. To receive reviewed Expenses policy for adoption

Cllr Axham has reviewed this policy and found it still complainant with HMRC legislation and Local Council regulations. It was **agreed** to retain this policy.

13. To confirm up to 3 members to form an appraisal panel for Clerk's appraisal and book date

It was **agreed** that the 3 members be Cllrs Thompson, Bass and Axham. A date within July is to be set.

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

Cllr Sisto – Benches in the village; 3 potential locations Elizabeth Drive, Masons Drive and Chantry Court. The Clerk advised that these locations are not in Parish ownership and would require permissions. Old Coal House stone; now almost unreadable and not in an accessible location. Further research is needed.

Cllr Bass – Path to School; a recent school visit was made to see where the possible entrance to the school playing field would be. The School Care-taker has confirmed that he is happy to be responsible for opening and locking the gates. Potholes; on North Pickenham Road and junction of Masons Drive.

Cllr Axham – SNAP meeting on 18 July.

Cllr Woodward – Emergency Plan will be updated with the present Councillors. 7 welcome packs last month.

Cllr Bateman – North Pickenham Trod now has damage from traffic to/from the AW pumping station, plus very overgrown with weeds.

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

Items as identified above. Community benches.

16. To confirm date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting Monday, 07 August 2017, 7.30 pm.

Confirmed.

Meeting closed at 9.04 pm

Minutes signed by Chair (or designate) _____ on _____