

Necton Annual Parish Meeting



Minutes of Meeting held Thursday, 27 April 2017 7.30 pm in the Necton Rural
Community Centre

Note: These minutes will be formally approved at the Annual Parish Meeting in 2018.

Parish Councillors present: David Matthews (Chairman) Frank Woodward (vice-Chairman), Joe Sisto, Phil Hayton, Fraser Bateman,

Also in attendance: Gabrielle Joyce (Clerk), Cllr Kiddle-Morris (NCC), Cllr Nigel Wilkin. Invited guests Donna Minto and Jeremy Goss from NNAB, Cllrs Shirley Matthews and Peter Wilkinson (part of the Community Spirit Independent panel). 12 members of the public.

1. Chairman's welcome address

Cllr Matthews welcomed all those present and explained the proceedings for the evening. He commented on the great success the Parish Council has had during the last 12 months in terms of securing outside funding for new facilities and improvements to the village, in particular the play area and the latest Trod. Last year also saw the Council achieve Quality Status, recognition of the level of professionalism and capability within the Council. He reported that negotiations continue with Breckland Council ensuring that the forthcoming Local Plan provides adequately for the village. Another significant issue is the ongoing public consultation regarding potential new substations to support Vattenfall wind farms. There is still one vacancy on the Parish Council and we would welcome a new volunteer to help share the workload. Cllr Matthews concluded by thanking staff and Councillors for their continued contribution to the smooth running of the Parish Council.

2. Apologies for absence

Cllrs Ian Thompson, Denise Axham and Jean Bass. Rev. Stephen Thorpe, Mr Bernard Bell.

3. To approve minutes

Minutes of last Annual Parish Meeting were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Report by Clerk about the year 2016/17

The Clerk provided a short presentation that is available to view on the website (link from Annual Parish Meeting page). The information is also provided within the Parish Council's annual report 2017, which is incorporated in the May issue of the Parish Link.

5. Report from Cllr Wilkin on Breckland District Council 2016/17

Cllr Wilkin reported that planning issues were the main aspect of his last 12 months. He's Ward Member for Necton and Holme Hale, attending both Parish Council's monthly meetings. Breckland Council achieved a 5 year housing land supply and is working to complete the Local Plan. Another significant issue last year was the prospect of devolution and whilst Breckland voted against this, it may re-emerge again in the future. There were no questions from the floor and Cllr Matthews thanked Cllr Wilkin for his report and his support during the past year, commenting on the good relationship between the Ward Member and Parish Council.

6. Reports from Cllr Kiddle-Morris on Norfolk County Council 2016/17

Cllr Kiddle-Morris read his prepared report, a copy of which can be viewed on the website (link from Annual Parish Meeting page) Cllr Matthews thanked Cllr Kiddle-Morris for his report and his support on Parish matters over the last 12 months.

Cllr Matthews closed the business section of the meeting and invited Nigel Wilkin to open and comper the next session of the evening, in his role as Toastmaster. Mr Wilkin took to the floor.

7. Guest Speaker, Jeremy Goss, representing Norfolk & Norwich Association for the Blind

Mr Jeremy Goss, of ex Norwich City fame, spoke about the work of the local charity, which receives no government funding and is dependent on community fundraising. He was accompanied by Donna Minto, Events Officer at the NNAB, who demonstrated some of the resources and aids available to people from the NNAB.

Following their presentation, Cllr Hayton led the vote of thanks and presented a cheque of £100 donation from the Parish Council. Full story and photos are available on the Parish Council website.

8. Community Spirit Awards 2017

Nominations received this year: Mr Bernard Bell, Mr Frank Woodward, Mr Leonard Luff, Mrs Babs Hastell, Mrs Barbara Jones, Mr Phil & Mrs Maureen Kirkby, Mrs Maureen Beaumont.

All those present received a certificate from Jeremy Goss.

From these nominations, three people were identified by an independent panel, as those who went that extra mile for their community. These people are Mr Leonard Luff, Mr Frank Woodward and Mrs Babs Hastell. Full story and photos are available on the Parish Council website. These three people received a £40 voucher for a meal at the Necton Windmill, sponsored by Town Farm Cars.

9. Questions & general discussion

There were no questions from the floor. Cllr Matthews closed the meeting at 8.40 pm and invited guests to enjoy the refreshments that were prepared by Paul Young.

Minutes signed by Chair (or designate) _____ on _____