

Necton Parish Council

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Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held Monday 05 November 2018 7.30 pm in the Necton Rural Community Centre



Parish Councillors (7) present:

Councillors David Matthews (Chair), Frank Stopp, Fraser Bateman, Joe Sisto, Alice Spain, Jean Bass, Phil Hayton

Also in attendance:

James Howard (Clerk)
18 members of the public
Cllr Nigel Wilkin
Cllr Kiddle-Morris

Date: Monday, 05 November 2018

Time: 7.30 pm

Place: Main Hall, Necton Rural Community Centre

The meeting started with the sad news of the passing of Frank Woodward. He freely gave many years and considerable knowledge to the service of Necton and a minute's silence was held on his behalf. All thoughts to family and friends.

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllrs Axham (medical reasons) and Thompson Work commitments).

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

Cllr Stopp declared an interest in a planning matter – this, however, has already been decided.

3. To approve minutes of Council meeting of 1st October 2018

Approved and signed.

4. Adjournment for Public Participation (15 mins allowed for). Commenced 19:33

Fencing around Erne Farm has been vandalised. Clerk to report and check on progress for development to commence.

Update on school trod requested – Clerk reported a good quote had just been received and the school is to be contacted regarding progress.

Roadway to the Sports and Social Club reported as flooding. This may be addressed if the community garden goes ahead.

An update on the grass cutting contract was requested. The Clerk stated that 14 declarations had been received but a decision would not be forthcoming until late December.

The road sign opposite the church needs clearing of vegetation.

Alley near Chantry Lane/Chantry Court needs vegetation clearing.

Potholes reported at junction of St Andrews Lane and Tuns Road.

An update was requested on replacement doors for the Sports and Social club. Clerk reported that all quotes are now in and a decision is imminent.

Session ended 19:38

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5. Reports from:

- Parish Clerk

The Clerk explained that his report was tagged to individual agenda items and would be read at the appropriate time.

- Norfolk County Council, Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris

Arrived later due to other commitments but report placed here for clarity.

Norfolk County Council will be imposing a council tax increase of 2.99% for the next financial year.

Consultation on the closure of child centres ends on 12th November.

He will be meeting with the new Highways Engineer John Cotton on 7th Nov and will be visiting Necton looking at such issues as HGV vehicles around Ivy Todd, problems with hedges and bridges and flooding issues. The need for a pavement on Ketts Hill is also on his agenda. He was also asked to look at encroachment on the highway of a fence and agreed to do so.

As he was not present at the beginning of the meeting, he gave his own praise and thanks for the hard work of Frank Woodward.

- Breckland Council, Cllr Nigel Wilkin

No new points were raised.

Questions were asked about the new houses opposite the school to which the council objected. Cllr Wilkin explained that if objections were not defensible then the scheme would likely go ahead on appeal if necessary and at considerable expense to the council.

It was also raised that planning objections were being received too late to agenda for one meeting and too late to comment at the next. It was explained that extra time could be requested and that Capita were short staffed. There is a service level agreement but Capita have allowances for time. The lack of local posting of applications and letters to neighbours was also raised.

6. To accept minutes from the NRCC meeting of 15 October 2018.

Accepted.

7. To receive updates on the plans to manage the Necton festival for 2019.

The second festival meeting has been held and sponsorship is likely to exceed the amount to be donated by the council. Comments received are highly supportive of an inclusive festival. Plans will be made to bolster advertising and a decision has been made that a secure compound will be needed for health and safety etc. There will be a section with farm animals for the children with the appropriate safeguarding.

8. To consider a grant request from All Saints Church Necton for £350 for grass cutting.

A debate was had regarding whether this was match funded and whether match funding was necessary. The grant was awarded and the Clerk will clarify.

9. To plan finances and precept for 2019-20. To plan a course of action.

A bank reconciliation was provided and further information sought. Some felt that no increase in the precept was justified. Further discussion to be had at December meeting.

10. To consider a quote received for a new Village sign.

It was agreed to go ahead with the village sign quote. Debate over the second sign (top of Tuns Rd) was inconclusive although a quote for a second similar sign will be sought for reference.

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11. To discuss Norfolk County Councils decision to make cuts to children's services.

After much debate a vote was held on whether to write a letter to Norfolk County Council objecting to these plans. The vote was, however, defeated.

The Clerk has filled in a questionnaire should there be a place for services at the village hall.

12. Planning matters – to note new planning applications or decisions and discuss.

REFERENCE: 3PL/2018/0957/LB
PROPOSAL: Proposed essential maintenance works to the building fabric including replacem
LOCATION: NECTON: Eastgate House 30 Tuns Road Necton

APPLICANT: Mrs Stopp
CASE OFFICER: Sandra Bunning

The above application has now been considered and **the application has been APPROVED.**

REFERENCE: 3PL/2018/0859/F
PROPOSAL: Proposed residential development of two houses on land adjacent Damson Cott:
LOCATION: NECTON: Development At Damson Cottage Necton Road Necton
APPLICANT: Mr & Mrs Smith
CASE OFFICER: Tom Donnelly

The above application has now been considered and **the application has been APPROVED.**

No new applications have been received since the October meeting.

The above was noted.

13. To discuss issues with regard to road closures.

After discussion it was agreed that this road closure (like many others) was badly managed.

14. To discuss the potential to start a youth club.

A piece in Parish Link has asked for volunteers.

15. To consider any updates on Vattenfall.

Clerk to obtain an update from George Freeman MP and distribute.

16. Finance – to agree payments of invoices and other expenses received during October and to note monies received (see list).

Agreed.

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

Cllr Stopp requested an update on repairs to play equipment. These are ongoing and a better quote is to be sought.

Cllr Sisto asked about the wreath for the November ceremony. This is available and will be laid by Cllrs Sisto and Hayton.

Cllr Hayton commented on light pollution from spotlights and requested consideration for neighbours from users.

Cllr Bass asked when development at Erns Farm would begin but no information was available. The need for

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new street signs with names and numbers were noted for the entrance to Masons Drive.
Cllr Matthews will inform all once funeral arrangements have been made for Frank Woodward.

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

Outside toilet
Budget planning
Vattenfall / Boreas
Festival update
Basketball court

19. To confirm date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting as Monday 03 Dec 2018 at 7.30pm.

Confirmed.