

Necton Parish Council

Minutes No: 2019/6

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held Monday 13 May 2019 7.30 pm in the Necton Rural Community Centre



Parish Councillors (5) present:

Councillors Jean Bass (Acting Chair), Fraser Bateman, Joe Sisto, Alice Spain, Phil Hayton,

Also in attendance:

James Howard (Clerk)
Cllr Nigel Wilkin
(Breckland)
21 members of the
public

Date: Monday, 13 May 2019

Time: 7.30 pm

Place: Main Hall, Necton Rural Community Centre

1. To receive nominations for the post of chair and elect a member to this post.

Cllr Jean Bass was elected Chair.

2. To receive nominations for the post of vice chair and elect a member to this post.

Cllr Joe Sisto was elected Vice Chair.

3. Councillors are invited to select any applicants to co-opt onto the council. Two applicants to be considered – Frank Stopp and Thirza Hicks.

Both candidates were selected and welcomed to the council.

4. To elect members and substitutes for the NRCC committee.

The following Councillors were elected:

Cllr Fraser Bateman
Cllr Frank Stopp
Cllr Phil Hayton
Cllr Joe Sisto
Cllr Jean Bass

5. To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies were given by Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris who had eight other meetings that evening.

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

Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Necton Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

Cllr Hayton declared an interest in item 15 on the agenda.

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7. To approve minutes of the Council meeting of 1st April 2019

Approved.

8. To approve minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 29th April 2019 (for accuracy only).

Approved.

9. Adjournment for Public Participation (Commenced 19:37)

Potholes on St Andrews Lane are still in urgent need of repair. Clerk to chase.

Flooding in Rams Lane has been reported for 12 months and still requires action. Clerk to investigate.

The dog bin at Chapel Rd / Ivy Todd needs replacing. Clerk to action.

Coaches are using St Andrews Lane rather than turn around. Cllr Bass to speak to the school although there are no restrictions here to prevent coach use.

Bad parking around the hall causes problems such as blocking access to the SSC. Clerk to look at some signage.

Repairs on the Car park are still with NCC for action.

It was felt that the council needed to letter drop houses on Tuns Road when event take place as parking is no longer a police issue and no restrictions are on parking on Tuns Road.

The question was asked as to when Costa Coffee will ever open – nobody knows!

Session ended 19:48

10. Reports from:

Parish Clerk – attached.

Norfolk County Council, Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris – attached.

Breckland Council, Cllr Nigel Wilkin.

Cllr Wilkin started by congratulating Cllr Bass on her appointment as Chair. He pointed out that in the recent election in Necton and Holme Hale the turnout was 35.9% which, although good, meant that 1399 people did not vote.

Cllr Wilkin explained that a loss of committee member on the planning committee could slow down their work temporarily.

He reported that Breckland Council was going “paperless” and that teething troubles would inevitably occur.

11. To receive minutes from the recent NRCC Committee meeting (for information only).

Received.

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12. To receive minutes from the recent Festival Committee meetings (for information only).

Received.

13. Necton Festival – to receive an update from Cllr Bateman.

As a recent update had been presented Cllr Bateman concentrated on the latest news. A new band has been added making a total of five plus the star 9-year-old DJ. The committee is now committing orders for the infrastructure. Volunteers would be welcome for help with parking etc. The long-range weather forecast looks promising. 100+ tickets have now been sold so new sales are at £10 per ticket.

14. To approve an increment of 1 Spinal Column Point for the Clerk and Assistant following one year's service.

Approved.

15. To approve the Clerks report on street lighting and consider a lighting sub-committee to oversee the work and progress.

After a brief explanation of reasoning from the Clerk the report was approved for action. It was decided that a sub-committee was not needed, however.

16. To discuss the latest issues around Vattenfall and decide on the next steps.

A debate was had on whether or not it was time to engage with Vattenfall on the subject of potential benefits to the community. The general view was that engagement was, on balance, the best option although this was agreed with some degree of caution and scepticism.

It was agreed that it was the council's duty to find out exactly what the village wanted but recent attempts to find out met with very few replies.

A lot of focus went on the possibility of a new swimming pool which, it was agreed, would be an asset. The clerk pointed out, however, that the school will run with this bid for funding independently or in conjunction with the council.

No firm plans were made to make arrangements to meet just yet and further discussions will be held. Vattenfall. Chair asked all councillors to prepare their idea of how we should proceed with Vattenfall's offer of money for discussion at our next meeting so the council can make an informed decision.

17. Planning matters – to note new planning applications and discuss.

REFERENCE: 3PL/2019/0101/D – no objections.

REFERENCE: 3PL/2019/0360/F – no objections.

18. To add three new councillors to the list to approve bank payments.

Cllrs Sisto, Spain and Stopp were selected to approve payments. The Clerk will action.

19. To appoint an internal auditor for council accounts.

Internal auditor is perhaps not the best title and the position will be referred to as Internal Control Monitor. Cllr Bateman was appointed.

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20. To confirm acceptance of policies to be reviewed by individuals.

Policies - all councillors were asked if they were happy with the policies they had been given to review. No objections. New councillor Thirza Hicks was told of the policy she was to look at which would just involve liaising with the Clerk and Parish Assistant.

Chair then reminded everyone that we need comments on policies by the next meeting, or by August meeting at the latest.

21. To decide on renewal of NALC membership, to switch to Norfolk PTS membership or to accept both.

After some debate it was agreed to remain with NALC and use Norfolk PTS on an ongoing ad hoc basis.

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

Cllr Spain – started a debate on councillor's attendance at events and meetings outside the council. The Clerk reports these events by email as soon as they are received and it was pointed out that it is the councillor's responsibility to choose whether or not to attend. Cllr Spain thought that a list of more important events would be useful.

Cllr Spain volunteered to be the one attending the ring main meeting with George Freeman MP.

Cllr Sisto - stated that the traffic down school road was excessive due to road works and that the path to school was a loss. He agreed to help move the benches to the garden this week.

Cllr Hayton – informed that people leaving the village were doing so at a higher speed than people entering as stats from the SAM device demonstrate.

Cllr Bateman – informed that vehicles were parking on School Lane and leaving their engines running outside the school which was a very bad practice.

Cllr Stopp – The current road works has seen many people moving bollards and barriers and driving through. This is a danger to the exposed road which may collapse under the weight of a vehicle. Complaints about dog droppings have increased and Cllr Stopp reminded people that Breckland Council have a dog warden.

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

Items include:

Swimming pool.
School Trod.
Neighbourhood planning.
Vattenfall.

24.. To confirm date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting as Monday 17 Jun 2019 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed 21:20.

DRAFT