



Minutes No:
2020/15

Necton Parish Council

Minutes Parish Council Meeting held

Monday 13th January 2020 at 7.30 pm in the Necton Rural Community Centre

Parish Councillors (7) present:

Councillors Jean Bass (Chair), Joe Sisto, Fraser Bateman, Mark Jennings, Ken Barrett, Phil Hayton, Alice Spain and Thirza Hicks

Additional attendees:

Nigel Wilkin- Breckland Council (Due to other commitments joined meeting late)

Mark Kiddle-Morris – Norfolk County Council

Justine Luckhurst- Parish Clerk

12 members of the public

Date: Monday 13th January 2020

Time: 7.30 pm

Place: Main Hall, Necton Rural Community Centre

1. To receive apologies for absence

No apologies were received.

2. 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.

None declared

3. To approve minutes of the Council meeting of 9th December 2019

Minutes from the meeting on 9th December 2019 were approved and duly signed by Chair Bass.

4. Public Participation (10 minutes allowed)

The following items were raised:

- The question was raised regarding the hedge on the corner of Chantry Lane and Mill Street. This is very overgrown and the indication from the member of the

public is that the owner of the hedge has limited income and therefore has not arranged for this to be cut back. The Council was asked if they could support in some way with this being cut back. Councillor Jennings offered to visit the owner of the hedge to understand the current position and will report back.

- The lights on the A47 are still not working and Chair Bass confirmed this would be covered by Councillor Barrett in his report.

5. Reports from:

Parish Council Clerk – Justine Luckhurst

The Clerk read her report which is attached to the minutes

Norfolk County Council- Mark Kiddle-Morris

The Clerk read the report from Councillor Kiddle- Morris which is attached to the minutes

Breckland Council- Nigel Wilkin

Councillor Wilkin reminded the Council funds are still being held by Breckland in respect of S106 funds. The Council confirming they were aware of this and an application for the use of these funds is currently in progress. Councillor Wilkin reminding everyone that once the Boundary Commission have completed their review of voting divisions as described in Councillor Kiddle-Morris' report there is a possibility that the Ward currently known as Necton and Launditch may change names and Necton may well be lost in the Ward name although this is yet to be confirmed.

Chairperson, Cllr Jean Bass

The Chair confirmed Councillor Stopp has regretfully resigned as Councillor from Necton Parish Council due to a house moved and therefore leaving the area. The Chair thanked Councillor Stopp for his work and it was agreed a letter of thanks would be sent by the Clerk to him. Breckland Council have been notified and the required notices will be displayed in the village and online regarding filling the vacant position on the Council.

Councillors

Councillor Barrett confirmed he has been pursuing the issue with the street lighting on the A47. He confirmed that a fault had been found and was informed once a permit was issued to dig this would be fixed. This has still not taken place and so he has now registered a complaint via their complaint's procedure. Highways England has 2 weeks to respond to a complaint and Councillor Barrett will monitor for a response and take forward accordingly. Councillor Hayton also confirming he has reported the faults in October 2019 in his capacity as an engineer and not a Councillor. Councillor Barrett shared some written information regarding an incentive from BT called Adopt a Kiosk. This is an incentive for BT to sell redundant red telephone boxes

to organisations and companies for them to be used. They sell these for £1.00 and can supply paint, signs and replacement glass. Councillor Barrett noting the kiosk in Necton is in a sad state of repair and asked whether this could be considered as an agenda item at the next meeting to discuss whether consideration should be given to purchasing and the usage of the kiosk for the village. It was agreed this will be an agenda item at the February meeting Proposed by Chair Bass, seconded by Councillor Bateman and all voting in agreement. Councillor Bateman confirming that these kiosks are Grade 2 listed and cannot be moved but can be refurbished.

Councillor Jennings has confirmed that the aerial cableway in the play area will need to be re-tensioned. He had hoped that removing some links would solve the issue noted in the recent Play Inspection but this would only raise the height of the cable. As this is a Health and Safety issue Councillor Jennings will remove the zip wire short term and investigate further quotes to have this work carried out.

Councillor Hayton complimented Councillor Barrett regarding the Adopt a Kiosk scheme outlined in his report.

Councillor Spain stated the dog bin at the village end of Ramms Lane is cracked and cannot be used. It was agreed a new one is to be ordered.

6. To approve Bills made, to be made and approve late payments as necessary

The Chair proposed the bills detailed on the published list can be paid. Approved unanimously.

7. Planning matters

3PL/2019/1460/HOU- proposed 2 storey side and single storey rear extension
13 Oaks Drive- no objections.

8. New Notice Boards

Chair Bass confirmed the new notice board is now in place outside the Community Centre and asked whether the Council should consider replacing the two notice boards at the shop. Chair Bass will obtain quotes for these and for the installation of the new boards and removal of the existing ones and discuss as an agenda item at the next Council meeting

9. Boreas and Vattenfall

Councillor Spain confirmed that herself, Chair Bass and Councillor Hayton are the subcommittee representing Necton Parish Council and have been responding to Boreas where required, One response has been recently sent to Boreas to respond to Vattenfall's declining of our suggested location of the substation (noting their reasons

for declining were incorrect) and a further response will be sent to Vanguard to answer their question by the deadline of 28th February 2020. Councillors Spain and Hayton have been working on making a 3D board of the area we would prefer the substation to be built and not where Vattenfall want it to be. This 3D model will demonstrate the land contours and show the screening and positioning of the substation and this will be taken to the next hearing being held on 21st January. This visual aid will hopefully demonstrate and provide visual support to our justification of the location required.

10. To discuss the car park at the Community Centre

Chair Bass confirmed that just before Christmas the hedge was cut back revealing the disabled car signs and the paths cleared around the parking bays to enable easier access from a car into the hall. Some shingle was used to fill in some of the pot holes that had appeared and thus reducing the risk of damage to cars. Chair Bass will investigate further works needed to make a more permanent fix of these pot holes and a further general tidy up and re-painting of signs and barriers and will report back at the next meeting.

11. To finalise the budget for 2020-2021 and Precept.

The Clerk confirmed the draft budget already circulated is the final draft and thereafter discussed the proposed increase to the Precept from £66,400 to £70,000. This would enable the proposed community projects to be funded in the next financial year including the MUGA which was agreed can proceed at the extraordinary meeting held on 6th January 2020. Some debate was held regarding whether an increase should be set and discussions were held regarding the need to increase precept to support the community projects planned or needing completion such as the street lighting upgrades. The Chair proposed the increase to the Precept and seconded by Councillor Bateman. A vote was held to decide if the precept should increase as noted and the result was 5 votes for, 2 against and 1 abstention. Motion passed for the precept to be increased for 2020-2021 to £70,000 and budget for 2020- 2021 agreed. The Chair proposed the budget for 2020-2021 to be agreed and seconded by Councillor Bateman. draft budget was agreed unanimously.

12. MUGA

The Clerk reminded the Council that the extraordinary meeting held 6th January confirmed the agreement of the Council that the MUGA project can proceed and S106 monies could be applied for but noting there were some questions raised regarding the quote provided by Fenland Leisure, Councillors Hicks, Jennings and Sisto confirmed a further meeting was held with Barry from Fenland Leisure and these questions have been answered and a revised quote received. Further queries were raised by the Council and it was agreed to ask Barry to attending a further meeting with the Councillors to answer some further queries. The Clerk to arrange this meeting and also to discuss whether the quoted price could be negotiated and whether any discount could be arranged with the re-tensioning of the aerial cableway as this potentially would be completed by them as well.

13. Death of a Senior Figure.

The Clerk sent a draft protocol to the Councillors to consider and this was reviewed. The Clerk confirmed contact has been made with Rev. Thorpe to discuss a 'joined up' approach with the Church. Rev. Thorpe has confirmed the PCC has a protocol and will obtain a copy and revert to discuss their content. It was agreed that a loose-leaf book of condolence should be purchased and amendments made to the paper to incorporate flag flying and obtaining a flag. Councillor Spain requested that arrangements regarding floral tributes should also be included, discussion regarding inclusion of any Councillor who has served in last 5 years to be included and not just a serving Councillor. Proposed by Councillor Bateman, seconded by Chair Bass and all voted in agreement. The Clerk will cover again at the next meeting as an agenda item.

14. Public Participation (5 minutes allowed)

A member of the public confirmed he had reported the street lights on the A47 as not working and received the same response as Councillor Barrett.

Councillor Wilkin asked Councillor Kiddle-Morris whether the Ward name of Necton and Launditch would change with the Boundary Commission review and to confirm whether the name Necton could be lost from the Ward name. Councillor Kiddle-Morris confirmed this is a possibility but could not confirm or deny as the present as no decisions made. He reminded the Council that there is a website to gather input from the public and it was agreed the Clerk would register the Council's request the name Necton is retained in the new Ward name.

19. To confirm date and time of the next Parish Meeting

The next meeting will be on 10th February 2020 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 20.55