



Minutes No:
2020/16

Necton Parish Council

Minutes Parish Council Meeting held

Monday 10th February 2020 at 7.30 pm in the Necton Rural Community Centre

Parish Councillors (8) 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
Justine Luckhurst- Parish Clerk
12 members of the public

Date: Monday 10th February 2020

Time: 7.30 pm

Place: Main Hall, Necton Rural Community Centre

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Mark Kiddle- Morris (NCC)

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 Council meeting of 13th January 2020 and the extraordinary meeting of 6th January 2020

Minutes from the meetings on 6th January and 13th January 2020 were approved and duly signed by Chair Bass.

4. Public Participation (10 minutes allowed)

The following items were raised:

- A member of the public thanked Chair Bass and Councillor Barrett for their helping in clearing a fallen tree from outside of her house. Thereafter stating the

trees at Mill Street/ Chantry Lane are getting very high and overgrown and could pose a safety threat. She asked whether the Council could assist with this. Councillor Jennings confirmed that he had visited the owner of the property only that day to enquire as to whether the any help was needed in maintaining these trees. Councillor Jennings confirmed that the resident stated no help was needed. Chair Bass acknowledged the size of these trees could be a safety issue but stressed there was very little that the Council could do but would continue to try and find a solution.

- A question was raised regarding the hedge on the corner of Chantry Lane and Mill Street. This is very overgrown and there is a van that frequently parks very close. This makes this narrow part of the road very difficult. The Council stating, they would investigate and see if there is anything that can be done.
- The drainage issues on Chantry Lane/ Chantry Court was raised, Chair Bass confirming this would be covered in her report.

5. Reports from:

Parish Council Clerk – Justine Luckhurst

The Clerk read her report which is attached to the minutes

Breckland Council- Nigel Wilkin

Councillor Wilkin invited questions and the Erne Farm development was raised. As the proposal is for all 73 houses is to be affordable housing they may not have to provide S106 monies. Questions were raised in regards to the lack of financial support to Necton this new development will bring despite additional pressure on existing services. Councillor Wilkin confirming that is was unusual for a whole development to be affordable housing (usually is only a percentage of houses built) but further confirming affordable housing is desperately required in the district. He continued to state that Necton is a very desirable place to live and this makes it difficult for people to purchase in the village. This development would provide much needed affordable housing to those who would not in other circumstances be able to afford a property here.

Councillor Wilkin confirmed the application for the development was being heard at Committee on 9th March 2020 and the Council can register their interest to speak at Committee. The Clerk will duly inform Breckland that representatives of the Council wish to speak at said meeting.

Chairperson, Jean Bass

The Chair read her report which is attached to the minutes

Councillors

Councillor Barrett confirmed the majority of the lights on the A47 were now working. There are issues with the central reservation and he has been informed that this needs major excavation. Councillor Barrett will continue to monitor progress and make weekly calls to ensure this is completed as soon as is possible.

Councillor Sisto raised the matter regarding the trees overhanging on the playing field. Chair Bass confirmed that Savills (who are instructed to sell the property) were contacted some months ago regarding this. The Clerk will contact Savills again to ascertain the current position regarding the property sale and current ownership of the same to see if anything can be done.

6. To approve Bills made, to be made and approve late payments as necessary. To receive financial update for consideration.

The Chair proposed the bills detailed on the published list can be paid. Seconded by Councillor Bateman. Approved unanimously. Financial update received for consideration confirming current position and balances held.

7. Planning matters

3PL/2019/1384/D- Reserved matters for submission for proposed single dwelling following outline permission 3PL/2018/0730/O-677 consultation amendments at 32 Hale Road. No objections however the comment made as noted previously was this seems a large development on a small parcel of land.

8. To discuss quotes received for new notice boards and approve purchase- Chair Bass

Following consideration of quotes received Chair Bass proposed the two new notice boards to be purchased and installed. Seconded by Councillor Barrett. Agreed unanimously.

9. To approve purchase of telephone box under 'Adopt a Kiosk' and discuss plans for usage if agreed to purchase - Councillor Barrett.

The Clerk confirmed insurance quotes to cover material loss were obtained from existing insurance company and the cost would be approximately £14.00 per annum to insure. Purchase proposed by Councillor Barrett, seconded by Councillor Sisto and agreed unanimously.

10. To approve protocol document for Death of a Senior Figure- Clerk

Following consideration of the document. Adoption of protocol proposed by Councillor Bateman, seconded by Chair Bass and agreed unanimously.

11. To discuss quotes and proposal for MUGA kickboards- Councillor Sisto, Jennings and Hicks

The quotes received from Fenland Leisure were considered and it was noted they could carry out this work whilst completing Phase One of the MUGA and the re-tensioning of the cable wire. Thus, saving money as only one visit required alongside no need for additional preliminaries or method statement to be drawn up. Noting the existing wire is curling and so could prove to be a Health and Safety issue in the future. Proposed by Councillor Jennings, seconded by Councillor Sisto and unanimously agreed.

12. To discuss new Drop-in Centre- Chair Bass

The Chair confirmed a new drop in styled coffee morning/ chat would be trialled at the Community Centre. Confirming this could only proceed if Councillors volunteered to assist at these get togethers. Support was given by Councillors present. The community centre meeting room would need to be offered free of charge for at least 6 months, noting this to be an agenda item at the next NRCC meeting. If this is agreed the Chair will place an advertisement in the April addition of The Link confirming dates, noting initially it would be once a month on a Monday morning for two hours.

13. To discuss and approve street light monitoring proposal- Councillor Barrett

This agenda item dropped as it was deemed the current monitoring is suitable and with the LED upgrading to be finalised in the coming months the number of lights not working will reduce significantly.

14. To approve monthly Council meeting dates for next 12 months- Clerk

The dates to remain as second Monday in the month and these to be circulated by the Clerk. Noting April meeting will be held on 6th April due to Easter Bank Holidays.

15. Boreas and Green subcommittee update- Councillors Spain, Hicks, Jennings and Barrett

Councillor Spain introduced the model that had been made to demonstrate the positioning of the Vattenfall site. Confirming this was presented at a recent meeting with Boreas. The Planning Inspectorate could see the position proposed by Necton was lower than the Vattenfall site. Councillor Spain also confirmed that a paper produced by the National Grid confirms they are investigating an onshore ring main. If this proceeds the substations won't be required. As this is yet to be determined we are working on the assumption they will proceed and therefore want them to be on the site we prefer.

The Green sub committee met and has drawn up some Green projects, this to be published on the Necton website. Councillor Spain confirmed members of the public can join a sub committee and extended an invitation to anyone interested in joining. Chair Bass proposed the sub committee should continue, seconded by Councillor Hayton and agreed unanimously.

16. Approve Community Centre Car Park- proposed new signs, channelling to be dug- Chair Bass

Following consideration of quotes and ensuing discussion it was agreed this to be an agenda item at the next meeting. This will allow time for further quotes and for Councillors to investigate if the painting of the barrier could be completed by the care taker and Councillors.

17. To approve to Policies reviewed as part of exercise to update all policies in place- Clerk

The Lone Working, GDPR and WiFi & Public Access policies have been reviewed. Proposed by Chair Bass, seconded by Councillor Bateman and unanimously agreed. The Co- option policy to be reviewed at the next meeting in regards to applicants presenting to the Council. There followed debate regarding whether a secret ballot should still form part of the voting process or whether a show of hands should replace this. Chair Bass proposed the secret ballot should remain, seconded by Councillor Hicks. Votes 4 against and 4 for. Chair Bass using her casting vote as Chair for it to remain.

18. To approve the purchase of a projector- Councillor Bateman

Following consideration of quotes Chair Bass proposed the projector to be purchased, seconded by Councillor Spain and agreed unanimously.

19. Adjournment for public participation (5 mins)

A member of the public voiced concerns regarding the Erne Farm development. Stating that the drains are not coping now and so what impact will another 73 houses have on an infrastructure that is not fit for purpose already.

A member of the public confirmed the drains on the A47 are flooded, Highways are unsure where the drains lead to so this may not be rectified.

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

The next meeting will be on 9th March 2020 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 21.20