



Minutes No:
2020/23

Necton Parish Council

**Minutes Parish Council Meeting held
Monday 14th September 2020 at 7.30 pm held virtually via Zoom**

Parish Councillors (7) present:

Councillors Jean Bass (Chair), Fraser Bateman, Joe Sisto, Mark Jennings, Ken Barrett, Alice Spain, and Genine Curtis.

Additional attendees:

Justine Luckhurst- Parish Clerk
Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris (Norfolk County Council)
2 members of the public

Date: Monday 14th September 2020

Time: 7.30 pm

Place: Meeting held virtually via Zoom

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies received from Councillors Hicks and Stopp, Nigel Wilkin (Breckland Council)

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.

No declarations

3. To approve minutes of Council meeting of 10th August- (to be signed retrospectively at first face to face meeting held).

Minutes from the meeting held on 10th August were approved and duly agreed to be signed retrospectively at the next face to face meeting of the Parish Council. (proposed by Councillor Bateman, seconded by Councillor Spain and agreed unanimously)

4. Public Participation (10 minutes allowed)

A resident discussed the planning application that is on the agenda (item 9). She wanted to point out that previously an application was made for two properties to be built and this was declined. One dwelling was approved along with a detached garage. The applicant has now made an application to convert the garage and requested support from the Council in her objection to the application. The Chair confirmed this was an agenda item and reminded the member of the public that the Parish Council is only a consultee and the decision regarding the application is with Breckland Council.

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

Covid-19:

The recent outbreak in the Banham Poultry facility in Attleborough is being addressed through the Norfolk Local Outbreak Control Plan. This is a multi-agency operation involving NCC Public Health, Public Health England, NHS and Breckland Council. So far (Monday) 96 people have been tested positive out of 477 tests carried out. All staff at the plant are being asked to self-isolate for 14 days if they have not tested positive and for 10 days if they have had a positive test. Households of those workers who have tested positive should isolate for 14 days. Contact tracing is taking place to alert anyone who has been linked to a Banham Poultry worker. Support for those families in isolation who need food and medicine supplies is being given by the Norfolk Assistance Scheme.

Local Government:

A White Paper is expected this month which will outline the government's plans to reform local government. The proposals are widely expected to include the compulsory formation of unitary councils and to arrange several unitary councils into combined authorities which will be obliged to have an elected "mayor".

Waste Amnesty:

NCC are holding free hazardous waste disposal days during September and October at the recycling centres. The following are the dates and times for the nearest ones:

Dereham 2nd, 3rd, 4th October.

Hempton 9th, 10th, 11th October. Both centres are open from 9am to 4pm.

School Transport:

Changes in regulations regarding public transport mean that any bus or coach company offering fare paying transport to the public must use disability access buses (ie crouching buses). Unfortunately, this rule also applies to children whose parents purchase a discretionary seat on a home to school transport. Currently none of the school transport providers have purchased crouching buses. I have asked the local MP to make representations to government to reverse the decision, I await a response.

NCC Boundary Review:

The review of the boundaries of the Divisions within Norfolk which was started last year by the Boundary Commission for England and delayed by Covid -19 is being resumed. The purpose of the review is to ensure, as nearly as possible, that each Councillor represents a similar number of voters. A consultation on proposed changes runs from 15th September until 23rd November.

Councillor Kiddle-Morris requested to leave to meeting to attend another engagement and left the meeting at 7.50pm.

Chairperson, Jean Bass

Chair Bass confirmed that the meeting held on 28th August was successful and full reports regarding the sewage and flooding issues are due from the attending authorities by the end of September. Councillor Bateman confirmed that the Trod at Black Drift/ Ramms Lane was inspected on the day and inspection and clearance of the drains there was requested by the authority at the time.

The Chair thanked Councillors Bateman and Curtis and County Councillor Mark Kiddle - Morris and Breckland Councillor Nigel Wilkin for attending.

Councillors

Councillor Barrett confirmed that a further bollard on the A47 is not working and this will be reported.

Councillor Spain confirmed the Judicial Review regarding Boreas is proceeding and, in the meantime, Vattenfall have confirmed that drone operations will take place the 15th to 18th September to survey the site, further noting that bore holes will also be dug on the site. National Grid will also be carrying out some works over the coming weeks as well. Vattenfall have suggested they may wish to hold an open day at the Community Centre in October whereby residents can attend and ask questions (these will be on a one to one basis and by appointment only) details will be confirmed at a later date by them if this is to proceed.

Councillor Sisto stated that the Sports and Social Club have requested that the grass cutting contractor is contacted as the grass is being cut too short. Also, to enquire as to whether the edges of the field are being treated with weed killer. The Clerk will take this forward. He also enquired as to whether certain exercise/ sport groups are paying to use the playing field. The Clerk confirmed one user has asked permission to use and provided us with a risk assessment, noting he will be returning to using the hall by the end of the month. The Clerk was not aware of the other individual and would take forward with the Parish Assistant to ensure permission was given.

Councillor Curtis enquired as to whether a letter should be sent to the resident at 32 Chantry Lane regarding the trees and possible drainage issues. After lengthy discussions it was agreed the Clerk would contact the relevant authorities to see if they can intervene, noting Councillor Jennings had previously visited the resident to discuss the issues raised by members of the public and nothing has been actioned thus far.

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

Chair Bass proposed the bills detailed on the published list can be paid. Seconded by Councillor Spain. Approved unanimously. Financial update and monthly reconciliations of accounts for August received for consideration confirming current position and balances held.

7. To update on current position of the proposed Neighbourhood Plan

Councillor Spain confirmed that the second meeting was held via Zoom last month and all agreed actions have been completed or are in progress. Further confirming that the Government has recently changed the planning system and Councillors Spain, Bateman and Chair Bass are due to attend a Zoom meeting with the Neighbourhood Plan Officer at Breckland to discuss these changes and to ascertain if a Neighbourhood Plan is still viable. The next meeting of the sub – committee is scheduled for Monday 21st September

8. To update on current position regarding the repair of outside toilet

Councillor Jennings confirmed that most of the repairs have now been completed and further work to allow the door to close properly is all that is outstanding. Councillor Jennings has purchased some replacement parts and he was reminded that he will be reimbursed by the Council for these purchases. Further commenting that the toilet should be fully functional and, in a position to be used by the next meeting.

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

REFERENCE	3PL/2020/0847/F
PROPOSAL	Conversion and Extension to the detached garage of 14A Mill Street to Create one 3 bed single storey dwelling.
LOCATION	Garden Land East, Sycamore View, 14A Mill Street
APPLICANT	Mr Christopher Edge

Following discussions objections were raised and are to be submitted to Breckland stating concerns regarding drainage, layout and density of the proposed dwelling and reducing the amenity space for 14A Mill Street being a great concern. It was also noted that the applicant had commented in his application regarding the footings and this may have demonstrated his intention to convert the garage at the time it was erected.

10. To discuss and consider unspent Covid 19 Grant Monies.

The Clerk confirmed that email correspondence had been received from Norfolk Community Foundation enquiring as to whether we wished to return unspent grant monies or to retain for the time being. The discussion covered the fact that we may experience a 'second wave' and funds may be required. Therefore, Councillor Bateman

proposed the funds were retained and ringfenced for now. Seconded by Chair Bass and agreed unanimously.

11. To approve the operational plan for the Fair visiting from 24th September

Councillor Bateman covered the operational plan for the visiting Fair and all Councillors confirmed they had received a map of where the rides would be located prior to the meeting. Heated debate ensued regarding the Government ruling regarding groups of 6 which had come into force on the day of the meeting. Further concerns were raised regarding general Covid safety measures. Councillor Bateman confirmed that Grays Fairs were adhering to all regulations in place, including hand sanitising stations, distancing measures, rides being spread further apart and queue systems. As the discussions become more heated the Chair made the decision to continue this matter in camera.

12. To consider and approve the allocation of roads in Necton to designated Councillors

Chair Bass confirmed that the concept behind this idea was to allow more residents to know the Councillors on the Parish Council, to have a telephone number (along with other important contact details) to hand and a point of contact to whom they can raise issues or ideas within Necton. The street allocation had already been distributed prior to the meeting. Proposed by Chair Bass, seconded by Councillor Barrett. Voting thereafter was 4 for and 3 against and so motion carried. This who voted against the motion confirmed that they respected the majority vote and would participate. The Clerk will draft a template for the flyers and these will be distributed by the Councillors within their designated area.

13. Adjournment for public participation (5 mins)

No comments raised

14. To confirm date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 12th October at 7.30pm via Zoom

The meeting closed at 21.15

In camera

Chair Bass and Councillor Barrett both offered apologies for their conduct towards the other Councillors.

Further discussions were held regarding the operational plan for the Fair. A vote by the committee members of NRCC was held to approve these plans and for the Fair to proceed. Two votes were for this to proceed, one vote was against and two Councillors abstained. Motion was carried. It was also agreed spot checks would be made by Councillors to ensure the safety measures were being adhered to by the fair staff and members of the public

In camera meeting closed at 21.40.