



Minutes No:
2020/27

Necton Parish Council

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

Parish Councillors (7) present:

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

Additional attendees:

Justine Luckhurst- Parish Clerk

Date: Monday 14th December 2020

Time: 7.30 pm

Place: Meeting held virtually via Zoom

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies received from Councillor Stopp and Councillor Jennings

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 9th November- (to be signed retrospectively at first face to face meeting held).

Minutes from the meeting held on 9th November were approved and duly agreed to be signed retrospectively at the next face to face meeting of the Parish Council. (proposed by Chair Bass, seconded by Councillor Bateman and agreed unanimously)

4. Public Participation (10 minutes allowed)

No members of the public were in attendance

5. Reports from:

Parish Council Clerk – Justine Luckhurst

The Clerk read her report which is attached to the minutes

Chairperson, Jean Bass

The Chair had nothing to report but enquired as to whether any of the flooding reports from the relevant authorities had been received. The Clerk confirmed nothing had been received and would liaise with Councillor Kiddle-Morris and obtain an update on these.

Councillors

Councillor Hicks commented that the roadwork signs at North Pickenham Road seem to be placed in a precarious position again and hoped that the works would be prompt as these could be seen as a hazard.

Councillor Bateman mentioned that the lanyards for all Council members needed to be updated, The Clerk will take this forward.

Councillor Barrett confirmed that he had discovered the salt bin at the site which was the first school belongs to the Church and was provided to the school for their use. He also confirmed that the salt it contains is unsuitable for use on highways.

Councillor Curtis commented that the trod on North Pickenham Road seems to be continually under threat of damage due to cars driving over it. The Clerk will liaise with NCC to see if anything can be done to improve its condition.

Councillor Sisto stated a number of residents had mentioned the grass in the churchyard was very long and thus making it difficult to navigate around the graves. The Clerk will inform the PCC and ask them to see if their grass cutting contractor could resolve this issue. The Clerk will also enquire as to whether the PCC could cut back some of the overhanging branches on the trees at the site of the old school on the piece of land that is owned by themselves.

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

Councillor Bateman proposed the bills detailed on the published list can be paid. Seconded by Councillor Barrett and thereafter approved unanimously. Financial update and monthly reconciliations of accounts for November 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 designated area for the Neighbourhood Plan had been agreed to be the Parish Boundary, noting the Settlement Boundary was already full. The Clerk has submitted the request for the designated area to Breckland and we are awaiting their confirmation that they have approved this. Consultants are being considered and presentations are being made to the subcommittee by the same. These are taking place over the coming weeks. Thereafter a consultant will be chosen to assist with the Neighbourhood Plan, noting consultant involvement ensures the plan is effective and compliant and increases the chances of it being approved.

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

REFERENCE **3PL/2020/1282/VAR**
PROPOSAL Variation on condition No 2 on 3PL/2017/1449/D revised access location
LOCATION Town Farm, Chantry Lane
APPLICANT Mr Ian Thompson

No objections

REFERENCE **3PL/2020/1265/O**
PROPOSAL Outline application for residential development comprising 2 no. detached dwelling (with all matters reserved except access)
LOCATION 18 Mill Street
APPLICANT Mr Gidney

No objections

9. To consider and approve quote received for repairs to car park at the Community Centre

The quote received from Martin Pitt in the sum of £230 was considered. Chair Bass proposed the quote was accepted, seconded by Councillor Bateman and agreed unanimously.

10. To consider and approve the budget for 2021/2022 budget and precept.

The Clerk discussed the draft budget and the proposed projects for next year. Confirming the current precept level was sufficient to meet projected expenditure. Further noting that it would be inappropriate to raise the precept after an unprecedented year where we have endured a pandemic and residents may have felt financial pressure. Chair Bass proposed the precept level to remain unchanged at £70,000. Seconded by Councillor Curtis and unanimously agreed. Thereafter the draft budget was discussed including the recommendations to increase General Reserves, monies to be set aside for playground equipment replacements and further funds for Green projects. The second stage of the MUGA was also considered within the context of the draft budget along with increased funding for a proposed Drop in Café and the Neighbourhood Plan. Chair Bass proposed the draft budget and projects included to be approved. Seconded by Councillor Bateman and agreed unanimously.

11. To consider and approve Grant request from Necton Area Trust (NAT) for works required at the area known as the Marlpit

Noting the Grant application had already been circulated to the Councillors for consideration prior to the meeting. Chair Bass proposed the request for £2000.00 to be approved, seconded by Councillor Barrett and agreed unanimously.

12. To consider and approve Grant request from All Saints Necton to support with upkeep of churchyard and burial ground

Noting the Grant application had already been circulated to the Councillors for consideration prior to the meeting. Chair Bass proposed the request for £400.00 to be approved, seconded by Councillor Hicks and agreed unanimously.

13. To update on flooding and information provided by Vattenfall

Councillors Hicks and Curtis have recently been in discussions with Vattenfall following their offer to support Necton with the ongoing flooding issues. Email correspondence has been received from Vattenfall confirming which authorities are responsible for the various issues and other information which mainly pertained to river flooding not sewage and surface water issues that Necton experiences. Discussions were held and it was agreed that the information they provided was what the PC was already aware of and indeed have taken forward. As we are currently awaiting reports from these authorities it was agreed the Clerk would reply to Vattenfall and thank them for their support and confirm that we would contact them at a later date if it was felt they could help with the ongoing issues.

14. Adjournment for public participation (5 mins)

No public were in attendance

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

The next meeting will be on Monday 11th January 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom

The Chair thanked all the councillors and Clerk for their support and patience during the Zoom meetings and expressed the hope for a quick return to face to face meetings.

The meeting closed at 21.20