



Minutes No:  
2021/35

## Necton Parish Council

**Minutes Annual Parish Council Meeting held  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 7.30 pm held at Necton Rural Community Centre**

**Parish Councillors (4) present:**

Councillors Fraser Bateman, Joe Sisto, Ken Barrett and Thirza Hicks.

**Additional attendees:**

Justine Luckhurst- Parish Clerk

Councillor Nigel Wilkin – Breckland District Councillor

Councillor Mark Kiddle- Morris – Norfolk County Councillor

Members of the public- 5

**Date:** Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**Time:** 7.30 pm

**Place:** Necton Rural Community Centre

**1. To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Chair Bass and Councillors Curtis, Spain, Jennings and Turner. The meeting was chaired by Vice Chair Ken Barrett

**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 received

**3. To approve minutes of Council meetings of 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

Minutes for 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021 were proposed as accepted by Councillor Bateman, seconded by Councillor Hicks and agreed unanimously.

**4. Adjournment for public participation (10 mins)**

A member of the public raised a question to Councillor Mark Kiddle- Morris in regards to reporting issues to NCC. It was confirmed that when something is reported a reference number is allocated. If you have set up an account with NCC you can thereafter track the progress of any issues you have raised under its unique reference number. His concerns were regarding the length of time it takes to respond and that he noted if he reported for

a second time then this seemed to erase/ overwrite the original reporting and so slowed the process down even further.

## **5. Reports from:**

### **Parish Council Clerk – Justine Luckhurst**

The Clerk read out her report which is attached to the minutes.

### **Mark Kiddle- Morris- NCC**

Councillor Kiddle- Morris stated that he believed the grass cutting this year had been very poor, noting that not only had it started late but different machinery was being used which was not as effective, especially on corners of junctions where visibility was paramount and he has raised this issue. He thereafter discussed the flooding issues and confirmed that anyone experiencing any issues can call the 'one stop' telephone number that is given on the leaflet that was sent to every household recently. He also confirmed that he is still awaiting the flood report pertaining to issues in Necton and will update accordingly.

### **Nigel Wilkin- Breckland**

Councillor Wilkin confirmed that a booster vaccination programme is being planned to vaccinate the more vulnerable from September onwards. He thereafter provided some information regarding the financial support that has been provided to business by Breckland and confirmed that around £50 million has been given in support to local businesses. Included within this sum are the following

Re- start Grants - £6.5 million, Shop Front Improvements- 25 applications so far, Covid Adaptation Support 35 applications totalling £106,000. Digital Branding Support 99 applications totalling £236,000. Expansion and Start Up Support 21 applications totalling £109,000.

Councillor Wilkin also confirmed Breckland are 'cracking down' on fly tipping and this is a major focus at present.

### **Chair - Jean Bass**

The Chairs report is attached to the minutes.

### **Councillors**

Councillor Sisto confirmed that he has been assisting a lady who was evicted from her home and is currently living in a tent. Breckland are actively looking for her to be re-housed. He also confirmed there appeared to be a female living in a camper van that was parked in Necton, Councillors Sisto and Barrett spoke to her and confirmed she could not live in a camper van parked on a highway. The camper van has now left Necton.

Councillor Bateman raised the issue concerning the damaged man hole cover on the path outside the Community Centre- the Clerk confirmed she was made aware of this only today and it is being reported.

Councillor Curtis provided an update via email which was read out by the Clerk confirming she had met with the residents in Church Farm in regards to the trees. Confirming she was informed some trees have preservation orders on them, the other trees that are breaking the fence that borders the playing field were obviously there before the fence was erected. The Clerk will investigate the cost to replace any broken fence panels.

Mark Kiddle- Morris requested to leave the meeting as he had another meeting to attend and left at 20.16.

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

Proposed by Councillor Bateman, seconded by Councillor Hicks and agreed unanimously.

**7. To consider and approve reviewed and updated policies- Code of Conduct and Email and social Media**

Code of Conduct – Councillor Bateman proposed this was approved, seconded by Councillor Hicks and agreed unanimously.

Email and Social Media – Councillor Bateman raised concerns as to whether the additional text was legal and enforceable. Thereafter no approval was proposed. Councillor Bateman proposed to seek an amendment to the agenda item and to defer any decision after further clarity is sought. Seconded by Councillor Hicks and agreed unanimously.

**8. To launch discussions to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee in 2022 (2<sup>nd</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022)**

Initial discussions were held and one suggestion was a street party to be held in Mill Street as has happened for previous celebrations. No decisions were made as it was felt further discussions were appropriate with a full Council present and noting it would be pertinent to discuss and consider this suggestion and any others that may be forthcoming before making a decision.

**9. To update on current position of Telephone Kiosk refurbishment and consider possible use.**

Councillor Barrett confirmed that all work was completed with the exception of the signage at the top of the kiosk, noting this could be changed to reflect what its future use will be. After discussions Councillor Sisto proposed that it should be used, in the short term for a book exchange and that its long term usage should be included within the questionnaire being sent to all residents as part of the Neighbourhood Plan – thus ensuring the residents get to say what they would like to see it used for. Seconded by Councillor Barrett and agreed unanimously.

**10. To receive and note update via copy letter from George Freeman MP and The Lord Dannatt in regards to planning and flooding.**

The copy letter received via email was read out and is attached to the minutes.

**11. To receive an update from the recently held SNAP meeting.**

The Clerk read out a report prepared by Councillor Curtis:

I attended the SNAP meeting as the Necton PC representative. No other parish representatives attended!

I met with PC Paula Gilluley, Engagement Officer, PC Oliver Button and PC Justin Johnson, Local Beat Managers.

There was a short presentation by Liam Ballam from the PCC Office. He works as part of a team covering community safety between the police and the councils and other criminal justice organisations. The purpose is to make sure we all work together responding to various community safety issues. New priorities are being set for this partnership and they want to understand if these priorities are right for this community and currently they are in consultation.

The proposed priorities are:

1. Serious Violence - Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
2. Prevention of Extremism
3. Criminal exploitation covering Modern Slavery and County Lines
4. Neighbourhood Crimes - ASB
5. Fraud

We can, if we wish, ask for other items to be covered in their consultation, but the above areas are quite extensive.

The local priorities that were covered off in the SNAP meeting were:

- Speeding - The police are working with Community Speed Watch teams which is proving successful
- ASB - Extensive patrols in and around Swaffham
- Drug misuse - Again, extensive patrols in and around Swaffham resulting in prosecutions. It should be highlighted that a lot of background work is carried out behind the scenes. It is also harder to buy drugs in Swaffham than it was 2-months ago.
- New priorities - Rural crime, ASB & Drug related offences

Prior to the meeting I asked Councillors to report any concerns raised by our residents. I also contacted the Church (via Councillor Sisto), the Windmill, the shop and butcher. 5 items were raised:

1. Groups of 3/4 motorbikes/scooters 'tearing' around the village without silencers. (In particular Brackenwoods, Rams Lane, Chantry Lane, Ketts Hill and School Road). Until the meeting they were unaware of this, but they will pass on the information to their road policing colleagues and PC's Button and Johnson will come to Necton and try and identify those responsible. I have been asked to contact Paula Gilluley and PC Button giving as many details as possible. They have also asked us to contact them when this is happening and they will try to follow it up. They need a description of the riders and make/reg of the scooters if at all possible. If members of the PC are speaking with residents regarding this, can this information be passed on please.
2. Community Speed Monitoring - Paula helps start and support Community Speed Watch Teams. I have asked the Clerk to contact her as she has kindly offered to come and speak at the September PC. Norfolk police supply all the equipment and training. All we need are a minimum of 6 volunteers to set this up.
3. Community Service - giving back to the community - N.A.T for example? They will look into this for me as it is probably organised by the courts and probation service. They have had community work completed in Swaffham. Paula and Oliver will get back to me once they have the information.
4. No Cold Calling - They felt it was a good idea to get more of the village to participate in this scheme. They felt this was something that was better discussed face-to-face and so I am to arrange a mutually convenient meeting.
5. We do have a number of residents who do not venture out in the evening as they don't feel safe. PC Button asked if we had seen officers on the beat doing foot patrols - I said personally I hadn't. As they now have 2 beat officers, they will do their best to give a more visible presence.

The next meeting will be held face-to-face in September.

## **12. To provide any further updates on the proposed tennis court.**

Councillor Hicks confirmed she has held discussions with Norfolk LTA and confirmed they have been very helpful and supportive. Confirming that floodlights can be added at a later date but noting these would cost an additional amount in excess of £15,000. Councillor Hicks confirmed the lighting is not essential and any plans can proceed without these being included. She confirmed that there were options that could be investigated in regards to setting up a key code via an LTA app if we want to keep the court secure, we could consider charging for using the court (to support in ongoing maintenance costs) for lessons which would be run alongside it being open to the public to use free of charge.

Councillor Hicks proposed that she should commence investigating next steps including possible fund raising and possible grants. Seconded by Councillor Sisto and agreed unanimously.

### **13. To consider Clerk commencing CiLCA training and consider costs to undertake the qualification and paid study time required.**

The Clerk confirmed the training commences in September and is undertaken with NALC. The qualification can take up to 12 months to obtain and additional hours are required as well as contractual hours in order to attend training sessions and time required to research and write the outcome based modules required. As this is a contractual requirement for the Clerk to complete this qualification the cost will be met by the Council. Councillor Bateman proposed that the Clerk should enrol for CiLCA and all costs relating to the qualification would be met (training, books required and registering with SLCC) as well as an initial 60 hours of additional paid hours, noting these will be claimed monthly. This will be reviewed accordingly as the qualification progresses. Seconded by Councillor Sisto and agreed unanimously.

### **14. Planning matters – to note new planning applications and discuss.**

REFERENCE PROPOSAL	<b>3PL/2021/0897/HOU</b> Installation of insulation above existing flat roof and two flat roof and windows (Velux type) to same roof, Replacement of existing external rear sliding doors and installation of an external rear door
LOCATION	29 Jubilee Way
APPLICANT	Mrs C Wicken Arnold - No objections
REFERENCE PROPOSAL	<b>3PL/2021/0895/HOU</b> Proposed Single Storey Extension to Rear and Garage Conversion
LOCATION	6 Ash Meadow
APPLICANT	Miss S Kincaide- No objections
REFERENCE PROPOSAL	<b>3PL/2021/0922/HOU</b> Proposed Rear extension, relocation of Front Door & Associated internal alterations
LOCATION	16 Masons Drive
APPLICANT	Mr B Thorogood - No objections
REFERENCE PROPOSAL	<b>3PL/2021/0837/HOU</b> Proposed single storey front & rear extensions and conversion of Garage to workshop/home gym
LOCATION	74 Elizabeth Drive
APPLICANT	Mr C Grimes - No objections
REFERENCE PROPOSAL	<b>3PL/2021/0965/VAR</b> Variation of Condition No 2 on 3PL/2018/1340/F - Amend approved Drawings to vary the designs to Plot 2 to add a garage behind the carport
LOCATION	Town Farm, Chantry Lane
APPLICANT	Hall Developments - No objections

### **15. To provide an update on the Neighbourhood Plan**

The Clerk read out the update provided by Councillor Spain:  
The Neighbourhood Plan Community Event was held on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> July in the village hall. This is an important milestone in the preparation of a neighbourhood plan

because the views of the residents gathered in this way are used to inform the next steps of the process.

54 people attended our event, together with the hosts from the neighbourhood plan sub-committee. Although this is not a high percentage of our residents, it is enough to enable the next phase of data-gathering which will be from a questionnaire sent to all households. There are a lot of comments and views given on yellow sticky notes that will be analysed over the next few weeks. A neighbourhood plan has to be evidence-based and the main data-gathering will be from a questionnaire that will be the next stage in the preparation of our neighbourhood plan. The questionnaire will explore Necton planning issues and other concerns raised by the people attending the Community Event.

#### **16. Adjournment for public participation (5 mins)**

A resident raised concerns in regards to Riparian rights over ditches stating that although these are enshrined in Common Law Breckland/NCC do not seem to enforce this. The Parish Council confirmed that they have no authority in regards to this matter.

#### **17. To confirm date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting as Monday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2021 at 7.30pm.**

The meeting closed at 21.28 pm