



Minutes No:
2022/42

Necton Parish Council

**Minutes Parish Council Meeting held
Monday 14th February 2022 at 7.30 pm held at Necton Rural Community
Centre**

Parish Councillors (6) present:

Chair Jean Bass, Councillors Fraser Bateman, Joe Sisto, Alice Spain, Genine Curtis and Thirza Hicks

Additional attendees:

Justine Luckhurst- Parish Clerk
Councillor Mark Kiddle- Morris (NCC)

Members of the public - 4

Date: Monday 14th February 2022

Time: 7.30 pm

Place: Necton Rural Community Centre

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Turner

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

3. To approve minutes of Council meetings of 10th January 2022

Minutes for 10th January 2022 were proposed as accepted by Chair Bass, seconded by Councillor Curtis and agreed unanimously.

4. Adjournment for public participation (10 mins)

Nothing raised

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 confirmed the NCC budgets will be set next week on 22nd February. Further to the point raised in the Clerks report regarding the signage stating 'not suitable for HGV's' He confirmed these signs are advisory only and they do not affect insurance cover if HGV's decide to travel on the said road.

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Councillors

Councillor Curtis stated some residents have asked when the results from the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire would be available, she has confirmed to them these are still be analysed at present.

Councillor Hicks said that the current spate of road closures and the signs depicting 'road closed' have been placed in dangerous positions. Councillor Kiddle-Morris confirmed he would speak to Highways department at NCC to feed this back and to see if they can be positioned better.

Councillor Spain confirmed the trees purchased by NAT to be planted along the edge of the car park/ play area will be delivered next week and will be planted thereafter.

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 Chair Bass, seconded by Councillor Curtis and agreed unanimously.

7. To receive nominations for the post of Vice- Chairman and elect a member to the post

Chair Bass proposed councillor Curtis, seconded by Councillor Hicks. Councillor Spain proposed Councillor Hicks and seconded by Councillor Bateman.

Thereafter a vote was taken by show of hands. Councillor Curtis receiving 4 votes and Councillor Hicks receiving 2 votes.

Councillor Curtis appointed as Vice-Chair.

8. To review and consider the following policies: Wi-Fi Policy, Compliments and Complaints Policy, Communications Policy, Lone Working Policy.

Wi-Fi Policy - Proposed by Chair Bass, seconded by Councillor Bateman and agreed unanimously

Compliments and Complaints Policy – Proposed by Chair Bass, seconded by Councillor Spain and agreed unanimously.

Communications Policy - Proposed by Chair Bass, seconded by Councillor Hicks and agreed unanimously.

Lone Working Policy- Proposed by Chair Bass, seconded by Councillor Spain and agreed unanimously.

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

REFERENCE **3PL/2022/0046/HOU**
PROPOSAL Proposed extension to rear and porch to front of property
LOCATION 17 Jubilee Way
APPLICANT Mr Bishop

No objections

REFERENCE **3PL/2022/0031/HOU**
PROPOSAL Proposed Ground Floor and First Floor Rear Extensions
LOCATION 29 Ketts Hill
APPLICANT Mr & Mrs Simpson

No objections

REFERENCE **3PL/2022/0097/HOU**
PROPOSAL Proposed single storey front extension (porch)
LOCATION 22 Jubilee Way
APPLICANT Mr & Mrs Cooper

No objections

REFERENCE **3PL/2022/0120/HOU**
PROPOSAL Proposed additional first floor extension over existing utility with flat
Top dormer and single storey extension to utility
LOCATION 6 Wren Close
APPLICANT Joanna Boote

No objections

REFERENCE **3PL/2022/0119/HOU**
PROPOSAL Proposed single garage conversion to create 3rd bedroom and new
Conservatory to front
LOCATION 1 Jubilee Way
APPLICANT Mr and Mrs Howard Cardus

Concerns were raised this addition will be in front of the building line and change the character of the street.

10. Necton in Bloom - To discuss ideas and agree requirements in order to consider next steps

Councillor Spain proposed a working party be set up to discuss ideas and next steps, seconded by Councillor Curtis and agreed unanimously. The Clerk will contact Breckland to ascertain if there would be any objections for planters to be placed on Breckland land and to report back on their views on this matter.

11. To consider further works and quote for drainage works at the allotment area

After considering the quote Councillor Bateman proposed this was accepted and the

the contractor instructed to undertake the required works, seconded by Chair Bass and agreed unanimously. It was noted these works will not commence until April/ May and that the costs may change due to increase costs in materials and plant hire

12. To provide update regarding signs at the allotment and dog walking area.

Councillor Jennings was not present at the meeting and therefore no update could be provided.

13. To receive update regarding an open day to be held at the Marlpit

Councillor Bateman confirmed the Link will include a full page advert confirming the date of the Open day to be Sunday 20th March between 10.00am and 4.00pm. A leaflet with information will be given to all residents who visit to provide them with information about the area. Councillor Bateman confirmed NAT members will be present and will provide guidance to residents on the day. Further stating that support from Councillors would be appreciated on the day and it would be good if all could attend at some point during the times stated.

14. To consider request from resident to request a TPO on hedge and trees on the highway at Watery Lane, Ivy Todd

Councillor Bateman proposed the Clerk contact Breckland's Tree Officer to make him aware of the position in order for him to consider. Seconded by Councillor Spain and agreed unanimously.

15. Flooding workshop – to receive update and for Council to consider any financial requests and insert to advertise in The Link

Chair Bass confirmed an advert has been prepared for entry into the next edition of Link to advertise the event (noting this to be 28th March between 6.00pm and 8.00pm) and a banner can be printed and hung on the fence at the Community Centre to further advertise the event, noting the cost of this would be £40.00. Chair Bass proposed these were agreed by Council, seconded by Councillor Sisto and agreed unanimously.

16. To provide updates regarding Vattenfall

Councillor Spain confirmed that both Boreas and Vanguard now have approval and that the next steps will be for these to be a Reserved Matter for planning with Breckland for a design review. Noting this will probably be after March 2023.

Following agreement at a previous Council meeting to financially support any next steps to a maximum amount of £2500. Councillors Spain and Bateman along with some other residents used the same Counsel as used previously in the Judicial Review brought by Ray Pearce to see if there was anything that could be done to challenge the Boreas proposal. A consultation was held after initially speaking to the solicitor (again the same one used in the previous Judicial Review) and thereafter with Counsel once instructed by the solicitor. Unfortunately, they were informed that the letter from the Secretary of State was so watertight there were no grounds for a challenge to Boreas. Although disappointing all avenues have been explored and the Parish Council have taken all reasonable steps to explore all options available.

Councillor Bateman confirmed all of this work cost approximately £7120.00 in fees payable to the solicitor and the QC. Therefore, the Council will pay, as previously agreed a maximum of £2500 towards these fees. It was noted Councillor Spain had raised circa £4000.00 in donations from concerned residents. The next steps will be to put forward arguments at the design review.

Chair Bass wanted her thanks on behalf of the Council to be noted for all of the hard work that Councillors Spain and Bateman have undertaken on this and for exploring all options available.

17. To provide any updates on the Platinum Jubilee celebrations

Councillor Bateman confirmed that Scooby at The Windmill is progressing the street party in Mill Street that will take place on Sunday 5th June. Possible other events will be a lighting of a beacon and planting of a tree next to a new bench in the Marlpit. These details will be formalised along with any other ideas by the working party, noting a budget amount has already been agreed at a previous meeting.

18. Adjournment for public participation (5 mins)

Nothing raised

19. To confirm date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting as Monday 14th March 2022 at 7.30pm.

20. To approve a motion to exclude the press and public for the next item as their presence would be prejudicial to public interest due to the confidential nature. In accordance with Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 s1 (2)

Proposed by Chair Bass, seconded by Councillor Bateman and agreed unanimously

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

21. To consider appointment of new caretaker including rates of pay and hours worked.

It was agreed the new caretaker will be offered the position based on 12 hours per week with an additional 4 hours per week being available if required by way of overtime- noting this overtime to be agreed by the Clerk after assessing if required. The hourly rate was also agreed noting this will be reviewed upon passing a probationary period. Proposed by Councillor Bateman, seconded by Chair Bass and agreed unanimously

22. To consider the Parish Assistant Role and consider suggestions including hours, pay rates, communications and trial of new structure.

It was agreed that if the parish assistant position was made vacant the Clerk would undertake the duties alongside normal PC duties to assess the hours required. Any additional hours would be paid via overtime. This would be reviewed at 3 monthly intervals to ascertain if a new parish assistant is required and the scope of the work and hours required. Proposed by Chair Bass, seconded by Councillor Spain and agreed unanimously.

It was also agreed to enter into a mobile phone contract with BT to obtain a mobile for business use for the Clerk- noting this number would be published and allow the public better communications going forward. Proposed by Councillor Bateman, seconded by Councillor Spain and agreed unanimously.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm