

Necton Parish Council as Trustee of NRCC



Minutes of Trustee Meeting held 20th December 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom

Members present:

Thirza Hicks (Chairman); Fraser Batemam, Jean Bass, Alice Spain, Joe Sisto, Annie Turner

Also in attendance: Justine Luckhurst (Parish Clerk)

Members of public: 2

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies received from Wayne Griffiths and Genine Curtis

2. To receive any declarations of interest from Members and consider requests for dispensation.

No pecuniary interests received.

3. To approve minutes of previous meeting held 25th October 2021

These minutes were approved. (to be signed in person at the next meeting) as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed by Thirza Hicks, seconded by Jean Bass and agreed unanimously.

4. To note that in accordance with legislation, minutes of the most recent NRCC committee meeting will be listed for receipt by Full Council at their next available meeting

Noted

5. Discussions with members of the Necton Football Club regarding payment of rent for youth pitches

Martin and Tanya Pitt attended the meeting to confirm they would like NRCC to consider an agreement whereby the Football Club would officially rent the area on the playing field currently used for youth football pitches. They confirmed that they have signed up for a further 6 years of pitch maintenance and this ensures the grass is maintained with regular feeding, weed killer and analysis etc. Noting they are funding this alongside grants from the FA. They explained that as the youth players get older the size of pitch they play on increases and as there are a number of teams across the age groups they wish to be able to rotate the pitches they use to allow for grass recovery. Tanya confirmed that currently the games are played on Saturdays and Sundays and training takes place on a Tuesday and Wednesday evening. Fraser Bateman asked whether an extension to the car park would impact on the proposed positioning of the pitches (noting this has not been agreed but may be a consideration in the future) Martin confirmed he would measure the pitches and provide the measurements to Fraser so he can check and plot onto a scale map. Currently no rent is paid to use the area and they would prefer an annual premium as opposed to a 'pay as you use' system for simplicity. The Clerk reminded everyone that this whole area is for public use and areas would need to be provided for the public to use. Martin thereafter suggesting a sign to be put up to notify the public when a game is scheduled. Jean Bass reminded everyone that part of the noticeboard at the Hall can be used by the football club to display such notices. Thirza Hicks thanked them for attending the meeting and providing the information and confirmed the Committee would consider at the next meeting. Joe Sisto wanted it noted that the Football Club are using their own funds (and grant monies) to maintain the area to a very high standard already.

6. Public Participation (15 minutes) – Members of the public are invited to comment on items on the agenda to inform the committee or raise items that they would like to be considered at the next meeting (each member of the public limited to 3 minutes)

No comments

7. Resolution to exclude members of the public, so that the business of the trustees can be held in private in accordance with charity legislation

The members of the public left the meeting

8. Chairman's Report – Thirza Hicks

TH has noticed people using the MUGA after dark and that car headlights are being used to provide light. She asked whether the lights and their timings could be looked at and whether they can be on for a little longer. The Clerk confirmed WG had previously changed the timer on the outside lights but all present were unsure if these lights are part of the lighting set up or whether they run independently. It was agreed WG would investigate this and revert back.

9. Parish Assistants Report – provided by Wayne Griffiths

TH read the report provided by Wayne Griffiths. Noting his confirmation that the bank account currently stood at approximately £18,500. A draft budget for the forthcoming financial year was being drafted and that Wayne would liaise with the Clerk in January with a view to finalising this before presenting to the committee. The Pilates classes that were held at the hall have now ceased and the booking cancelled due to the instructor moving out of the County. Wayne confirmed that although hall bookings were lower than previously seen the accounts were still in a positive position. Wayne confirmed that he will be keeping up to date with any changes in rules regarding Covid measures and would provide updates when required in regards to the opening and use of the hall.

10. Social Club Report – Joe Sisto

The S&SC held their meeting a week ago and confirmed there was no further progress in regards to the refurbishment noting they are still obtaining prices for the works and are continuing to explore funding options for these works.

11. How to progress the mole situation on the playing field.

After debating the various options it was proposed by Fraser Bateman that the company contacted by Wayne Griffiths should undertake 2 visits at a cost of £80 in order to deal with the issue around the children's play area, noting that if they moles returned further steps would be considered. Seconded by Joe Sisto and agreed unanimously

12. The Community Centre Office (JB)

JB stated that if the office were to be used as a parish office or indeed seen as a space that could be rented out then works needed to be undertaken to ensure it met with all the relevant guidelines and laws. Noting there is no fire escape or alternative exit route. The windows in the office do not have openings and therefore cannot provide an emergency exit route. These windows do not open and therefore provide no ventilation. There is also no heating except for an electric freestanding heater. Restrictions state that employees should work from home if they can at present and the Clerk confirmed this arrangement worked very well and proved to be a better and more time efficient way of working. Fraser Bateman stated that he had been asked by several residents when the staff were returning to the office. The Clerk confirmed that in all the time of working in the office there had never been any residents come in to see the Clerk and in fact the only people who visited the office were hall users who came in 'for a chat'. It was thereafter noted that if there was a need for the staff to return to the office or the option to explore hiring out the space then the legality of the current position regarding the windows etc. would need to be explored.

Annie Turner left the meeting temporarily at 20.35

13. 2021/2022 pay rise for NRCC staff

WG had provided the Committee with information regarding currently pay, agreed pay rise in the previous year and recommendations for this year. Fraser Bateman proposed a 2.75% pay increase- backdated to October, seconded by Thirza Hicks and agreed unanimously.

14. Refreshing the outside of the Hall/ entrance to the car park (TH)

Thirza Hicks stated the area was looking very tired and discussions were held regarding the removal on the gate into the main car park. Thirza Hicks stating this was never used and looked very drab and tired. Discussions ensued and it was noted that this gate could be useful if the car park was ever needed to be closed. Thereafter it was agreed Thirza Hicks would obtain 3 quotes to have the gate and barrier painted to improve it visually and would provide these ahead on the next meeting in order for it to be considered at the next meeting.

Annie Turner re-joined the meeting at 20.55

15. Proposed Items for next agenda

Football club renting the playing area
Floodlights on MUGA
Painting of the gate into the car park

16. Decide date of the next meeting

21st February 2022

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Minutes signed by Chair (or designate) _____ on _____