



Minutes No:
2022/51

Necton Parish Council

Minutes Parish Council Meeting held

Monday 12th September at 7.30 pm held at Necton Rural Community Centre

Parish Councillors (8) present:

Councillors Jean Bass, Genine Curtis, Fraser Bateman, Alice Spain, Thirza Hicks, Mark Jennings, Annie Turner and Sue Catlin

Additional attendees:

Justine Luckhurst- Parish Clerk
Nigel Wilkin – Breckland District Councillor
Members of the public - 7

Date: Monday 12th September 2022

Time: 7.30 pm

Place: Necton Rural Community Centre

Before the meeting commenced Chair Bass expressed the sorrow of the Council on the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and a minute's silence was held. Thereafter Councillor Nigel Wilkin read the following poem:

Lay still your tongues and bow your head, lower the flags, our Queen is dead.
Put down your work, set games aside, silence our songs, our Queen has died.
Stand in the street, pause in the rush, think of her now, amid the hush; in the time before the tribute drum, 'til the bugles call and eulogies come.
Hold back the words, make no speeches today, reflect on the debt we may never repay.
A beacon of light; a life lived well, give thanks for our Queen, toll the mourning bell.
Grieve now a while, let the Nations weep for our greatest Queen in her final sleep.
Then raise up your hearts, let her legacy sing.
Great Britain unite and stand by our King.
The future is ours in a world made bright, by the strength of her love and eternal light.

God Save the King

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies received from Councillor Sisto and Mark Kiddle- Morris- NCC Councillor

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 meeting of 8th August 2022

Chair Bass proposed these were approved, seconded by Councillor Curtis and agreed unanimously.

4.Adjournment for public participation (10 mins)

This provides an opportunity for members of the public to raise questions about and comment on items on the agenda before the Council make decisions.

Nothing raised

5.Reports from:

Parish Clerk –

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

Councillors

Councillor Bateman confirmed the Neighbourhood Plan consultation day held at the community centre on Saturday was well attended with 86 local residents attending. Further commenting the display boards produced by our consultant Ian Poole were extremely good and were well received. He confirmed a further suggestion for the new name for the Marlpit was the Queen Elizabeth II memorial woods- noting this will be an agenda item at a future meeting.

Councillor Jennings confirmed he had received further calls from residents pertaining to continued dog fouling at the dog walking area. He has some left over poo picking signs and suggested these are erected on small posts around the area- the Clerk to contact the landlord to check this is agreeable and if so Councillor Jennings will complete the task.

Councillor Spain confirmed she had been made aware of the fact that one of the poplar trees near Costa Coffee could be causing issues with visibility when entering Tuns Road from Costa Coffee, she continued by confirming she had found this to be the case when she carried out this journey and we may need to consider this at a future meeting.

Councillor Turner confirmed work at the ditch on Mill Street has still not been completed. The Clerk confirmed this is on the job list for NCC but obviously we do not know their schedule. The Chair confirming a meeting regarding flooding is due to take place in a few weeks and this can be raised at this meeting to try and get this prioritised.

Councillor Curtis has received a call from a resident in Woodward Avenue regarding vehicles speeding through this road and will take forward to discuss at the upcoming SNAP meeting

Councillor Catlin confirmed they are having issues at the allotments with cars driving around the area- Councillor Curtis will raise this at the SNAP meeting.

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

See separate payments list

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

7. To discuss and consider next steps regarding the Breckland Mindful Villages initiative

Chair Bass proposed this agenda item was deferred until the December meeting as some Councillors could not book onto the September training dates as they were full and are

attending at the start of December. Seconded by Councillor Bateman and agreed unanimously.

8.To receive the approved minutes of the NRCC meeting held on 22nd August 2022

Noted

9. To receive the latest update from Necton Area Trust on the work undertaken at the Marlpit

Noted

10.To discuss and consider if a response or questions are to be submitted to Highways following their confirmation safety improvement scheme on the A47 in Swaffham, Procession Lane (Peddars Way path).

No comments or questions were raised.

11.To receive an update on current position regarding the switching off of street lighting during the night and to consider next steps

After discussions Councillor Catlin proposed the next step should be the PC to investigate turning the lights off including costs to convert lights, liaising with Police and looking into what would be required for a public consultation. Seconded by Councillor Curtis and agreed unanimously.

12.To discuss and consider Parish Partnership Scheme in regards to a second SAM II

Councillor Hicks proposed a second SAMII was not required and therefore no application for funding should be made. Seconded by Chair Bass and agreed unanimously.

13.To receive updates and consider next steps in regards to the Design Review Panel and Vattenfall

Councillor Bateman provided the following report to Council:

Preparation for the Design Review Panel hearing was our main consideration during early August.

We only became aware on the 3rd of August when Vattenfall published the final version of the Terms of Reference for the panel hearing that we would only have 10-15 minutes available for the presentation at the DR Panel hearing. This was felt to be insufficient to adequately get across all the points we needed to raise. However, we did have the option to submit a note to the panel 1 week in advance and it was decided we would use this to put forward our case in full.

With the panel hearing on the 17th the deadline for submitting the note to the panel was the 10th of August a very tight window for Carly Tinkler to work in. She rose to the challenge and worked late, early and over the weekend.

The result was 31 pages of concise and accurate commentary on the project, drawing attention to the legal requirements set out by the Secretary of State and pointing out the deficiencies in the proposed Design Statement proposed by Vattenfall.

Attention then turned to the 10-15-minute presentation to panel on the 17th August.

Although the theme was Environmental Colour Assessment and focused on how, although it would be impossible to make the converter stations disappear, with the correct design and colour they could be made to sit more easily in the local environment.

The panel should produce a written report in 14 working days from the hearing (last Wednesday), but to date this has not been sent to us. Technically it should go first to Vattenfall as they are the client of the Design Review Panel and they may well be considering the implications (both design and legal) before sharing with the interested parties

Chair Bass thereafter wanted it noted her thanks on behalf of the Council to Councillors Bateman and Spain for all of their hard work and many hours spent on this project.

14.To consider taking the Civility and respect pledge as endorsed by NALC

Chair Bass read the pledge to all Councillors and thereafter proposed the Council signed up to this pledge via NALC. Seconded by Councillor Spain and agreed unanimously.

15.To receive an update on the Picnic in the Park and consider future events

Councillor Hicks confirmed the recent event proved to be very successful with over 50 lunch bags given out. She continued by confirming the feedback from those attending was very positive. Thereafter Councillor Hicks proposed the Council provide funds of £500 in order to hold 3 further events during the school holidays within this financial period, noting this will cover any hall hire, food, decorations and any other associated costs. Seconded by Councillor Spain and agreed unanimously.

16.To discuss and consider costs for the Coffee Morning and distribution of poster advertising the monthly event

Chair Bass stated that attendance numbers were increasing and the event would continue. She proposed that the Coffee Morning should be free of charge to all attendees and further posters to be displayed at resident's properties, noting these residents have agreed to advertise the event. Seconded by Councillor Hicks and agreed by all except Councillor Bateman who abstained.

17.To consider a tennis court on the playing field following previous discussions whereby information regarding location and approximate costs were discussed and, if agreed thereafter consider setting aside funds for this project

Chair Bass proposed a tennis court should be agreed, seconded by Councillor Jennings and agreed unanimously. Noting this will be a longer term project due to the costs and therefore may need to be funded over more than one year. On that note Chair Bass proposed £5,000 from funds from this year to be set aside to build up funds to fund this project, seconded by Councillor Hicks and agreed unanimously. The Clerk confirmed funds would be transferred to the Youth account after approval at the next meeting.

18.To consider sending a letter to Necton Church and School Estate Trust requesting a donation towards the tennis court (if agenda item 13 is agreed)

Chair Bass proposed the letter to be sent by the Clerk (noting this will be amended to confirm it is being sent on behalf of the PC) seconded by Councillor Jennings and agreed unanimously.

19.To continue discussions and consider community projects

After discussions Councillor Jennings proposed the idea of a pump track be deferred until a later meeting, noting his suggestion that all councillors visit the Marlpit to view the proposal.

Councillor Jennings confirmed he would organise this visit. Seconded by Councillor Hicks and agreed unanimously.

Councillor Hicks proposed a budget of £1500 be made available to fund a number of drop in events at the community centre whereby residents can visit to keep warm and receive something warm to eat. Seconded by Councillor Spain and agreed unanimously.

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

REFERENCE	3PL/2022/0974/HOU
PROPOSAL	Second storey above lounge and single story rear extension, single storey front extension and detached shed
LOCATION	47 Hale Road
APPLICANT	Mr & Mrs Sayers

Some councillors felt the front extension extends in front of the building line, treatment of elevations with timber boarding will be out of character and the extension may impact on turning and parking.

21.Adjournment for public participation (5 mins)

This provides the opportunity for the public to raise awareness of an issue for discussion at the next Parish Council meeting

Nothing raised.

22.To confirm date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting as Monday 10th October 2022 at 7.30pm

23.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) - Chair

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

The meeting closed 9.00 pm

24.To discuss the probationary period of the caretaker and if applicable to discuss a pay rise following completion of the same.

Following a successful completion of the probationary period Councillor Bateman proposed a salary increase to SCP 13 - the Clerk to draft a letter to the caretaker to confirm this.

The Clerk then left the meeting due to the nature of the next agenda item.

25.To discuss annual appraisal and consider annual salary review for the Clerk

It was agreed to increase the Clerks salary to SCP 28. Proposed by Chair Bass, seconded by Councillor Hicks and agreed unanimously. Noting this to take effect from October