

# **Necton Parish Council**

## **Minutes Parish Council Meeting held**

# Monday 9th January 2023 at 7.00 pm held at Necton Rural Community Centre

#### **Parish Councillors (7) present:**

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

#### Additional attendees:

Justine Luckhurst- Parish Clerk, Nigel Wilkin, Breckland District Councillor Members of the public - 0

Date: Monday 9th January 2023

**Time:** 7.00 pm

Place: Necton Rural Community Centre

## 1.To receive apologies for absence

Apologies received from Councillor Sisto 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.

None noted

### 3.To approve minutes of Council meeting of 12th December 2022

Proposed by Councillor Bateman, seconded by Councillor Catlin 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.

No public present

## 5.Reports from:

Parish Clerk -

The report is attached to the minutes

## Councillor Nigel Wilkin - Breckland council

Councillor Wilkin confirmed that The Windmill Public House has now closed and Necton is now without a pub. Councillor Wilkin passed on his thanks to Councillors Hicks, Catlin and

Curtis for the organising and hosting the children's Christmas party held at the hall. The event was a great success and was enjoyed by all those who attended.

# Norfolk County Council, Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris-

Councillor Kiddle- Morris provided some information and explanation in regards to the Devolution deal for Norfolk County Council. Confirming there are three levels and level 3 provides the biggest amount of additional funding. This level requires a directly elected leader to be appointed in addition to the current 84 members. There would be an additional £30 million available to support infrastructure, economic developments and skills training from the Government. The Government are keen to have a direct line into local councils and it is noted that additional funds as well as the £30 million could also be available. There is a meeting to discuss this on 17th January but ultimately the decision is an executive decision. If this were to proceed there would be a public consultation held to gather feedback before any final decisions are made.

#### Chair

Nothing to report

#### Councillors

Councillor Turner has confirmed the ditch in Mill Street on the bend is still backing up- The Clerk will take forward again with NCC. She also confirmed some of the potholes are still to be filled in on Mill Street- she will provide specific information to the Clerk in order for these to be reported again.

Councillor Bateman noted the drainage issues at the trod on Hale Road have44. not yet been resolved. The Clerk confirmed NCC had added to their schedule of works but may be delayed due to Christmas etc. The Clerk will contact NCC to understand the current position regarding this.

Councillor Catlin confirmed the remaining fruit trees at the allotments would be planted this Saturday at 10.00am- this is only if the weather is dry.

Councillor Curtis confirmed the next SNAP meeting is to be held on 10<sup>th</sup> January at Swaffham Town hall @7.00 pm. The training for Speedwatch will take place at the hall on the 17<sup>th</sup> @10.00 am.

Councillor Hicks confirmed the repairs to the bridge at the allotments has not yet been undertaken. The Clerk will contact the landlord again to receive an update.

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 Councillor Spain, proposed by Councillor Hicks and agreed unanimously.

7. To receive the approved minutes of the NRCC meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> October and 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

Noted

8. To consider and approve the dates for PC meetings for the financial year commencing April 2023

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

# 9. To receive any updates from the Marlpit working party and consider a new name for the Marlpit

The working party have held their first meeting and are working on a list of to do jobs' the hope is to open the area to the public on 4<sup>th</sup> June.

Thereafter a discussion was held to decide on the new name for the area. Suggestions were put forward from the public (these were gathered at a Neighbourhood Plan open day) and these were taken into consideration. Thereafter Councillor Bateman proposed the area should be renamed as Queen Elizabeth Memorial Wood. Seconded by Councillor Spain. Thereafter a vote by show of hands confirmed 6 votes for and 1 against. Motion carried.

# 10. To consider speeding signs or moving the SAM II on the smaller roads in Necton-Councillor Turner

After discussions Chair Bass proposed that the first steps should be a polite reminder regarding speeding should be placed in the Link magazine as well as a notice confirming Speedwatch patrols will be commencing soon. Seconded by Councillor Curtis and agreed unanimously.

# 11. To receive the responses from the light switching off leaflet and thereafter consider whether Necton should proceed with this scheme and consider next steps regarding those lights adopted by the PC

The responses were collected from the shop and checked by the Clerk. There were 122 responses from a good cross section of the roads in Necton. 72% of the responses were in favour of switching the lights off during the small hours.

Councillor Hicks proposed the following: the lights should be switched off between 12.30am and 5.00am each day. The Clerk to proceed and obtain a detailed quote to install timers on every lighting column adopted by Necton Parish Council. To write to Vattenfall to ask if they would consider a donation from their Community Funding towards the cost of this and to discuss the switch off with our energy supplier to obtain information on the reduction in our energy bills. (Noting a date for the transition has yet to be agreed.) Seconded by Councillor Curtis and agreed unanimously.

# 12. To consider a letter to Necton Management regarding the tennis court and requesting a grant towards the cost and a follow up letter to Revd Thorp (Necton Church and School Estate Trust) regarding the same

Councillor Curtis proposed the letters to be sent by the Clerk, seconded by Councillor Hicks and agreed unanimously. It was also agreed that further quotes should now be obtained for the construction of the tennis court in order that plans and financial calculations can be made regarding the tennis court. The Clerk and Councillor Hicks to take forward.

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

REFERENCE 3PL/2022/1361/HOU

PROPOSAL 2no. Single storey rear extensions and change external

finishes

LOCATION 1 St Andrews Way

# APPLICANT Mr J Ahmed No objections

## 14. To consider the draft Neighbourhood Plan-

The draft plan was only received from the consultant two days ago and needs to be checked through. Therefore, Chair Bass proposed that the Neighourhood Plan committee should finalise the draft plan and circulate to all Councillors thereafter and, due to time constraints an agenda item at the meeting in February will be to ratify the decision to accept the finalised draft. Seconded by Councillor Bateman and agreed unanimously.

### 15. 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

No public present

# 16. To confirm date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting as Monday $13^{\rm th}$ February 2023 at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 8.25pm