



Minutes No:
2023/65

Necton Parish Council

Minutes Parish Council Meeting held

Monday 13th November 2023 at 7.00 pm held at Necton Rural Community Centre

Parish Councillors (7) present:

Councillors Jean Bass, Genine Curtis, Fraser Bateman, Thirza Hicks, Alice Spain Phil Hayton and Sue Catlin

Additional attendees:

Justine Luckhurst- Parish Clerk,
Members of the public – 2 and Breckland Councillor Nigel Wilkin

Date: Monday 13th November 2023

Time: 7.00 pm

Place: Necton Rural Community Centre

1.To receive apologies for absence

Apologies received from Councillor Mark Jennings and Councillor Joe Sisto

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 9th October 2023

Proposed by Councillor Curtis, seconded by Councillor Spain 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 Clerks report is attached to the minutes

Mark Kiddle- Morris NCC –

His report is attached to the minutes

Chair

The Necton Remembrance Sunday Service was attended by Councillors Bass, Curtis, Hayton and Sisto. Councillor Sisto laid the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council

Chair Bass confirmed she attended a Zoom meeting with Councillor Curtis that was held by George Freeman MP on Friday, 10th November 2023. This is a summary of the meeting and points raised by Necton PC.

Following Storm Babet, this meeting was instigated by George Freeman MP. 36 attended the meeting, including myself and Councillor Curtis, consisting of Parish and Town Councillors, Breckland Planning, Norfolk District Council, Highways & Willow Consultants. The MNFP (Mid Norfolk Flood Partnership) has been in operation for the last 3 years. During that time 28 locations have been designated as 'priority sites' and various schemes have been applied, such as 'Reclaim the Rain' which is being trialled in Merton, Watton and Thompson.

During Storm Babet, 230 sites were affected. This information was compiled by various agencies (we do not yet know who).

The number for reporting flooding was inundated during the storm, but it was generally felt that more information should be made available to residents or anyone affected by flood. This will be acted upon and we should receive further information in the next few weeks. More effective communication is needed and residents should be encouraged to report any incidences.

Councillor Bass raised the issue of building near or on flood risk areas with builders not being held financially liable. *George Freeman agreed and would take this matter further.*

Councillor Curtis raised 3 issues:

1. Why are PC's not listened to when they have valuable information regarding development sites? *To be looked into.*
2. Why, when properties are bought/sold, are searches not informing potential buyers of the legal responsibilities regarding Riparian Rights? *George Freeman agreed and will take this further.*
3. Why has the next phase of Mill Street etc **NOT** yet taken place? It now looks worse than before phase one! *To be looked into.*

It was agreed to look into why water courses are not cleaned and debris removed and clarification given. Also, all councils to be kept better informed. Some councils have Flood Action Packs and these were found to be very helpful. Further information is available from Breckland Council and this matter will be discussed at a later meeting.

Councillors

Councillor Spain noted that the Breckland Planning Committee will be meeting to review a planning application from the National Grid. She confirmed that the PC has already provided comments and our position has not changed since we made our representation in October last year.

Councillor Curtis confirmed that the Parish Council is still working very hard on behalf of the residents regarding the ongoing flooding issues. The Parish Council is continuing to work very closely with the Mid Norfolk Flood Alliance and the relevant authorities at a strategic

level to try and solve the issues at the root cause. Whilst flood packs have been given out to residents previously Councillor Curtis asked the Clerk to obtain the flood pack issued by Breckland as there may be some beneficial information that can support residents to help them mitigate their flood risk. She continued by reiterating the need to use the Flooding Hotline number as, without the data and statistics to confirm the ongoing issues the Hotline can collect there won't be the financial resources to continue with the support it provides. Councillor Curtis also confirmed she has liaised with the Police (Via her SNAP representation) regarding the ongoing issues with drivers attempting to access and drive through the roadworks at North Pickenham Road. The Police will be monitoring this road.

Councillor Hayton expressed an interest in joining the Flooding working group and will join Chair Bass and Councillor Curtis in supporting Necton with the ongoing flooding issues experienced by some residents. Noting Councillor Hayton 'looks after' Mill Street which is affected by flooding. They will arrange to meet in the near future

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 Spain and agreed unanimously.

7. To consider and decide on the grant application from All Saints Church (Necton PCC) to assist with the upkeep of the churchyard and burial ground grass cutting and pruning

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

8. To receive confirmation that the quarterly internal financial check has been undertaken for Q2

Noted

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

REFERENCE	3PL/2023/0975/HO
PROPOSAL	Proposed demolition of existing piecemeal extensions and replaced with a new rear two storey extension
LOCATION	Church Farm, 15 Tuns Road
APPLICANT	Mr & Mrs Donnithorne-Tait

Whilst the Council recognised that changes are required to the existing property and the piecemeal extensions some Councillors felt the first option of a flat roof extension was out of keeping with the character and position of the property and the second option of a pitched roof was considered to be too high and does not meet the Design Codes within our draft Neighbourhood Plan. A lower ridge line with dormer windows was considered by some Councillors as a better option.

REFERENCE	3PL/2023/0976/LB
PROPOSAL	Proposed demolition of existing piecemeal extensions and replaced with a new rear two storey extension
LOCATION	Church Farm, 15 Tuns Road
APPLICANT	Mr & Mrs Donnithorne-Tait

Whilst the Council recognised that changes are required to the existing property and the piecemeal extensions some Councillors felt the first option of a flat roof extension was out of keeping with the character and position of the property and the second option of a pitched roof was considered to be too high and does not meet the Design Codes within our draft

Neighbourhood Plan. A lower ridge line with dormer windows was considered by some Councillors as a better option.

10. To consider and approve the purchase of a replacement litter bin for outside the Church

Councillor Spain proposed a new bin was purchased (from the same supplier and the same design as previously purchased bins) seconded by Councillor Bateman and agreed unanimously. Councillors Bateman and Hayton kindly offered to remove the old bin and install the new one.

11. To consider and decide on a request to Breckland to install the spare dog poo bin at the bridge entrance to the allotments/ dog walking area- noting agreement for this to be placed there from Holme Hale Parish Council

Councillor Spain proposed the bin was moved to the area by the bridge entrance to the allotments (subject to approval from Breckland council) seconded by Councillor Catlin and agreed unanimously. Councillors Bateman and Hayton kindly offered to remove the bin from its existing position and install in the new location)

12. To receive any updates and proposals from action plan working party and decide on next steps

The clerk confirmed a site visit has been completed by our Highways engineer and we now have the information required to apply for a grant under the Parish Partnership scheme for village gats at the Hale Road entrance to the village and the North Pickenham Road entrance. The Clerk will submit our application noting the cost to £6859.50 and further noting the grant will contribute 50% towards this cost. This will be a project for the forthcoming financial year and will be funded from next year's budget

Chair Bass proposed the bench style that had previously been circulated be approved and the 3 benches previously agreed to be purchased. Seconded by Councillor Catlin and agreed unanimously. After considering the quotes obtained Chair Bass proposed TTSR Limited to be instructed to install the concrete pads for the said benches. Seconded by Councillor Spain and agreed unanimously- noting we are still awaiting final confirmation of the licence to install at one of the chosen sites

Discussions were held in regards to replacing the fencing along the perimeter of the field with Tuns Road. Chair Bass thereafter proposed the metal bow top fencing in black was chosen. Seconded by Councillor Catlin and agreed unanimously. The Clerk to now obtain further quotes so Council can consider the costs, noting the work may need to be undertaken and financed over this financial year and next years due to the size of the project. The Clerk to also obtain clarification regarding the need for Planning Permission.

13. 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

14. To confirm date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting as Monday 11th December 2023 at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 8.06pm