



Minutes No:  
2024/72

## Necton Parish Council

### Minutes Parish Council Meeting held

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 7.00 pm held at Necton Rural Community Centre

#### Parish Councillors (9) present:

Councillors Jean Bass Genine Curtis, Alice Spain, Joe Sisto, Fraser Bateman, Zsolt Fejer, Phil Hayton, Mark Jennings and Thirza Hicks

#### Additional attendees:

Justine Luckhurst- Parish Clerk,  
Mark Kiddle- Morris – NCC Councillor  
Members of the public – 1

**Date:** Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**Time:** 7.00 pm

**Place:** Necton Rural Community Centre

**Councillors were asked to complete new Acceptance of office forms where applicable and confirm Declarations of Pecuniary Interest forms are up to date**

#### **1. To receive nominations for the post of Chairman and elect a member to the post.**

Councillor Bass proposed herself, seconded by Councilor Spain. No other proposals were made. A vote by secret ballot took place and Councillor Bass received 7 votes for and 2 votes against. Thereafter Chair Bass signed the acceptance form and this was co –signed by the Clerk.

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

Chair Bass proposed Councillor Bateman, seconded by Councillor Spain. No other proposals were made. A vote by secret ballot took place and Councillor Bateman received 7 votes for and 1 vote against and 1 blank. Thereafter Councillor Bateman signed the acceptance form and this was co –signed by the Clerk.

#### **3. To confirm Councillor to undertake quarterly financial checks**

Chair Bass proposed Councillor Bateman should continue with this, seconded by Councillor Curtis and agreed unanimously.

#### **4. To receive apologies for absence**

None received

**5. 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 declared

**6. To confirm members for the NRCC Committee for 2024-2025**

Councillors Sisto, Bateman, Spain, Hayton and Chair Bass were confirmed as members for the forthcoming year.

**7. To remind all councillors of the following policies and where these can be found – Standing Orders, Code of Conduct and Financial regulations**

Noted by all

**8. To confirm the Council meets the eligibility criteria to exercise the General Power of Competence and to consider this motion.**

The Parish Council hereby confirms we meet the eligibility criteria for adoption of the General Power of Competence as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965 The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012. We further resolve to adopt the General Power of Competence. Thereafter Councillor Spain proposed the council exercise the General Power of Competence, seconded by Councillor Bateman and agreed unanimously.

**9. To approve minutes of Council meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

Proposed as accepted by Chair Bass, seconded by Councillor Bateman and agreed unanimously by all present at the last meeting (noting Councillor Spain was not present at the previous meeting)

**10. 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

**11. Reports from:**

**Parish Clerk**

The report is attached to the minutes

**Norfolk County Council, Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris**

Nothing raised following the extensive report provided for the Annual Meeting held the previous week.

**Chair**

**Nothing to report**

**Councillors**

Councillor Curtis asked that the bottom of the trees along the edge of 1-4 Eastgate and the War Memorial be lifted as they were impacting on visibility- The Clerk to report to NCC. The SNAP meetings recently attended have agreed their focus will be on youth engagement and the vulnerable and elderly – particularly around scams.

Councillor Hicks reported the footbridge into the allotment area was very wobbly and needed to be looked at again and repairs undertaken. The Clerk to contact the landowner

Councillor Bateman confirmed that representatives from National Highways and Taylor Woodrow would be at the Queen Elizabeth Memorial Wood on 6<sup>th</sup> June at 11.00am to assist with the planting of the remaining 20 trees they provided as part of the replacement programme for the junction improvement at the Tuns Road/A47

**12. 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 Hicks, seconded by Councillor Curtis and agreed unanimously.

**13. To receive the report provided by the internal auditor and note the comments**

Noted by all and agreed the discrepancy in the invoice of £14.99 will be written off.

**To approve the annual governance statement 2022/2023**

Proposed by Councillor Bateman, seconded by Chair Bass and agreed unanimously- the statement was duly signed by the Chair and Clerk

**To approve the accounting statement for 2022/2023.**

Proposed by Councillor Bateman, seconded by Councillor Hicks and agreed unanimously- the statement was duly signed by the Chair and Clerk

**To confirm the process by which electors may exercise their rights of inspection of Annual Return**

The Clerk confirmed the process to the Council

**14. To consider and approve reviewed and updated policies**

- **Standing Orders-** proposed by Councillor Spain, seconded by Councillor Hicks and agreed unanimously
- **Co - option Policy-** proposed by Councillor Spain, seconded by Chair Bass and agreed unanimously
- **Financial regulations- adoption of the new NALC model version -** proposed by Councillor Bateman, seconded by Councillor Hayton and agreed unanimously

**15. To decide if Neighbourhood Watch signs can be placed on various lamp posts in the village**

After discussions Councillor Bateman proposed signs were installed around the village and the exact number and locations would be discussed at the next action plan working party meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> June so that these can be approved and the next full Council meeting. Seconded by Councillor Jennings and agreed unanimously

**16. To discuss and decide on a further community event to provide information on frauds and scammers**

Chair Bass proposed a further event should be held and that it could encompass and include the surrounding villages, noting Councillor Curtis to liaise with the Police to explore options and dates. Seconded by Councillor Jennings and agreed unanimously.

**17. To decide if the Parish Council will attend and take part in the upcoming Community surgery being held by George Freeman MP**

Councillor Bateman proposed the Parish Council should attend and take part in the surgery. Seconded by Councillor Hicks and agreed unanimously. Noting Councillors Bass, Bateman and Spain will represent the Council at the event.

**18. To discuss and decide if correspondence should be sent to Simon Wood @ Breckland or whether to request a meeting in regards to updates on the main application to them from RWE (previously Vattenfall)**

Councillor Spain proposed that the Clerk email Simon Wood at Breckland to request a meeting with him and representatives from RWE to ascertain the current position and receive a progress report. Seconded by Chair Bass and agreed unanimously

**Councillor Jennings left the meeting at 8.45pm**

**19. To decide on content of correspondence to be sent to RWE requesting additional and wider sedimentary traps**

Councillor Spain proposed the Clerk should contact the Environment Agency, Simon Wood and Nigel Wilkin (both Breckland) in regards to run off from the site works on the A47 requesting action to be taken. Seconded by Chair Bass and agreed unanimously.

**20. To consider and decide if correspondence should be sent to National Highways regarding the 'keep left' bollard at the Tuns Road / A47 junction and what the content should be.**

Councillor Bateman proposed the upcoming tree planting event with representatives from Highways and Taylor Woodrow on 6<sup>th</sup> June should be used to show them the issues at the junctions with the signage and other snagging and remedial works required. Seconded by Councillor Fejer and agreed unanimously.

**Councillor Hicks left the meeting at 8.55pm**

**21. To discuss and decide if the Parish Council wish to comment on the new council ward and ward boundaries as part of Breckland Council's consultation period**

Councillor Bateman proposed the comment from Necton PC should be " Necton Parish Council is in favour of single member Wards", seconded by Councillor Spain and agreed unanimously

**22. Planning matters – to note new planning applications and discuss.**

REFERENCE **3PL/2024/0321/O**

PROPOSAL Outline application, all matters reserved except for access, for the Erection of 9 no. self-build dwellings along with landscaping, drainage and associated infrastructure

LOCATION Land north of St Andrews Lane

APPLICANT Zarah Developments Limited

The Parish Council support this application

**23. 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

**24. To confirm date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting will be Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 7.00pm**

**Meeting closed at 9.03pm**