

SWANTON NOVERS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 16th January 2020 at 7:00pm

Councillors present: *Cllr. Chris Armstrong, Cllr. Jenny Anderson, Cllr. Viv Brittain, Cllr Gerard Eaton, Cllr. Hazel Mindham & Cllr. David Harman.*

Others present: - Rosemary Leeder, Sue Eaton, Ian Watson & Val Hart.

2019/063 - Apologies.

Received from – Cllr. Ross Keynejad

2019/064 To receive reports from the County Councillor and District Councillor

Report from your County Councillor, Cllr Steffan Aquarone

Email: steffan.aquarone.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk Tel: 01603 327827.

County Council's Response to the Climate Emergency - promising progress Full Council met on Monday 25th November, and the new environmental policy was voted through. This puts Norfolk at the forefront of County Councils by committing it to becoming carbon neutral by 2030 but also working with other partners to make Norfolk as a whole carbon neutral by 2030. Here's the speech I gave in support of the policy, which I was involved in shaping through my participation in the Task and Finish group: I welcome the striking presence this morning of The Red Brigade, Extinction Rebellion, school strikers and many other people, who have been bearing witness so powerfully with their silence to the burden of responsibility facing this council. We are surely the natural unit of leadership and accountability in Norfolk in tackling the climate emergency for us and for future generations. I believe that some people in our county - from across a range of partners - have waited their entire careers for the opportunity to work under the direction of a policy like this. Others - like me - have seen the light more recently. In particular those of us who have a stake in what happens in the next fifty years but are old and ugly enough to know that no one is going to come in and do it for us. My question is: will Norfolk County Council really take the lead, as the committee report that recommended this policy set out - or will it look after its own and let others do the same. This would be a license for inaction and a prescription for inertia. The statement "ensure that each project the Council undertakes is assessed for the contribution it will make towards meeting our environmental targets" - does this actually mean that in future, on balance, some projects will be deemed unviable under this revised focus on reducing Norfolk's carbon footprint to net zero by 2030? If so, then I believe we are sufficiently prepared for the change that's needed in our county as well as our council. I can hear myself asking these questions for some time to come as the real level of political will behind this policy is borne out. But for the meantime, with these reservations, I welcome the arrival of this policy. It has been a privilege to have had the opportunity to serve on the task and finish committee, and I wish to thank the officers in particular for the depth and detail of their work.

Email: steffan.aquarone.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk Tel: 01603 327827

A discussion followed County Councillor Steffan Aquarone's report on many items relating to climate change and specifically relating to provision of electric vehicle charging points and their location and future provision. It is hoped that more information will be available at the next meeting in March.

Report from NNDC Councillor Vincent FitzPatrick January 2020 Newsletter

This is my personal newsletter and is not an official statement from NNDC

North Norfolk Big Society Fund

Remember that grant awards of up to £15,000 are available for community projects. Since the Big Society Fund started in 2012, NNDC has awarded over £1.9m to 268 community projects. The latest round of North Norfolk District Council's Big Society Fund grants was agreed in December 2019: □ All Saints Community Rooms, Mundesley – £5,165.05 towards the purchase of a replacement heating system. □ Bale Village Hall – £3,115 towards access to the Village Hall. □ Hempton Parish Council – £3,800 towards the restoration of the village duck pond and surrounding area in the centre of the village. □ Trunch Parochial Church Council – £1,000 towards the purchase of an A0 colour printer. □ Great Snoring Social Club – £3,500 towards the procurement of new style clubhouse furniture and trolleys to move the furniture □ Gresham Village Hall Association – £5,000 towards the replacement of new windows and doors for the village hall. □ Fakenham Rugby Union Football Club – £4,000 towards replacing existing floodlights with new energy efficient ones.

If you have any ideas for community projects that would benefit from funding, please get in touch with the officers who will assist with your application Full information including contact details are given in the Fund's Page – <http://bit.ly/cllr-vitzpatrick-BSF> – on the District Council's website.

The Big Society Fund Grant Panel meets four times per year. Applications to go to the March 2020 Big Society Fund Grant Panel need to be submitted by Monday 3 February 2020.

NNDC Arts and Culture Fund

NNDC's Arts and Culture Fund offers grants of up to £2,500 to voluntary and community organisations, town and parish councils, whose project is based within north Norfolk with the aim to improve health and wellbeing of North Norfolk residents through active participation and engagement. Arts and Culture is considered to be activities, services or events which relate to the participation and active engagement with visual, literary and performing arts.

The awards following the last round of grants are: □ Sir John Hurt Trust - £2,000 towards Reminiscence Therapy to help those living with dementia and similar conditions, and to provide support for their carers. □ SWAN (Supporting Women Activities Network) – £1,900 to run a range of therapy based classes, delivered through different tutors and visits to art galleries and exhibitions. □ Alfred Cohen Art Foundation – £2,500 towards art workshops in North Norfolk with a special emphasis on the inclusion of young people □ North Norfolk Chamber Opera – £2,000 towards the cost of an 8-piece orchestra for two rehearsals and three performances of Orpheus in the Underworld by Offenbach □ The Choir Worstead – £1,500 towards support costs of the Choir's performances of Dido and Aeneas □ About With Friends – £2,125 towards 24 music sessions with About With Friends members with learning disabilities to help support their social, emotional and communication needs.

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□ Merchants Place Resource & Learning Centre – £2,000 towards the Drawn Together project that will offer creative activities for local people to be more socially included and to increase their self-confidence to live a good life.

Applications for an Arts and Culture grant will be assessed three times a year with the deadline for applications being the last Friday of June, October and February. Decisions on completed applications received will be made by within four weeks of the deadline date. For full information including how to apply please visit the Arts and Culture Fund's page – <http://bit.ly/cllr-vfitzpatrick-ACF> – on the District Council's website.

NNDC Community Transport Fund

NNDC's Community Transport Fund offers grants to voluntary and community organisations, town and parish councils, whose project will benefit vulnerable, disadvantaged, and isolated people of all ages living in rural areas by providing a flexible community transport service that will enable them to access the services and facilities they need.

The awards following the last round of grants are: □ North Norfolk Community Transport - £21,000 towards their Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle Scheme to help people in wheelchairs get to medically related appointments. □ Aldborough Village Care – £1,500 towards a volunteer car scheme for patients registered with Aldborough Surgery who are unable to drive or access alternative transport to access medical appointments. □ Burnham Market Area Community Car Scheme – £1,000 towards a community car scheme for medical appointments for those people living in Fakenham, Gt Walsingham, Little Walsingham, Holkham, Stiffkey, Wells, Wicken Green, Wighton, Warham and Binham areas. □ Aylsham & District Care Trust – £1,500 towards the running costs of the Shoppers Minibus covering Corpusty, Colby with Banningham, Erpingham.

Applications for grants from the Community Transport fund will be considered three times per year. Decisions on applications will be made within four weeks of application closing date which is the last Friday of February, June and October. For full information including how to apply please visit the Community Transport Fund's page – <http://bit.ly/cllr-vfitzpatrick-CTF> – on the District Council's website.

Fly Tipping Prosecution

A man has been ordered to pay £2,900 in compensation and legal costs after being found guilty of committing a waste offence at Norwich Magistrates Court. In lieu of a fine, he must pay £1,600 to a farming company affected by the incident and £1,300 in costs for North Norfolk District Council's costs (prosecuting, legal & investigative). The case involved a large fly tip of household and DIY waste from the Norwich area, onto farmland outside Fakenham.

2019/065 Public Forum

Val Hart raised the matter of the state of Church Lane (Littlewood Lane) and the missing footpath sign at the junction of Plantation Lane and Church Lane.

The Clerk said that the matters were in hand and had been reported to Highways Department and that they have visited the village and confirmed that the state of the lanes, drainage gullies and missing footpath signs would be rectified sometime in the next six weeks.

It was noted that oil lorries, dustcarts, delivery vehicles, tractors and logging rigs had been seen using Church Lane and that all these vehicles were oversized and would be damaging the banks.

2019/066

Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held 16/01/2020

No items were raised from Councillors or members of the public present at the meeting.

2019/067

To sign the Minutes of the meeting held 16/01/2020 as a true representation.

No amendments or changes were received or required, and the Minutes were signed by the Chair and Clerk.

2019/068

Matters arising from correspondence received.

No questions or discussion relating to correspondence distributed were raised.

2019/069

To vote on the proposal for the Village Green and WW2 75th ending Peace Trail

Cllr. Chris Armstrong referred to the proposals in the previous minutes and went on to say that the implementation of the Peace Trail could prove to be difficult as the land and route were owned by a number of different bodies and therefore would be difficult to site seats, notice boards etc. However, the information proposed could be provided in a leaflet and posted on the village website. It was also felt that this information would be more likely to be accessed by people visiting the village and not necessarily by residents.

There was also a thought that in the old village hall there was a large map showing the footpaths in the village. However, as it has not been seen for some years it is feared that it had been disposed of when the new hall was occupied.

In the last meeting we also discussed proposals for the village green submitted by Ian Watson. It was suggested that it may not be widely known in the village that the area discussed was a village green and it would be good if it was used, but what do we use it for. It has been suggested that the hedge bordering St Giles Road be either taken out or reduced to a more manageable height and this was thought to be the first thing to do. The Clerk interjected that he had been in contact with NNDC to find out if any permissions were needed or if any rules would be broken if the hedge height was reduced to around five feet high. NNDC confirmed that the hedge is not protected, and the parish council are free to reduce or remove it at will.

Cllr. Armstrong went on to say that we could ask the village for suggestions for use of the land in a forthcoming village newsletter.

Ian Watson said that he would like the 75th anniversary of VE /VJ day marked in some way in the village and suggested that the green could be used for some sort of permanent memorial. He also said that as a village asset it should be valued for what it is, but we need to see what the village may suggest as uses for the land. However, he suggested that it could be used as a beautiful tranquil space for the use of the village and agreed that reducing the hedge height could well enhance the area, together with some judicious planting and seating

Cllr David Harman asked Ian Watson why we would need another memorial when we have the Pill Box. He replied that it would be more convenient being centrally placed by the village Hall and could have a different feel and be more accessible than the Pill Box.

Cllr. Jenny Anderson suggested that a walk or peace trail could be instigated with leaflets to commemorate VE/VJ day.

Chair Cllr. Chris Armstrong brought the discussion to a close and said that this would be put on the next agenda for further discussion.

2019/070 Street Lighting

The Clerk reported that requests to tender for replacement streetlamps would be sent to suppliers shortly and that firm quotations and likely time frame would be presented at the next meeting.

2019/071 Mobile Telephone Coverage - Update

Cllr. Gerard Eaton reported that he had not had any further information from NNDC Cllr Fitzpatrick regarding the problems that we have in the village with the mobile telephone signal. He went on to say that he still had some contacts and would get in touch with them. He also suggested that the parish council continued to push both NNDC and NCC for answers and some action.

2019/072 Social Housing Provision – Update

Council Chair Chris Armstrong stated that further meetings will be arranged with the members of the village who put their names forward to be on the steering group. However, at present there is nothing new to report but that any developments will be circulated to the village in due course.

2019/073

To Consider Planning Applications.

No new applications have been received since the last meeting however, we have been advised of a pre application for a caravan to be sited at Keeper's Cottage in the woodland off Little Wood Lane. No details are available at present, however, should the application go ahead we will be informed by NNDC in due course.

2019/074

Financial Report.

The clerk presented the financial report. No questions or queries were raised. Cheques requiring signature / approval were for Village Hall Hire £10 and Street Lighting Maintenance £18.68.

2019/075

Annual Litter Pick – Village Tidy

The date for the litter pick was fixed as Sunday March 15th starting at the Village Hall at 2:00pm.

2019/76

Items from Councillors and Registered Electors to be considered for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting.

Cllr. Hazel Mindham distributed pre-publication copies of the proposed Village Newsletter. This was enthusiastically endorsed as by both councillors and members of the public present.

No other items were raised for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting.

Jeff Smallbones Clerk

06/03/2020

There being no further business, Chair Cllr. Chris Armstrong closed the meeting at 20:40pm

Signed..... Chairman dated.....

Signed..... Parish Clerk dated.....

Next meeting will be held on Thursday 26th March 2020 at 7:00 pm in the Village Hall.

