

SWANTON NOVERS PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 12th November 2020 at 7:00pm by Zoom

Councillors Present: Cllr. Chris Armstrong, Cllr. Gerard Eaton, Cllr. Hazel Mindham, Cllr Viv Brittain, Cllr Jenny Anderson, NNDC Cllr Vincent Fitzpatrick

Others Present: Jeff Smallbones,

2020/37

Cllr. Chris Armstrong welcomed everyone to the Zoom meeting and advised the meeting was being recorded.

2020/038

Apologies Received From:

Cllr. David Harman

Cllr. Ross Keynejad (Cllr Ross Keynejad tendered his resignation on the 11th November 2020)

NNDC Cllr. Steffan Aquarone (Unable to connect via Zoom)

2020/039

To receive Declarations of Interest.

None received.

2020/40

To receive County Councillors Report.

Report from your County Councillor, Cllr Steffan Aquarone

Winter is Coming

Gritters were out the first time on 3 November. The council's gritting routes for the 2020/21 season are on the map at www.norfolk.gov.uk/gritting

Closure of Holt Hall

The County Council's official position is that the future of Holt Hall - an outdoor learning centre for several decades, and a school before that - is still under review. Despite this, staff have sensed for some time that the decision had already been taken, and at the end of October received written confirmation along with a number of other stakeholders. That the County Council should wind up such a valued asset, of which many constituents in Melton Constable division have powerful positive memories, is indicative of short-sightedness and a lack of imagination. It is still hoped that another public body may be able to assemble a package to maintain at least part of the site for the purposes of outdoor education - something young and older people alike need more of in this era of ecological consciousness.

Future of Adult Social Care work force

Consultation on a new 5 Year workforce strategy for the Adult Social Care workforce in Norfolk and Waveney has started and will run to 20 November. More details including an online survey is at <https://norfolkandsuffolkaresupport.co.uk/recruitment-retention/asc-workforce-strategyconsultation>

Norfolk's economic future

Distributing grant funding and coordinating PPE were doubtless important aspects of the council's response to the pandemic. But these feature among the headlines of a recent Council paper on Growing the Economy.

I believe that thriving business and industrial sectors are key drivers of prosperity, and that the role of the council is to take the lead on stimulating a local economy that works for everyone:

- Creating jobs

- Encouraging direct investment
- Increasing the money it receives from business taxes in order to fund services
- Leading on economic strategy
- Providing training to help businesses scale and grow, and
- Identifying and encouraging opportunities for innovation, environmental improvement, and diversification.

I would welcome your views on this. What do you think Norfolk needs to do in order to make up our nationally lagging position on employment, skills and wages - in particular as the triple-whammy of Covid recovery, Climate Emergency and Brexit are particularly impactful on some of our key sectors including adult care, hospitality and agriculture.

Reminder of address for written correspondence It appears a couple of Parish Council websites are still listing my old Norwich address - please do ensure any written correspondence is sent to me % the Liberal Democrat Group, County Hall, Martineau Ln, Norwich NR1 2DH

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

Report From Councillor Fitzpatrick

LOCKDOWN 2.0 – A key message of this new lockdown in England is “Stay at Home”. The Government has stated that local authorities should continue to provide services to the public. NNDC aims to deliver core services without disruption with the majority of staff continuing with current arrangements and working from home. The Council offices will remain open for residents and business to make face-to-face appointments where their service requests cannot be satisfied by phone, email or online

To allow people outdoor access for physical and mental wellbeing, all of our car parks will remain open during the lockdown.

We have re-introduced our community support arrangements to support residents unable to access shopping online or through family and friends or collect prescriptions. Please contact:

- 01263 516000
- nndccovid19@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Our Business Advice and Support service will advise and assist businesses in North Norfolk especially those that are required to close during the lockdown. Please visit the NNDC website and follow the “New National Restrictions - Support for Businesses” link on the home page for details of:

- Business Closures (from 5 November)
- Business Support Grants
- Business Rate Relief
- Government Support and Funding for Businesses
- Other Sources of Support and Advice

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR RESIDENTS REQUIRED TO SELF-ISOLATE UNDER THE NHS TEST AND TRACE SYSTEM – Some residents who have received notification from NHS Test and Trace to self-isolate, may be entitled to a Self-Isolation eligibility criteria are – compliance with the notification from NHS Test and Trace to self-isolate, employed or self-employed, unable to work from home and will lose income as a result and receipt of certain benefits. Please see the NNDC website for details and an application form

COUNCIL SECURES GOVERNMENT GRANT TO HOME ROUGH SLEEPERS – North Norfolk District Council has been awarded £140,000, from a government fund designed to help local authorities and other bodies provide accommodation for homeless people in their area. As a condition of the funding, the council will match fund to help to buy four one-bed homes to help reduce homelessness across the district. The homes will be used to house people who are currently listed as rough sleepers or have indicated that they are in danger of becoming rough sleepers.

Councillor Vincent FitzPatrick, Stibbard Ward <https://www.north-norfolk.gov.uk>

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

2020/041

Public Forum

No comments

2020/042

Matters Arising from the minutes of the Zoom meeting held on the 24th September 2020

The Chair explained to the Councillors the official minutes procedure, in particular, the requirement of Draft Minutes being in the public forum as soon as possible following the meeting.

a) Firewood Yard Update-

1. A Fire Risk Assessment will be provided to the Council by The Estate.
2. If there is a delivery log, it will not be shown to the Councillors, as this is not cited in the planning decision.
3. There was no official mention of a security gate being installed in the Notice of Decision.
4. Five delivery days per year, allows as many deliveries as required, on those days.

2020/043

To sign the minutes of the Zoom meeting held on the 24th September 2020

2020/044

Matters Arising from Correspondence received and distributed.

- a) **Fibre optic Broadband-** After a brief discussion it was agreed Cllr Gerard Eaton would investigate further into the cost of installation.
- b) **Norfolk Wellbeing-** No comment
- c) **Flu Vaccine (late addition)-** A reminder of the benefits of the flu vaccine will be input into the Newsletter

2020/045

Social Housing Update- Cllr Hazel Mindham updated the Council. Three policies have been ratified since the last meeting:

- **Allocation Policy** -This has been agreed by NNDC and has now passed to Broadland for approval.
- **Data Protection and Guidelines**
- **Equality and Guidelines**

An 'Our Values Statement' was also agreed upon.

Cllr Chris Armstrong and VH (committee member) have created and distributed a Frequently Asked Questions for the Village, updating them on the progress of the CLT so far.

2020/046

Meeting with Delaval Astley and Luke Rodway- A meeting took place between Delaval Astley (Lord Hastings), Luke Rodway and Cllr Chris Armstrong, Cllr Gerard Eaton, Cllr Jenny Anderson and Cllr Hazel Mindham to discuss the concerns and questions about the minutes of the last meeting. The Chair stated that the Parish Council is an autonomous entity and a forum for the concerns of the village. Following the meeting it was hoped that the Council would be more mindful of any information that had been communicated to the Parish Council from the Estate and, where appropriate, mention this as a point of information.

An article has been placed in the Newsletter from Luke Rodway (Estate Manager) detailing what work has been carried out by the Estate. It was also noted that a ditch and ancient drainage system, which had been a

longterm concern to the residents of St Giles Road, had been dug out and repaired. This was much appreciated.

Cllr Hazel Mindham asked for it to be put on record that she apologized for her terseness in emails to Cllr Chris Armstrong over the previous week.

2020/047

Delegating Responsibilities-Three main areas of delegation potentially highlighted.

- Highways
- Relationship to The Estate
- Planning

It has been agreed to discuss this further in the New Year.

2020/048

Local Plan- Cllr Gerard Eaton and the Clerk were due to attend a Local Planning course held by Norfolk Association of Local Councils. This unfortunately was cancelled. Further courses to be held next year.

2020/049

Newsletter- After a discussion regarding the ethos and content, it was agreed that a disclaimer in the back of the Newsletter allows the Council to refrain from censoring the content. The costs of printing and production will be the subject of the next Agenda in the New Year.

Cllr Hazel Mindham requested more contributions from the village.

2020/050

Standing Orders and Other Paperwork-

- a) Due to the limited number of Councillors available to become Chair, when the current tenure ends in May, it was discussed as to whether the Standing Orders of the Council could be amended to extend the number of consecutive terms a Chair can stand, which is currently 3. The possibility of a joint Chair was also discussed. It was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.
- b) Cllr Gerard Eaton requested a review of the current policies and the Standing Orders.
- c) The Council agreed to register with HMRC as an employer in order to abide by the regulations set out by Norfolk Association of Local Councils.

2020/051

Planning-

- a) Fire Engine House LA/20/1424 – No objection
- b) Bell House PF/20/1424 – No objection
- c) Rusty Ridge PF/20/1964- No objection

2020/052

Draft Budget- It was unanimously agreed, the charitable donations would go to the same recipients as last Year ;

- East Anglian Air Ambulance
- Citizens Advice
- Cromer Food Bank
- Holt Community First Responders

It was agreed to have an extraordinary meeting in early January to agree and finalise the budget.

2020/053

Financial Report- The financial report was sent to the Councillors prior to the meeting. The accounts were approved by the Councillors.

2020/54

Items from Councillors and registered electors to be considered for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting - Cost and production of Newsletter, Delegating Responsibilities, Local Plan, Standing Orders (tenure of Chair)

Emma Russell Parish Clerk
19/11/2020

There being no further business, Chair Cllr. Chris Armstrong closed the meeting at 21.11pm

Signed Chairman dated.....

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

Next meeting will be held on the 21st January 2021. Location to be confirmed.