

SWANTON NOVERS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 28th of January
2021 at 7:00pm by Zoom.

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

Others Present: None

2021/055

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

2021/056

Apologies Received From:

NNDC Cllr. Steffan Aquarone

2021/057

To Receive Declarations of Interest:

None received.

2021/058

To Receive County Councillors Report:

Report from your County Councillor, Cllr Steffan Aquarone

Update on Holt Hall

I'm pleased to report that Holt Hall has successfully obtained "asset of community value" status, which means the County Council's widely condemned plans to sell it on the open market have been put back by six months to allow the local community time to seek an

alternative, which would include ongoing provision of outdoor learning facilities.

I have received more correspondence on this matter than anything else since I first got elected in 2017 and it is clear that thousands of people in Norfolk have strong memories of their experiences of outdoor education there - something young and older people alike need more of in this era of ecological consciousness.

Availability of vaccines in North Norfolk

First of all I would like to thank the staff of Norfolk County Council who have been working for nearly a year now to ensure the continued delivery of services where available.

Much has been made about the lack of vaccination facilities in North Norfolk. The Covid-19 vaccinations programme started at NNUH on 9th December and as early as last week, I received reports from people in Swanton Morley that they had been vaccinated. Yet at that time there were no facilities in any of North Norfolk (constituency; Fakenham surgery was part of the next wave, early in the New Year).

I think it is shocking that an area with such a vulnerable demographic is yet to receive the vaccine. Indeed, the Minor Injuries Unit in Cromer was closed to allow staff to help at the NNUH. The good news is that, at the time of writing (11th January), it looks like we should be receiving supplies to our GP-led hubs in the next week. At least nine are set to join the programme this week, including:

Drayton Medical Practice
Sheringham Medical Practice
The Market Surgery, Aylsham
Manor Farm Medical Centre, Swaffham
Poringland Community Centre

Gurney Surgery, Norwich
Hoveton Village Hall
Rossis Leisure, North Walsham
Snettisham Surgery

I know of neighbours near North Walsham who have received letters (but not yet appointments) and so hopefully, the continued roll-out will reach us soon.

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

Councillor Vincent FitzPatrick
Newsletter

January 2021

NATIONAL LOCKDOWN IN ENGLAND

I do not need to tell you about the new lockdown but I will repeat the main message - **stay at home** and only leave for a valid reason (e.g. shopping for essentials). Please see the Government website for details.

NNDC CUSTOMER SERVICES DURING LOCKDOWN

The customer services reception is closed for walk in face-to-face enquiries. However, staff are available to help you and can be contacted through the NNDC website, by phone or email. Face-to-face appointments are only available for genuine emergency situations, vulnerable residents or complex cases which cannot be dealt with via other means. For up-to-date information about our services and links to useful advice, see the Coronavirus page on the NNDC website.

If you are a resident and need support relating to COVID-19 please email us at NNDCCovid19@north-norfolk.gov.uk or call our helpline 01263 516000.

ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS GRANT

The Additional Restriction Grant scheme supports certain business which have been affected by the second national lockdown in England (05/11/2020 – 02/12/2020) but are not eligible for the Local Restrictions Support Grant. Business in North Norfolk District may submit applications now. Further details are available on the NNDC website.

VACCINATION CENTRES IN NORTH NORFOLK So far the only operational vaccination centre in North Norfolk is at the Fakenham GP Practice. The Council is keen to see more centres identified and operated by health authorities to offer vaccinations in other parts of the district. NNDC is in dialogue with our local health partners, whose responsibility it is to co-ordinate and deliver the roll-out of the Government's national vaccination programme. We have worked with them to identify a number of possible sites throughout the district. We look forward to more information about vaccinations and their availability to residents in our district being shared with us and the public as soon as possible.

ELECTIONS 2021

Electors in North Norfolk will go the polls on Thursday 6th May 2021 for the Norfolk Country Council election and the Norfolk Police and Crime Commissioner election. (There will be elections for some Parish Councils.)

NNDC is reviewing arrangements at polling stations to ensure the safety of electors and staff. It is recognised that more electors may opt to vote by post rather than in person at a polling station.

If you wish to vote by post but have not already registered to do so, then you need to complete and return an application form. The application can be downloaded from our website. Alternatively, you

can contact us by email at postalvotes@north-norfolk.gov.uk or by phone on 01263 516046 and we will send you a form.

Councillor Vincent FitzPatrick

Stibbard Ward

<https://www.north-norfolk.gov.uk>

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

2021/059

Public Forum:

No public were present.

2021/060

Matters arising from the minutes of the Zoom meeting held on the 12th of November 2020: All matters have been listed as Agenda items. The Parish Council all agreed.

2021/061

To sign as correct the minutes of the Zoom meeting held on the 12th of November 2020.

2021/062

Matters arising from correspondence received and distributed: Cllr. Eaton asked for the Covid-19 and the Postal Vote poster to be put on the Noticeboard, and in the Newsletter. Clerk to put on board and website, Cllr. Mindham agreed to put it in the next edition of the newsletter. Cllr. Eaton advised the Parish Council of the investigation he had made into a Community Fibre 100MB Broadband Application,

allowing for faster Broadband directly into every property for the village, after a request from Swanton Care Centre to share costs of installation. The costs were extremely high and after a discussion it was agreed the project was not viable.

2021/063

Social Housing Update: Cllr. Mindham advised the Parish Council that there had been lots of activity, on the 27th of November 2020 Swanton Novers Community Land Trust had their Risk Assessment approved by Broadland Council, the Frequently Asked Questions leaflet was distributed, and the website is now live. Details of this can be seen on page 2 of the Newsletter. A Finance Policy is currently being drafted by Cllr. Anderson. The next meeting will be on the 3rd of February to discuss the design of the buildings with the Architects. Cllr. Anderson asked if the meeting could be recorded. Cllr. Eaton asked if the meetings were open to the public. Cllr. Mindham suggested the Chairman could be asked on both points, she also stated there will be a full article about the latest update in the march Newsletter.

2021/064

Minutes: Cllr. Armstrong explained NALC's guidance on minutes and the procedures in place. She also reminded the Councillors of the limited time the Clerk has each week.

2021/065

Newsletter: Cllr. Armstrong started the discussion by reminding everyone of how important the Newsletter is to the Village. Not every parishioner is on the internet, the Newsletter allows for greater accessibility rather than relying purely on the website. Going forward, it will become central to the plans of the Parish Council. The cost and production must become a priority, as it will allow the Parish Council to share their aims for the future. She has suggested

that all the costs for the Newsletter and other 'publicity' be referred to in the budget as Communications in the Parish Council Budget, it will incorporate the costs for all communications.

Cllr. Mindham advised the Councillors that she spends around 20 hours a month on the Newsletter and the printing itself takes a day. Cllr. Mindham also believes that the Noticeboard is crucial, and it is important to keep it up to date.

2021/066

Budget: The budget was agreed by all members of the Council.

The defibrillator cost was agreed at £1000. Proposed by Cllr. Eaton and seconded by Cllr. Mindham.

The new Communications item was agreed at £750, again proposed by Cllr. Eaton and seconded by Cllr. Anderson.

It was unanimously agreed not to increase the Precept this year due to the ongoing pandemic and the hardship suffered by many.

2021/067

Chair Tenure: Cllr. Armstrong explained to the Councillors, after a discussion with Cllr. Eaton regarding the tenure of the Chair and the shortness of the current terms imposed by our Standing Orders, which is 3 years. It was suggested to the Parish Council that due to the Pandemic, and the limitations imposed by it, as well as the limited people available in a small village to be Chair, Cllr. Armstrong would remain as Chair until 2022, with Cllr. Eaton continuing as Vice Chair. They have both enjoyed working together and look forward to implementing some positive changes to the Parish Council. Cllr.

Eaton expressed the hope that this was the start of a bigger plan for the Parish Council, starting initially with reviewing the Standing Orders to reflect how the Parish Council would like to proceed in the future. It was unanimously agreed by the Councillors that Cllr.

Armstrong was to stay in position until 2022, with Cllr. Eaton as her Vice Chair.

2021/068

New Councillor: The Council is currently seeking a new Councillor. Cllr. Armstrong suggested an advert to go in the Newsletter and on the website and Noticeboard. It was agreed that Cllr. Armstrong would create an advert for the agreement of the Councillors.

2021/069

Forward Planning: Cllr. Eaton suggested setting up small working groups to research and implement the relevant Government regulations pertaining to our Parish Council. He went on to say that a Communications Plan, which would include a development of the website and newsletter, will be a key part to this plan. Cllr, Eaton has offered to forward his plan to the Councillors which will be discussed in more depth at the next meeting. All the Councillors agreed this was a good direction to be heading in.

2021/070

Planning: No Planning Applications had been submitted.

2021/071

Financial Report: It was unanimously agreed to accept the quote to cut back the hedge at the perimeter of the Village Green. No other items on the report were raised.

2021/072

Items for the next Agenda:

Rubbish/Litter Pick, Communications, Forward Planning, Social Housing, Action Log, AGM

Emma Russell Parish Council

18/02/2021

There being no further business, Chair Cllr. Chris Armstrong closed the meeting at 9pm.

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

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

Next meeting will be held on the 25th of March 2021. Location to be confirmed.