

HOLME-NEXT-THE-SEA PARISHCOUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held online Tuesday 12 January 2021 at 7pm

Present: Councillors Lynn Devereux (Chair), Martin Crown (Vice-Chair), Wendy Norman, Robert Burton, Ermine Amies, Stefan Seare

In Attendance: Dave Watkins (Parish Clerk), Councillor Andrew Jamieson (NCC), and 4 members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence and approval of reasons:

Councillor Bob Lawton (KLWNBC – meeting clash)

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Devereux declared a non-pecuniary interest as a near neighbour in item 7.6.1.

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 8 December 2020

3.1. Approval

These had been pre-circulated with no comments arising. It was **RESOLVED** (unanimously) that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8 December 2020 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.

3.2. Matters arising from the Minutes (non-agenda items)

(3.2) Defibrillator – the Clerk reported that the defibrillator has been successfully installed and registered with the Emergency Services but is awaiting confirmation from the East of England Ambulance Service with regard to the best visual guide to issue via the VIN.

(3.2) Norfolk Coast Partnership (NCP) Small Grant Fund – the Parish Council has been successful in its bid for £3k towards installing interpretation boards and cycle racks. Given the delay in confirmation in writing and the current Covid regulations, a request to the NCP is going to be made for an extension beyond March 2021 to complete the project.

Clerk to contact NCP to request extension

(4.5) Draft Visitor Management Plan for Holme Dunes – having queried the figures in the Plan, the Parish Council had received a reply saying a misunderstanding on the part of the NWT in the numbers they had collected and a subsequent misunderstanding by the authors had taken place. The Plan authors, Footprint Ecology and the NWT are in the process of revising their Draft Visitor Plan .

(6.2.3) 20/01865/F – Natural England’s comments had been posted on the planning portal as requested. Planning Application subsequently withdrawn.

Signed Chair

LS Devereux

Date 9/2/21

4. Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on Friday 18 December 2020

4.1. Approval

These had been pre-circulated with no comments arising. It was **RESOLVED** (unanimously) that the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 18 December 2020 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.

4.2. Matters arising from the Minutes (non-agenda items)

(4.1.1.) and (4.1.2.) – both applications have been refused.

5. Reports: To receive the following:

5.1. County Councillor and Borough Councillor reports

Councillor Jamieson reported on a Cabinet meeting he had attended which included an item about NCC's Lead Local Flood Authority role in partnership with the Environment Agency (EA). Seeking to improve coordination between relevant agencies by setting up an action group.

Councillor Jamieson to forward copy of Report to Parish Council

5.2. Superintendents District Briefing – 17 December – (Councillor Amies)

Councillors Amies reported on a well organised and informative meeting where news was given about increasing the number of officers up to 1700. The Police have been engaged significantly in dealing with anti-social behaviour relating to Covid lockdown regulations. There was also a discussion on encouraging the Police to make more use of SAM2 data collected at a local level to act on speeding. Noted that Wildlife Officers, who were specifically appointed to tackle wildlife crime, are no longer present and that their role is now the responsibility of Rural Officers.

5.3. Meeting with Environment Agency to review sea defences (Councillor Devereux)

The Chair reported on a site meeting (23 December) with the Head of Asset Performance and the Flood and Coastal Risk Management Officer. The main purpose of the meeting was to review damage to a part of Holme's sea defences, notably the bund across the golf course which had been restored by the EA following damage caused at the time of the 2013 tidal inundation. The bund has been showing signs of trampling damage for the past few years but this has now reached the stage where the geo-grid has been exposed in places. Neither this part of the defences, nor the area just inside the entrance to The Firs, which is also showing signs of visitor wear, are on the EA's asset inventory as they do not form part of the hard engineered sea defences which EA manages. However, given the importance of the golf course crossing to the defence of the Beach and Broadwater Road areas the EA have agreed to look into this. Damage related to visitor pressure, including parking has also been identified at Thornham Bank and the EA will be carrying out a ground survey of the sea wall early this year in order to establish an accurate picture of the levels which will inform their maintenance activities. Councillor Crown identified other areas that require attention in order to maintain the area's sea defences and suggested what actions need to be taken.

Councillor Jamieson sought clarification on exact locations, promised to visit and inspect prior to seeking funds to make the necessary repairs.

6. Public Participation

It was **RESOLVED** (unanimously) to adjourn the meeting for up to fifteen minutes for Public Participation.

Member of the public asked for more information on the Planning Applications discussed at the EGM on 18 December 2020. They were informed that the two tree felling applications had been refused by the Borough Council on amenity grounds and that alternative solutions need to be explored more fully.

Member of the public reported they had contacted the Borough Council about road sweeping as they had not been aware of their visits recently. Response was that a team would be in the village early 2021 which was confirmed both by the member of the public and Councillor Crown. Additionally, they were concerned at the poor state of the road markings at the junction of Westgate and Beach Road. They also wanted to raise awareness of Operation Randall, which is an initiative of Norfolk Police to tackle rural crime, including wildlife crime. Whilst out walking they had, in the past, noted damage to the dunes / sea defence just inside The Firs entrance as discussed in 5.3. - caused by what appeared to be large plant machinery.

7. Planning Matters

7.1. Applications received subsequent to this agenda

7.1.1. **20/02070/F** - Construction of a two-storey dwelling following demolition of existing dwelling at The Tower, Broadwater Road, PE36 6LQ

As the Parish Council had only received the invitation to comment today, it was decided that there was insufficient time to provide a response at this meeting and that councillors would discuss this via email and report their decision at next month's meeting.

7.2. Applications for comment

7.2.1. **20/01977/F** - Construction of front boundary wall 2.1m high at eastern end graduating down over a 3m length to 1.5m high. Westgate Cottage 37 Westgate, PE36 6LF. Deadline 14 January

The proposed construction of the wall involving the use of locally found facing materials was considered to be sympathetic to the Conservation Area setting. However, it was felt that if the removal of the trees is an inevitable consequence of the development, the Council would like to see their replacement with two native trees which will not result in an obstruction at this point on Westgate. The Parish Council's response was requested to be forwarded to the Borough Council's Tree Officer.

Clerk to forward response to the Borough Council Tree Officer

7.3. Other Applications for information

None

7.4. Comments made on applications

7.4.1. **20/00737/F** - New dwelling following change of use of builders yard at Builders Yard, Thornham Road. Deadline 8 January.

Parish Council had restated it earlier objections to this Application.

7.5. Decisions Reported

7.5.1. **20/00575/F** - Brook Bungalow, 36 Beach Road, PE36 6LG - Proposed extension and alterations to the existing dwelling, the construction of a new detached garage and retrospective application for the burial of surface water drain. Application Permitted - *Delegated Decision*.

7.5.2. **20/01581/F** - Vine Cottage, 49 Main Road, PE36 6LA - Removal of existing conservatory and rear extension, erection of replacement extension. Application Permitted - *Delegated Decision*.

7.5.3. **20/01625/F** - 49 Main Road, PE36 6LA - REMOVAL OR VARIATION OF CONDITION 2 OF PLANNING PERMISSION 18/00223/F: Construction of detached triple garage and orangery extension to dwelling (amended scheme) Application Permitted - *Delegated Decision*.

7.5.4. **20/01865/F** - Visitor Centre, The Firs, Broadwater Road, PE36 6LQ - Variation/Removal of Condition 3 of planning permission 19/00723/F. Application Withdrawn.

7.6. Appeals and Enforcement

7.6.1. Poplars Enforcement Appeal – **PINS Ref: APP/V2635/c/18/3216570** – Land south of 38-42 Main Road, Holme-next-the-Sea, PE36 6LA – update (Councillor Devereux)

Final set of written representations are due on 15 January 2021. Hearing date has been delayed as Appellants were unable to make the original date and it is now scheduled for March. The planned visit of the Inspector for early January to view the site and talk to residents has also been rescheduled due to new Covid regulations.

8. Village matters

8.1. Pond on Park Piece

Councillor Burton reported that he had received a number of offers of financial help if work is progressed. A surveyor is due to view Park Piece and provide advice on what could be done and at what cost. Discussion followed on how the donation previously made to the Council could be incorporated as it was intended to improve the biodiversity of the area.

8.2. Update on secondary glazing for Village Hall

Councillor Burton reported that the contractor was due to visit on Monday 18 January to take detailed measurements and work is expected to commence two weeks thereafter.

9. Monthly Report from RFO

9.1. Report

Parish Precept Requirement Form 2021/22 was returned to King's Lynn and West Norfolk Council on 23 December confirming that the Parish Council will not be setting a precept for the next financial year.

9.2. Draft Budget for 2021/2022 - update

This had been pre-circulated to councillors. Following 8 December meeting additional sums had been added for ditch works on Beach Road (£5k) and traffic fees (£10k) in anticipation of a Speed Assessment Survey and potential TROs related to the ongoing discussions regarding speed limit changes. This Draft Budget has a planned deficit of £18,490. Reserves are sufficient to cover any shortfall.

Following discussion on a possible pond on Park Piece it was suggested that following the surveyor's visit, some provision may need to be made for this in the Budget.

Clerk to present final Draft to next meeting for Council to approve

9.3. 3rd Quarter Accounts

These had been pre-circulated to councillors. £9800 surplus mainly due to a large VAT repayment and postponement of NDP Referendum and saving on any associated legal fees. The pandemic has also seen some additional expenditure on signage. However, many other expenditure items are on target.

Some discussion took place on how the Council might manage its reserves in the future. Councillor Amies raised the question of social housing. The NDP consultation had sought views from parishioners on the possibility of allocating PC-owned land adjacent to Park Piece for a small number of modest homes but public consultation revealed that this was not as popular as the site on Eastgate. Substantial borrowing would be required to develop the site. Noted that Brancaster Parish has some shared equity housing for sale which is being offered via a Borough Council scheme.

Clerk to make enquiries regarding the housing scheme operating in Brancaster

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9.4. Payments for authorisation

PAYEE	REASON	AMOUNT	PAYMENT METHOD
British Gas	Village Hall electricity	£38.15	Direct Debit -Paid 11/12/20
Lexis Nexis	Arnold Baker -12 th ed.	£119.99	Bank Transfer
BT plc	Emergency telephone	£45.46	Direct Debit -Paid 29/12/20
Norfolk Nat. Trust	Annual payment to secure Common Rights Holders' shooting rights	£5.00	Standing Order Paid 4/1/20
D.T. Watkins	Clerk's salary	£546.76	Bank Transfer
HMRC	PAYE on Clerk's salary	£136.80	Bank Transfer
BT plc	Telephone / broadband	£54.62	Direct Debit
British Gas	Village Hall electricity	£17.02	Direct Debit
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British Gas	Village Hall electricity	£17.02	Direct Debit
TOTAL		£963.80	

Agreed unanimously

10. Correspondence

10.1 Any correspondence not otherwise on the Agenda

- **Tourist Information Centre** – Letter received from the Tourist Information Centre Action Group requesting support for re-instating a staffed Tourist Information facility in Hunstanton. Councillor Jamieson updated the Parish Council on recent developments and it was decided to await the outcome of these before making a response.
- **Norfolk's Police and Crime Commissioner** has launched an online budget consultation survey with a closing date of 22 January 2021.
Councillor Amies to complete this on behalf of the Parish Council
- Councillor Devereux reminded councillors that any responses they had on the Borough Council's **Local Plan Viability assessment**, which she had recently circulated, should be sent to her by 15 January 2021 as the closing date for submissions is 21 January 2021.

Date of next meeting of the Parish Council: Tuesday 9 February 2021 (arrangements to be confirmed)

Meeting finished at 9.00pm

Signed Chair

LS Devereux

Date 9/2/21