

HOLME-NEXT-THE-SEA PARISHCOUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held online Tuesday 9 March 2021 at 7pm

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

In Attendance: Dave Watkins (Parish Clerk), Councillor Andrew Jamieson (NCC), Councillor Bob Lawton (KLWNBC) and 5 members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence and approval of reasons:

None

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Crown declared an interest as a member of the PCC in item 8

Councillor Devereux declared an interest as a near neighbour in item 6.6.1

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9 February 2021

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 9 February 2021 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.

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

(3.2) Pond on Park Piece – Councillor Burton has conducted a survey and drawn up a plan which he will circulate for comment. A letter to Mr and Mrs Irvine, who provided a donation for enhancing biodiversity on Park Piece, updating them on progress to be sent.

Councillor Burton to circulate plan to Parish Council for comment

Clerk to send letter to Mr and Mrs Irvine

(3.2) Shared Equity scheme in Brancaster - The "shared equity" model involves a proportion of the equity in the property being sold by the developer at build costs on a shared ownership lease. On completion of the sale, the freehold is transferred to the Council. No rent is due on the unsold equity.

(7.1) Beach Road drainage – Councillor Crown reported that he had met with Councillor Jamieson. Quotes for clearing the ditches on Beach Road were being sought. Noted that following contact with the local MP, James Wild, Anglia Water had visited the location to undertake work which had reduced the level of flooding.

(7.3) Eastgate / Marsh Lane signage – x1 sign plus x2 clips = £100.62 inc. VAT plus delivery is on order. NWT were contacted about ordering a sign at the same time but confirmed they want to continue with their own sign. Councillor Devereux requested that the “Car Parks Full” signs loaned to NWT be returned before the start of the season.

Clerk to contact NWT to arrange for return of signs

Signed Chair

LS Devereux

Date 13/4/21

(7.4) Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – Funding applications – No response from CIL. Councillor Burton had suggested prior to the meeting that improvements to the drainage in Chalk Pit Road should be included in any bid. Councillor Devereux agreed and thought that as the CIL funding was focused on new infrastructure as opposed to repairs / maintenance this would improve the chances of a successful bid.

4. Reports: To receive the following:

4.1. County Councillor and Borough Councillor reports

Councillor Lawton referred to a recent email sent to councillors regarding wood burning stoves and how any restrictions on their use would impact on local businesses.

Councillor Jamieson provided some further information following his site meeting with Councillor Crown (see 3.2 above) and also drew attention to the fact that the main car park required attention. A conversation with the owner of the drain running east from Beach Road had not resulted in a forward plan as yet.

4.2. Planning training – (22 February) - Councillor Norman, Councillor Amies

Both councillors reported that they found the training useful and provided clarity for the planning process. Councillor Crown is booked to attend in April.

4.3. Endure meeting (26 February 2021)

Councillor Devereux reported on a meeting of the ENDURE project, organised by Norfolk County Council and attended by five Parish Councillors. A number of issues were discussed at the meeting in regard to the Visitor Management Plan (VMP). These included continuing concerns over the counts of visitor numbers and growing pressure on the dunes/sea defences, notably at the crossing points of the Golf Course and The Saltings. The original Draft Plan has an estimate for 40,000 visitors per year which is substantially less than the Parish Council had estimated (250,000+) through use of their radar in Beach Road. Concern was also raised on changes to the car occupancy rate which is used to estimate visitor numbers-reduced from 2.7 to 2 and another request had been made for sharing of data by NWT. The Plan also includes proposals for routing visitors across some of the weakest points on the dunes which the Parish Council has questioned and NCC had indicated that they would support a bid to KL&WNBC's Habitats Monitoring and Mitigation Fund for improvements to the sea defence crossings at the Golf Course and The Saltings. The Draft VMP for Holme Dunes is currently undergoing revision and it is hoped that the final plan will be published shortly and will contain a variety of initial measures to help with the management of visitors over the coming season and a package of actions to be implemented in the longer term.

Meanwhile Councillor Amies has been made aware that the NWT was considering a booking system.

4.4. Saxon Shore Parish Forum (4 March 2021)

The Parish Council was represented by three councillors at the recent Saxon Shore Parish Forum (SSPF) hosted by Brancaster Parish Council. Presentations were made by the Police, County Highways, and the Norfolk Coast Partnership (NCP). Key points of discussion were

management of visitors in the AONB, traffic, car parking and recent responses to flooding. Other items of discussion were the anticipated outcomes of a government report (Glover Review) looking into the future of National Parks and AONBs and the possibility of a new National Landscape Service. The NCP also reported on the initial findings of their transport survey which attracted 1250 responses from across the coastal parishes and their initial thoughts on proposals to extend the Norfolk Coast AONB as part of a Boundary Review.

4.4. Online Rural Crime (8 March 2021) – Councillor Amies
Councillor Amies was unable to attend.

5. Public Participation

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

Member of the public expressed their surprise and disappointment that the Borough Council's Environmental Officer, in response to questions raised about air quality in relation to the current Planning Application for a campsite in Beach Road, was only concerned by that created by traffic and neglected effects of wood burning from BBQs and fire pits. They asked if this consideration could be included in the Parish Council's response to the Application which received a positive response.

6. Planning Matters

6.1. Applications received subsequent to this agenda

None

6.2. Applications for comment

6.2.1. 21/00300/F - Change of use of land to a 50 pitch campsite with toilet and shower-block, reception, general store and shepherds huts. Land at E569879 N342981, Beach Road – Expiry: 16 March

Concerns were expressed at the scale of the development (contrary to NPPF 172) and other policy considerations relevant to campsites in the AONB (SADMP Policy DM11 and NDP HNTS Policy 9); economic impact (no business plan as required by DM11); highway considerations (access details not provided, significant increase in vehicular traffic on a road shared with pedestrians and cyclists); impact on historic use of land in an AONB; visitor pressure (effects on protected environments and habitats). It was noted that there have been a significant number of objections to this Application.

Councillor Crown also referred to NDP HNTS Policy 5 which identifies this area as a Countryside Zone reserved for agriculture and important to maintaining a buffer zone with Old Hunstanton.

Councillor Jamieson felt the land was too poorly drained for the proposed use. He reported that he had contacted Highways to raise issues of access but they were not expected to object. It was believed that the existing access may be shared with the neighbouring property to the

north but the Parish Council was unable to confirm this shared access and noted that the site is poorly drained.

Application not supported – unanimous decision

6.2.2. **21/00239/F** - Re location of private drive to Holmbush. Holmbush, Thornham Road - Expiry: 19 March

Concerns were expressed over the safety of the proposed changes and the relationship with the proposals for expansion of the Fish Box – notably in relation to the location of the new bus stops; pedestrian access and segregation from traffic; location of the car park and number of spaces.

Councillor Jamieson clarified that owners of Holmbush want their own exclusive access.

Parish Council to request clarification on the above concerns

6.2.3. **21/00251/F** - Construction of outdoor riding arena. The Stables, 47 Main Road, PE36 6LA – Expiry: 23 March

Questions were raised over whether the site would be developed for commercial use now or in the future and what surface is to be laid.

Parish Council to request clarification on the above questions and request a condition preventing commercial use

6.3. Other Applications for information

None

6.4. Comments made on applications

6.4.1. **20/02070/F** - Construction of a two storey dwelling following demolition of existing dwelling. The Tower, Broadwater Road, PE36 6LQ – Additional consultation.

Parish Council has maintained its objection

6.4.2. **20/00737/F** - New dwelling following change of use of builders yard. Builders Yard, Thornham Road – Re-consultation

Parish Council has maintained its objection

6.5. Decisions Reported

6.5.1. **20/01081** - Land S of 60 And E of 71 Beach Road Holme next The Sea Norfolk - Proposed equestrian development. Application refused. *Delegated decision*

6.5.2. **20/01317/F** - Thurlow Cottage 16 Eastgate, PE36 6LL - Extensions & alterations to dwelling, and cart shed. Application Permitted. *Delegated Decision*

6.5.3. **20/01977/F** - Westgate Cottage, 37 Westgate, PE36 6LF - Construction of front boundary wall 2.1m high at eastern end graduating down over a 3m length to 1.5m high. Application Permitted. *Delegated Decision*

6.6. Appeals and Enforcement

6.6.1. **18/00319/UNAUTH - APP/V2635/C/18/3216570** - Land S of 38 to 42 Main Road – update

Inspector's visit had to be postponed due to Covid restrictions but a virtual Hearing is taking place on 16 March. It will deal only with the Poplars site and not Inglenook. Five Parish Councillors and Councillor Lawton are due to attend and members of the public can also attend.

7. Village matters

7.1. Telecoms mast – update

Councillor Devereux and Councillor Crown supported by Councillors Jamieson and Lawton attended a meeting with the agent (Clarke Telecom) on 26 February. Although not opposed in principle the Parish Council expressed its concern over the proposed location and the criteria used to determine the site and proximity to homes. It also suggested some alternative sites for the agent to consider which they have agreed to do. A response to the pre-application consultation has been made accompanied by a large number of comments from parishioners which were predominantly opposed to the proposed location. A formal statutory application is yet to be received but parishioners will have another opportunity to submit comments when this comes in.

7.2. Traffic survey

Clerk reported that he had received a copy of a survey used by Burnham Overy Parish Council to gather comments from residents on speeding and parking. This had been adapted for use in Holme-next-the-Sea to include questions on speeding and pre-circulated to councillors for comment. Councillor Devereux would like questions on car-parking added but emphasised that face-to-face consultations were preferable as it allowed questions to be placed in context and provided an opportunity to explain implications of options offered.

Councillor Burton was not aware of any evidence of frequent speeding on village lanes and reiterated that the Police do not enforce 20mph limits. Believed that those few who do speed will not be deterred by signage although felt that flashing reminder signs may prove more effective.

Councillors Norman and Crown felt a survey would be beneficial and, that although agreeing that speeding was not excessive in most cases, there were issues of perception and the fact that roads were shared with pedestrians made safety an issue.

The Chair pointed out that a good deal of background research into the issues had already been carried out by three members of the Parish Council and the discussions should be resumed by Councillors outside the current meeting. Agreed.

7.3. Re-location of dog waste bin

Councillor Burton requested the bin at Gore Point be re-located adjacent to the one at the entry to the golf course to respond to frequent problems with overspill at that location.

Concern expressed that removing it would result in a shortage of disposal options along the coastal footpath. Councillor Jamieson would be prepared to consider funding a new bin from his Local Members Fund.

Councillors Crown and Norman agreed to check use of bin at Gore Point

Councillor Amies to speak to NWT

Consider purchase of new bin at next meeting

8. Donation Request - St Mary's PCC to Parish Council (pre-circulated to councillors)

A sum of £1100 from the Parish Council to St Mary's PCC was agreed to be donated for help with maintaining the churchyard.

Proposed by Councillor Devereux and seconded by Councillor Burton

AGREED unanimously with one abstention (see Item 2)

9. Monthly Report from RFO

9.1. Report

RFO will begin to review the Parish Council's policies as required with emphasis on the Standing Orders and Internal Financial Controls. The former has not been fully reviewed since 2016 and the latter needs to be updated to reflect the move to online banking.

9.2. Payments for authorisation

PAYEE	REASON	AMOUNT	PAYMENT METHOD
Norfolk Citizen Advice	Donation fully review	£200	Bank Transfer Paid 4/3/21
British Gas	VH electricity (estimated) 2/2-17/2	£31.72	Direct Debit Paid 23/2/21
BT plc*	Telephone/broadband - February	£61.16	Direct Debit
British Gas	VH electricity (reading)	£60.53	Direct Debit Paid 4/3/21
D. Watkins	Clerk's salary	£546.76	Bank Transfer
D. Watkins	Land Registry	£3.00	Bank Transfer
HMRC	PAYE on Clerk's salary	£136.80	Bank Transfer
NALC	Training	£64.80	Bank Transfer
Witley Press	X5 copies of NDP sections	£274	Bank Transfer

*4 calls – x3 diverted calls and x1 from VH to Chair by Clerk - £9.72

AGREED unanimously

10. Correspondence

10.1 Any correspondence not otherwise on the Agenda

- **Consultation on a change to the planning system** – the government have launched a consultation on proposals that would involve each local planning authority being able to draw up their own design code in consultation with local people, to which developers

would have to adhere. This would involve changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) – Responses by 27 March

- **Virtual meetings after 7 May 2021** – Current legislation only allows virtual meetings to take place up to 7 May. Proposal to hold both Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Council Meeting on 4 May rather than 11 May was suggested by the Clerk.

AGREED unanimously

- **Wash and North Norfolk Marine Partnership** – Stakeholder Group meeting (18 March) – Councillor Crown to represent the Parish Council.
- **Homefields, Peddars Way** - Clerk notified by architect of Planning Application submitted for Homefields, Peddars Way and would like to attend next meeting. Clerk to liaise with architect.
- **NWT** – Councillor Amies had been in communication with the NWT over a range of issues – track maintenance; advance bookings; sharing of visitor counting data
- **Invitation to James Wild MP** - Councillor Amies reported that the Broadwater Road Residents Association have invited the local MP to visit when safe to do so, to discuss issues affecting the village and the AONB. They would like to extend that invitation to include the Parish Council. The Chair indicated this would be an opportunity for the PC to highlight some of the wider issues affecting the village.
- **Councillor Felgate** – Councillor Norman enquired about Councillor Felgate’s recent absences from Parish Council meetings. Confirmed that he had been contacted by both the Clerk and Chair but no response received to date.

11. Date of next meeting of the Parish Council Tuesday 13 April 2021 (arrangements to be confirmed)

Meeting finished at 9.10pm