

HOLME-NEXT-THE-SEA PARISHCOUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held online Tuesday 1st September 2020 at 7pm

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

In Attendance: Dave Watkins (Parish Clerk) and 2 members of the public

1. Apologies for Absence and approval of reasons:

Councillor Kevin Felgate (dispensation given from attending meetings until December 2020), Councillor Seare (work commitments), Councillor Andrew Jamieson (NCC), Councillor Lawton (KLWNBC)

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14 July 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 14 July 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 – answers to questions regarding insurance had been obtained by the Clerk relating to theft of the cabinet and unit. A subsequent question as to whether it covered replacement of equipment after use is to be followed up by the Clerk.

Subject to satisfactory response received to question about insurance it was agreed that the Clerk should proceed with purchasing the defibrillator package as agreed at July's meeting

(3.2) 20mph speed limit zone

Clerk to bring report, detailing process and costs to October Parish Council meeting

(8.1) Parish Partnership 2021 / 2022 fund – Clerk had contacted NCC Highways with three suggestions proposed by Council:

- Trod from Westgate / Beach Road junction to bridge over the River Hun – approximate cost would be £3600 (180m @ £20/square metre). Some additional costs may be incurred if signs need to be moved or drainage re-aligned.
- Speed control measures – Highways would not normally consider requests such as this unless evidence of speeding / accidents were provided
- Footbridge across the River Hun. Highways had recently installed a 7m bridge in Snettisham at a cost of £18k. Bridge required in Holme would be longer and therefore cost was not considered feasible.

Signed Chair

LS Devereux.

Date 13th October 2020

- All successful bids are on the basis of 50/50 contribution between Parish Council and NCC

Council agreed that a trod was the most feasible basis for a bid. Clerk to make further enquiries and formulate a specification which can be offered out for quotations.

(8.2) Norfolk Coast Partnership small grant fund – Clerk has spoken to Helen Timson (Projects Officer). NCP not keen on increasing signage on the landscape but support providing information on existing structures – toilet block, pub, bus shelter, bike rack, benches. Enquiries also made about what help may be available for a pond restoration. Clerk referred on to Norfolk Ponds Project who may have some funding to add to any successful NCP bid.

Clerk to pursue and report with an update to the next meeting

(9.1) Restoration / repair / replacement of village benches – since agreement at last meeting to purchase new benches the Clerk had identified additional costs which he felt Council should be aware of. A range of revised quotes ranging from £870 to £1540, that compared restoration against new purchases, were considered.

AGREED to purchase three new basic recycled plastic seats with appropriate fixings.

(9.3) Letter of thanks to Marianne Charles – Clerk confirmed this had been sent.

(11.1) LINK article – Clerk confirmed that an account of the July meeting had been published

4. Coronavirus pandemic

4.1. Village Hall re-opening and Parish Council meetings

Councillor Burton reported that the Village Hall was now open for events and had hosted an art exhibition with everyone following government guidance to protect against the spread of Covid-19.

The Clerk reported that the government's guidance around the holding of Parish Council meetings remotely had been updated but that online was still the preferred option.

Clerk to circulate guidance note from National Association of Local Councils (NALC)

5. Reports

5.1. County Councillor and Borough Councillor reports

None

5.2. AONB Management Plan and consultation on boundary extension

5.2.1. Councillor Devereux reported on the completely revised Plan which covers the whole of the Norfolk Coast AONB and looks forward as far as 2024. Focussing on the landscape, it presents a vision together with objectives for achieving that vision and arrangements for monitoring and review. However, does not include policies on how those objectives will be achieved. Other omissions are any information on Protected Sites or linking in with NDPs.

Deadline for comments is 25 September 2020.

Councillors to review and send comments by 15 September 2020 to Councillor Devereux who will compile response.

5.2.2. A separate exercise involves the NCP asking parishes if they would like to see any changes to the AONB boundaries (although the Management Plan indicates that there will not be changes to the boundaries in the foreseeable future). The whole of Holme-next-the-Sea is in the AONB. Clear that the local community would like it to remain so. However in the neighbouring parishes of Old Hunstanton and Ringstead only parts of the parish fall within the designation – and it's known that Old Hunstanton would like to have the whole parish designated so Holme Parish Council may be asked to lend their support.

5.3. SAM2 traffic statistics

The latest statistics from the SAM2 monitoring units in Main Road and Beach Road were presented. Westbound traffic on Main Road in August totalled 97,969 vehicles of which over 30% exceeded the speed limit. Northbound traffic on Beach Road for the same period was 12,913 which equates to 32,283 visitors (based on an average of 2.5 people per vehicle).

Figures for Beach Road January – August show 39,022 vehicles (97,555 visitors). This excludes 1-13 January and 3 March-6 May when the unit was not in operation, which means real figure is much higher.

6. Public Participation

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

- Tony Foster, who runs the Village Information Network (VIN) reported that they now have 169 subscribers
- A member of the public reported that trees on the Village Green have become overgrown and require cutting back as do the verges. Councillor Crown responded that a skip was required and he would undertake the work if he had some assistance. Member of the public and Councillor Burton volunteered to help.
Parish Council to hire skip in the Autumn to undertake this work.
- A member of the public reported that the Coast Path / National Trail was in a very poor state and following a fall that they had reported this to the County Councillor for the area (Andrew Jamieson). Some remedial work has already been undertaken and more is expected.

7. Planning Matters

7.1. Applications received subsequent to publication of Agenda

None

7.2. Applications for comment

7.2.1. **20/01081/FM** - Proposed equestrian development Land S of 60 And E of 71 Beach Road.
Expiry date for consultation: 2 September 2020

The site is approximately 5ha with permission being sought to develop 0.9ha including grazing land and access. Application seeks to gain approval for a livery business consisting of 7 stables plus a foaling box, tack room, livery tack room, feed room, barn for storage, staff room and

washroom (266 sq. metres new space). Vehicle access is proposed from Beach Road. Separate on-site track is proposed for horses / riders.

The Parish Council consider this to be an inappropriate development within the AONB with regards to its effect on the landscape, light pollution and maintaining a buffer zone between Holme and Old Hunstanton. Site is Grade 2 Farm Land. The impact on Protected Sites, dunes, habitats and wildlife by visitors and horses has not been taken into account. Similarly, access, traffic generation, road safety and parking implications are not covered in the application in how it affects the local amenity. No impact assessments f (HRA and archaeology) have been included. Flood Risk and drainage for this poorly drained, low-lying site have not been considered. The Parish Council also expressed their concern about the economic impact and intensification of activity this business would bring. Two stables already exist within the village and extra visitors would impact on existing environmental concerns. It was felt no plausible business case had been made and the likely negative impacts on the AONB, the Protected Sites, road safety and local amenity clearly outweighed the potential benefits to the local economy.

Not supported

7.3. Other applications for information

7.3.1. **20/00142/TREECA** - Trees in a Conservation Area: Fell 4 Poplars - remainder of row have been felled already due to moth infestation Whitehall Farm, 26 Kirkgate. *Application not required.*

7.4. Comments made on applications

7.4.1. **20/01034/F** - Construction of new porch, modifications to windows and doors, reconstruct ground floor bathroom with more appropriately pitched roof above, modifications to existing garage 1 & 3 (Studley Cottage & Kitley Cottage), Westgate.

No observations either in favour or against the proposal

7.5. Decisions reported

7.5.1. **19/01662/NMA_1** - Kitley Cottage, 3 Westgate - NON-MATERIAL AMENDMENT TO PLANNING CONSENT 19/01662/F: Construction of new porch, modifications to windows and doors, reconstruct ground floor bathroom with more appropriately pitched roof above, modifications to existing garage. *Application Refused. Delegated Decision.*

7.5.2. **20/00122/TREECA** - Whitehall Farm 26 Kirkgate Holme next The Sea Norfolk PE36 6LH - Trees in a Conservation Area: Fell group of 17 poplars due to heavy infestation of Hornet Clearwing moth causing decay in the trunks, and movement at baseplate. Sycamore 1- close to the building with the chimney, reduce by 2m and deadwood. Sycamore 2, 4, 5 - deadwood. Sycamore 3 - fell. *Tree Application - No objection Delegated Decision*

7.5.3. **20/00141/TREECA** - Whitehall Farm 26 Kirkgate Holme next The Sea Norfolk PE36 6LH - G1 Poplars (4) - Fell, remainder of row have been felled already due to moth infestation within a conservation area. *Tree Application - No objection. Delegated Decision*

8. Village matters

8.1. Dogs on leads signs

Complaint had been received from a local resident about dogs being walked in the village without leads. They are concerned over danger to dogs and road users / potential accidents and had asked Council to consider placing signs on exits from Park Piece and other locations especially, Beach Road.

Council considered the request but in the absence of other complaints and the difficulties in enforcement, Council agreed not to support this.

9. Monthly Report from RFO

An email has been received from PKF Littlejohn, the external auditors, confirming they are due to begin work on our AGAR submission for 2019 / 2020. It is hoped that we will receive feedback before October's Council meeting.

9.1. Payments for Authorisation

PAYEE	REASON	AMOUNT	PAYMENT METHOD
Earth Anchors Ltd	Dog waste bin	£188.34	Bank Transfer (28/7/20)
Lawnright Garden Maintenance	Grass cutting	£303.00	Bank Transfer
British Gas	Village Hall electricity (15 June to 23 July 2020)	£29.35	Direct Debit (6/8/20)
British Gas	Village Hall electricity (24 July to 26 August 2020)	£29.54	Direct Debit
BT plc	Phone and broadband (1 July -31 August 2020) and setting up of Cloud Voice Express (one-off payment)	£100.13	Direct Debit (17/8/20)
D. Watkins	Clerk's salary	£504.55	Bank Transfer (11/8/20)
HMRC	PAYE on Clerk's salary	£126.20	Bank Transfer (11/8/20)
D. Watkins	Expenses for purchase of strimmer from Toolstation	£513.96	Bank Transfer (20/8/20)

Agreed unanimously

10. Correspondence

10.1 Any correspondence not otherwise on the Agenda

- **Government proposals to changes to the planning system (White Paper August 2020) - Key Proposed Changes**

- To replace the current decision-making process (case by case / discretionary) by a rules-based approach.
- To extend the Permission in Principle for Major Development so developers have a fast route to building housing without first having to present detailed plans.
- To simplify Local Plans by dividing land into three categories to speed up the process of granting permission:
 - a. 'Growth' areas suitable for substantial development
 - b. 'Renewal' areas suitable for some development
 - c. 'Protected' areas where development is restricted.

The main aim of this proposal is to reduce the time it takes to secure planning permission. Intention is to have a simplified system, with an easier application process, which will be much less time consuming, for both the applicant and the local authority.

Agreed that the Parish Council needs to review proposals in detail and consider how they will impact on villages such as Holme-next-the-Sea and its ability to have a say in what happens. Consultation deadline is 1 October. Councillor Devereux asked that any comments be sent to her by 21 September so that she could compile a response.

- **Coastal Parishes Working Together** – initiative by Hunstanton Town Council in partnership with NCP and Police to address the problem of coastal litter and encourage positive social behaviour. Aims to get people using bins provided and / or taking home their litter. Posters, beach cleans, education workshops, story competitions proposed. Posters, signs, banners, stickers available soon. No costs involved in the setting up and designing of the campaign but request that posters and other materials are paid for at cost, this will be a small nominal amount. If Parish Council wants to join, then it needs to send a logo for inclusion on publicity.

Parish Council supports initiative. Parish Clerk to respond to Hunstanton Town Council and send logo.

- **Sifting Panel** – Councillor Devereux updated Council on Councillor Moriarty's successful efforts to ensure that Parish Councils' that in cases where a PC's and Officer's recommendations were at odds PC would be given an opportunity to take their case to Planning Committee, provided it was based on material considerations.
- **Fire safety** – Council was informed about an incident requiring the attendance of the Fire Brigade. At 6.30pm on 20 August they extinguished a fire in a field owned by Mr. A. McGinn. The Fire Brigade had been called out and advised the owner on fire safety, especially during windy conditions.

Clerk to invite a representative from Norfolk Fire and Rescue to the next meeting of the Parish Council

- **Statement of Licensing Policy Review** – Parish Council has been asked to comment on the Borough Council's 5-year review of this policy. Deadline is 12 October – any comments to Clerk.
- **NALC training courses** – Clerk had circulated a list of upcoming courses to councillors on 20 August and asked that anyone wishing to attend to contact him to make a booking.
- **Invest in West Norfolk** - This is a Borough Council survey asking what measures could be taken to support and encourage retail businesses in the area. Councillor Devereux reported on the results of the survey which the Parish Council had responded to. There had been 114 responses from business and 154 from consumers. Most popular requests from Parish Councils had been for hand sanitiser stations, safety posters, lamppost banners and pavement markings but it appears that implementation will be focused on high streets with little consideration of rural shopping areas.
- **Enforcement:**
 - **Inglenook** - A case file (20/00301/UNAUTU) has been raised and the owners / occupiers have been advised to cease operations.
 - **Little Holme** – Parish Council has been copied into an email sent from a resident to Enforcement regarding a wooden structure in a field west of Little Holme. Resident's email highlighted that owner of the field applied for lawful use in 2019 (19/00439/LDE) and was refused.

11. Date of next meeting of the Parish Council: Tuesday 13 October 2020 (arrangements to be confirmed)