

North Runcton Parish Council

Minutes of the North Runcton Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Meeting Place

Tuesday 8th March 2022 7.45pm

Present: Cllr R Morrish (Chair), Cllr K Fuller, Cllr P Yallop, Cllr S Palmer, Cllr L Gunn, Cllr K Williams, Cllr J Braybrook, Cllr B Houchen, Cllr J Fuller

In attendance: The Clerk – Rachel Curtis - 3 members of the public, Bor Cllr Gidney, Bor Cllr S Nash and County Cllr J Moriarty

1. To accept any apologies - None

2. Declaration of Interest / Dispensation in items on the Agenda

Item 10 – The Common Gate – Cllr Braybrook and Cllr Williams.

3. County and Borough Councillors Matters

Bor Cllr Peter Gidney reported there will be more funding available in April from the members fund. The tennis club in North Runcton will benefit from a grant this time round.

Project planning is going ahead for the Towns Fund, much work is being done there.

Borough Councillors are trying to ensure there is sufficient scrutiny of the Town Deal Board. Cllr Gunn asked if Peter thought funding from central government would ever be withdrawn for schemes such as this given the political situation and events of conflict unfolding between Russia and the Ukraine. Peter didn't think it would be as monies have already been allocated, although at present there are too many unknowns to be sure of any financial stability.

Bor Cllr Simon Nash gave an update of a planning committee meeting he attended where the demolished wall at the Deerfields site at Setch was discussed. There is an application to build a replacement wall – but this doesn't mean it will be delivered. He will be following this up with the Borough. He encouraged Parish Councils to actively participate in planning committee meetings when they are invited as it is important to represent resident's views.

County Cllr Jim Moriarty had circulated a report prior to the meeting and mentioned some points including:

The Government has opened negotiations with NCC on the idea of a Mayor of Norfolk based at the County Hall. The question will be initially what powers will be delegated down along with what funding. There will be no matching reorganisation of local government and this will not happen in the short term as the manner of governance at County changed from Committee to Cabinet in recent years and cannot change again due to primary legislation for bidding it. Probably looking at 2025.

Road Safety Community Fund - No news until after the Council's Highways Capital Budget setting Committee meets in the next few weeks, but the fund has been heavily oversubscribed.

Norfolk County Council have funded the Norfolk Association of Local Councils (Norfolk ALC) to employ two members of staff who will be dedicated to improving the link between the county council and Norfolk's town and parish councils.

The Norfolk County Council Pension fund has decided to dis-invest in Russia and Belarus given the situation currently in the Ukraine.

Cllr Morrish raised a point regarding waste management within the Borough. He said taxpayers pay NCC for the recycling centre operations; are asked to pay additional sums to leave a range of materials and then pay BCKLWN to collect fly-tipped material possibly because people don't like the extra charges. He asked for the County /Borough Cllrs to lobby for more 'joined up thinking'.

4. Public Participation

- The PCC will be holding a coffee morning on Saturday 14th May 10-12pm to raise funds for the flower festival. There will be a community hour event held in the VMP on 25th June at 3pm. The flower festival will take place 8th July – 10th July. Lilian Fisher is sponsoring a calendar which will be sold at the flower festival with all proceeds to go to the Church.
- A resident asked for clarification on the discussions regarding the Common Gate as it was not clear in the February minutes – this will be covered in item 10.
- A resident asked about the applications regarding the Morston Point development and stated that it would be a good idea to suggest parking spaces for motor homes be included.

5. To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th February 2022

The Council approved the minutes and the Chairman duly signed.

6. Clerks Report on any matters arising from the minutes of 8th February and subsequently any matters arising that have been actioned not on the agenda for this month's meeting

- Work is ongoing by the Clerk to find out how the PC can proceed regarding the path alongside the Church. Several queries will need to be lodged with the Land Registry to try to obtain some more information.
- A resident has asked permission to allow guests to park on the Green on 28th May as she is holding a wedding reception in her garden. Cllr J Fuller (as common reeve) agreed to the request, the Church does not have an event on that day and Councillors agreed to support the request.
- Cllr Williams asked Councillors to consider holding the PC meeting at an earlier time. She feels that 7.45 is a late start time compared to some other Parish Councils and suggested starting at 7.30pm. The majority of Councillors prefer the later start time due to work commitments and home arrangements, therefore it was agreed to continue to start the meetings at 7.45pm.

7. To hear any reports from the SAM 2 sign

Cllr Braybrook reported the camera positioned at the Rectory Lane site near to Garden House recorded 16,000 vehicle movements for February. This is twice as many vehicles as those recorded on New Road the month before. However speeding occurred on New Road 3 times more than on Rectory Lane. The majority of speeding was recorded at 40mph or above. Councillors agreed that evidence shows that it may be beneficial to ask the police to attend with a speed gun.

8. To report on VMP management matters

- There have been some small repairs and maintenance items which Cllr Morrish and Cllr Palmer have taken care of. Cllr Morrish suggested that the Hall may be in need of some redecoration this summer holidays and is looking for contractors to ask for quotes for consideration by the PC.

9. North Runcton and Hardwick Common Volunteers Update

Upcoming events;

12th March – Bird box making session. 26th March – Litter pick. Details can be found on the facebook page – *North Runcton and Hardwick Conservation Volunteers*

10. Action Planning – to consider PC events/projects for 2022

- Queens Jubilee Celebrations – Cllr K Fuller and Cllr J Braybrook confirmed that the Cricket Club will hold a celebration on Thursday 2nd June with a beacon lighting. The Clerk has applied for a grant of £150 from the Borough Council for the PC tea party celebration on Sunday 5th June. **ACTION:** Clerk to design a leaflet for distribution within the village to advertise this.
- The Common Gate - The issue of the common gate being difficult to open and close by people with less mobility has been raised within the Parish Council. It is felt that people who are less mobile are in effect 'trapped' within the gated area. Cllr Braybrook has researched an electric gate option which could be opened by a resident having their own fob, this would remotely open and close the gate without the need to get out of their car. Councillors are reviewing a list of pro and cons and Cllr Braybrook is working through some of these to determine if this idea could be achieved and potential costings before a decision is made whether to go ahead or not. He is seeking the assistance of Farmwatch and hopes to meet Cllr J Fuller and Peter Lemon soon to discuss the idea. An electricity supply is required and investigation is ongoing to find a nearby source to possibly link up to. NCC

Highways have supported the idea in principle, but they require further information before forming an opinion. There are other issues to consider, such as who would be eligible to have a fob, how much they would cost and whether these would be available to all residents. A question was also raised as to why only the gate at the Common Lane cottages is being considered to be changed and not the others. It was reiterated by Cllr Morrish that this idea is only at the discussion and fact finding stage and there is further discussion required on viability.

11. Highways – the Council will discuss any Highways issues

The potholes on the Twisty Twiney are getting bigger ACTION: Clerk to follow up on this report to Highways.

12. Planning

a) 18/01966/RMM - Reserved Matters: Erection of supermarket at Morston Point Land North East of Scania Way, Hardwick Industrial Estate

18/01967/RM - Reserved Matters: Erection of food establishment/drive thru takeaway at Morston Point Land North East of Scania Way, Hardwick Industrial Estate

18/02289/OM - Outline application, Land at West Winch, up to 500 homes with neighbourhood centre, associated landscaping, parking and supporting infrastructure

The above 3 applications were discussed and it was agreed to update and confirm comments which had been submitted previously.

b) Decisions received from BCKLWN – none

c) Comments made to BCKLWN - none

13. To hear any other planning issues relevant to the Neighbourhood plan

The PC and West Winch PC met via Zoom with County and Borough Officers recently to discuss the relief road project and hear an update. The matter of the speed limit on the new road being 40mph was discussed again with an indication that this will be the limit once the road is completed.

Ben Colson has contacted the PC along with West Winch PC to invite the Parishes to join with North Wootton, South Wootton and Castle Rising to form a 5 Parish lobby group. The draft of the first letter to be sent on behalf of this group has been agreed and awaiting to be sent to Borough and County Councillors. The letter will outline concerns with planning and highways matters affecting all Parishes with their respective planning applications for housing developments.

14. Correspondence

– Buttercups have asked the PC to publicise a request for volunteers to join the committee to assist with the management of the pre-school. Nobody at the meeting felt that they had the time to commit to taking this on board – but the clerk will put it on the PC website.

- A thank you for the clearance of a tree which blew over in New Road during the recent storm. It transpired that this was a joint effort between Mr Cox and Mr Yallop – and the PC wished to extend thanks to both.

15. Finance

a) Cllr Morrish reported that the Clerks cost of living pay increase as per the National Joint Council Pay Scales had been agreed for the financial year 21/22. This equates to 0.21p increase per hour for the Clerk, and Councillors agreed for this to be paid in her March salary.

b) To hear an update on Cashbook balances - 1st February – 28th February 2022

	Opening Balance 01/02/22	Less Nov Chqs	Less DD's	Add income	Closing Balance 28/02/22
	£	£	£	£	£
NRPC Account	37,601.76	618.12	2.40	0.00	36,981.24
VMP Account	23,671.23	1,082.03	617.27	412.50	22,384.43
					59,365.67

The following amounts were approved for payment;

Date	Supplier	Description of Service	Amount on Invoice £	VAT element - non recoverable £
<i>From VMP Account</i>				
19/01/22	R Curtis	Salary 6 th Feb – 5 th Mar 22	152.88	0.00
05/02/22	S Palmer	Batteries	10.21	0.00
05/02/22	Mr Brights	Cleaning Feb 22	194.74	0.00
			357.83	
<i>From NRPC Account</i>				
05/01/22	R Curtis	Clerks Salary 6 th Feb – 5 th Mar 22	586.56	0.00
16/03/22	BCKLWN	Dog Bin Emptying	296.40	0.00
08/03/22	R Morrish	NR&HV – Bird Box materials	131.90	
			1,014.86	

16. Public Participation – all members of the public welcome – 5 minute session

None

**17. Items for future agenda – discuss the website style and content
- review policies and procedures**

18. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 12th April 2022

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed 12th April 2022