

North Runcton Parish Council

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

Tuesday 8th November 2022 - 7.45pm

Present: Cllr R Morrish (Chair), Cllr P Yallop, Cllr J Fuller, Cllr J Braybrook, Cllr K Fuller, Cllr S Palmer.

In attendance: The Clerk – Rachel Curtis, Bor Cllr Nash, Bor Cllr Gidney, County Cllr J Moriarty and 5 members of the public

1. To accept any apologies – Cllr B Houchen, Cllr K Williams, Cllr L Gunn

2. Declaration of Interest / Dispensation in items on the Agenda - None

3. County and Borough Councillors Matters

- Cllr Gidney said he had attended an R&D committee meeting at the Borough where he presented a talk on the issues of climate change. It was agreed that these issues are real and that the rate of change needs to be recognised. He also reported that a Tourism Strategy working group has been formed and more feedback will be given about this in the coming months. There has also been discussion in the planning committee about an application for an anaerobic digester.
- Cllr Nash has been monitoring work being done by the Standards Committee in introducing a new standards regime. It is recognised that this is a complex document that members of the public would be expected to navigate if they had any issues to be raised. There was no clear answer at the recent Corporate Performance Panel as to why WWPC and NRPC were not included in the consultation process for the Town Deal Fund. Cllr Nash will be taking an interest in matters concerning the Guildhall after a recent visit.
- Cllr Moriarty gave the headlines of his report which had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. There is a County Council programme to help adults promote numeracy skills. The Norfolk Strategic Flood Alliance are working to keep water courses flowing freely as we approach the wet winter weather.
- The Household support fund has been released with packages available to communities through a wide range of initiatives.
- Norfolk Community Foundation will receive funding of £220,000 to provide grants to VCSE organisations, including community groups and Parish Councils, who wish to provide warm spaces for vulnerable people who may struggle to heat their own homes.
- There is ongoing advice for bird keepers amid the bird flu outbreak.
- Budget cuts are affecting roads whereby the intervention criteria is now greater for filling in of potholes. The new 50mph speed limit to be introduced on the A47 will be continued onto New Road up to the existing 30mph limit through the village.

4. Public Participation –

- An update from the PCC – A thank you to the Parish Council for their annual contribution to the grass cutting. There will be a service of remembrance at All Saints on 11th November and one held at Middleton Church on 13th. The Christmas Eve service will be held at All Saints with a similar format as pre COVID years.
- There is an art exhibition at the Guildhall 12th – 26th November where members of the North Runcton Art Group will have their work exhibited. Cllr Morrish asked if the group will hold an exhibition at the VMP next year? The group are hindered by their ability to move the heavy boards and tables to set up the hall. Cllr Morrish and Cllr Palmer said that if any help was needed to enable the exhibition to take place at the VMP they were sure it would be possible to gather some volunteers.
- A resident asked about the status of the application for Jacaranda –the PC has not further information following the comment made at the last meeting. No revised plan seems to have yet been submitted. Clerk to find out if BCKLWN intend to determine the current application.
- A community liaison manager (James Ingham) from the broadband company UPP, attended the meeting to introduce the services they have to offer. Their aim is to make broadband services as

accessible as possible using full fibre broadband across the county. Residents can sign up as an interested party and the next update will be in 3-6 months. There is no minimum number of residents needed to sign up for a scheme to take place. It was interesting to note that the company is keen to support local communities in offering time and financial support to charities and local groups. As UPP uses existing ducts for their fibre a resident asked how this would work in Cedar Grove where there are no ducts and cables are just laid bare under the path. James said he would look into this.

Cllr Moriarty left the meeting at this point.

5. To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th October 2022

The Council approved the minutes and the Chairman duly signed.

6. Clerks Report on any matters arising from the minutes of 11th October 2022 and subsequently any matters arising that have been actioned not on the agenda for this month's meeting

- Spire Solicitors have said they would speak to the PC about the 'coffin way', however any advice given will now be chargeable. There was some discussion again about whether the PC should take on the maintenance of this path and the trees lining it and whether it is right that they should take this on board considering there is no proof of ownership.
- An investigation as to who owns the half of Old Hall Walk which leads onto New Road has proved inconclusive. Again there was discussion over the upkeep of this pathway as the PC only legally owns one half.

ACTION: It was agreed in principal that the PC should ensure that both of these established rights of way are maintained and safe to use. In order to formally look at these areas in detail it was suggested that they should be reviewed by the Risk Management Group who will report back to the PC.

7. To hear any reports from the SAM 2 sign

Data reported by Cllr Braybrook shows that speeding is getting more frequent and speeds are increasing as Rectory Lane is becoming a hotspot. In order to build a full picture of what is happening the PC needs to collate this information and the data collected from Cllr Stevens in order to show what has been happening over time. It was suggested that another SAM2 camera could be purchased and that training for a new team to run the speedwatch could be organised for February.

8. To discuss traffic safety at the Common Gate

Cllr Braybrook brought to the PC's attention that in his view it is dangerous for the common gates to be closed at night despite Cllr J Fuller adding reflective tape to the gate rails. This was discussed by Councillors and the feeling is that while there is a potential hazard it is a very low risk. Only one collision with a gate was thought to have occurred in the past and this was apparently in daylight hours. Cllr J Fuller stated that, legally, stock could be kept on the common overnight, although generally they were taken off before dusk and the gates left open. He requested that residents do not leave the gate open themselves as he had recently had to round up cattle that had escaped in the dark. He stated the as the grazier he carries insurance and in the event of an accident at a gate there would be no liability on the PC as a rights holder.

9. To report on VMP management matters

- No further information regarding the PV panels.
- The drains, downpipes and gutters have been cleared.
- The batteries in the smoke alarms have been changed.
- Cllr Morrish has received a quote for a new side gate with new ironmongery to be fitted and painted for £1,030 incl VAT. Some Cllrs felt this was expensive and a second quote should be obtained.
- The Clerk had circulated correspondence to Cllrs from the lady who runs the yoga sessions at the VMP on a Monday and Wednesday night. She has submitted several complaints regarding other hirers leaving the floor dirty with the need for her to sweep up before she can begin her class. Cllrs said that all hirers are responsible for leaving the floor clean after their sessions which is stated in the hire agreement. The Clerk has spoken to all hirers and reminded them to sweep the floors after their sessions especially as the weather gets wetter and people have dirty shoes. The suggestion that injury to any yoga participants from items left on the floor would be covered by the insurance of the previous hirer of the hall was discounted.

10. North Runcton and Hardwick Common Volunteers Update

A successful clear up day was held recently with help and thanks to the RRT. A village litter pick session will be held on 19th November.

11. Action Planning – to consider PC events/projects for 2022/23

- It was agreed to organise a VMP Quiz Night Friday 13th January cost £8.50 per person in teams of 6.
- Celebrations for the Kings Coronation in May 2023 were discussed with the possibility of holding the village fete again after several years – to be discussed further.

12. Highways – the Council will discuss any Highways issues

Jobs for the Rangers –
 Leaves to be cleared at Cedar Grove and Hall Drive.
 Strim vegetation at the bus shelter on the A10
 A hedge in front of Blacksmiths Cottages is obscuring sight lines at the New Road Junction. Cllr Morrish said he would ask the resident to cut it back. Low branches were reported on the beech tree on the green. Consider pruning in the new year.

13. Planning

- a) 22/01866/A – Advertisement boards on the roundabout at Greenyard Way – no comment.
- b) Decisions received from BCKLWN – none
22/01244/F – Field Cottage 2 Meadow Grove – proposed car port – Application Permitted.
22/01612/F – 25 The Green – rear extension – Application Permitted
- c) Comments - none

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

The consultation for the Housing Access road will start on 14th November and run until 8th January. There will be an exhibition at the VMP on 10th December. Information will be posted on the website and in a submission to the newsletter.

15. Correspondence –

- Feedback regarding the PC’s comments on the A47 speed limits consultation.
- An update regarding the Offshore Wind - Norfolk Parishes Movement for an OTN

16. Finance

- a) **To hear an update on Cashbook balances - 1st Sept - 31st October 2022**

	Opening Balance 01/09/22	Less Chqs	Less DD's	Add income	Closing Balance 31/10/22
	£	£	£	£	£
NRPC Account	47,754.98	1,678.80	2.40	14.64	46,088.42
VMP Account	22,029.74	842.90	2,438.49	1,187.50	19,935.85
					66,024.27

The following amounts were approved for payment;

Date	Supplier	Description of Service	Amount on Invoice	VAT element - non recoverable
			£	£
<u>VMP Account</u>				
05/11/22	R Curtis	Clerks Salary 6 th Oct – 5 th Nov 22	158.73	0.00

20/11/22	Mr Brights	Cleaning Oct 22	194.74	0.00
			353.47	
<u>NRPC</u>				
05/11/22	R Curtis	Clerks Salary 6 th Oct – 5 th Dec 22	608.01	0.00
31/10/22	CGM	Cutting – Oct 22	67.86	0.00
			675.87	

17. Public Participation – all members of the public welcome – 5 minute session - None

18. Items for future agenda –
Common Gate update, Precept, Website

19. Date of next meeting – 13th December 2022

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed 13th December 2022