

North Runcton Parish Council

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

Tuesday 14th March 2023 - 7.45pm

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

In attendance: The Clerk – Rachel Curtis, 11 members of the public

1. To accept any apologies – Cllr K Williams, Cllr B Houchen, Bor Cllr Moriarty

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

3. County and Borough Councillors Matters

Cllr Moriarty had sent a report which has been distributed to all Councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Gidney spoke about the upcoming Borough Council elections and that there are many projects ongoing within the town at the moment including the multi user hub and library.

4. Public Participation –

- Cllr Gunn reported that the pot hole on Rectory Lane had not been marked by NCC for filling – Clerk to chase up.
- A resident asked if the Parish Council had followed up with National Highways regarding the changes to the junction marking at New Road onto the A47. A response has been sent, ACTION: the Clerk now needs to forward residents' concerns and state that there have been 4 accidents on the road since the markings were changed.

5. To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14th February 2023

The Council approved the minutes and the Chairman duly signed.

6. Clerks Report on any matters arising from the minutes of 14th February 2023 and subsequently any matters arising that have been actioned not on the agenda for this month's meeting

Nothing to report.

7. To hear any reports from the SAM 2 sign

Cllr Braybrook reported the fastest speed recorded for this report was 65mph, with 30% of motorists speeding. Cllr Braybrook has contacted the Police to ask if traffic monitoring devices can be installed in North Runcton, the initial response from the Police was not favourable. Clerks Note: Since the meeting the Police agreed to install 2 devices in the village. They subsequently found that there was a high number of speeding vehicles on Rectory Lane and will be looking at further action.

A piece has been published in the newsletter to ask for volunteers for the speed watch group. It is hoped that enough people will come forward to enable training to be arranged and the group re-started.

8. To report on VMP management matters

- The contractor will be in the Hall between 3rd and 14th April to redecorate. Colours need to be chosen prior to work commencing.
- There have been some drainage issues with a collection of matter which had to be removed from the adjacent sewer. It is unclear as to whether the blockage had arisen from the VMP drains or from neighbouring properties. The Clerk has sent an email to all hirers to make them aware and to be mindful of what they wash/flush away.
- Provision of providing sanitary/nappy bins was discussed. However at a cost of approximately £900 a year to provide this service it was agreed to monitor the situation.

9. North Runcton and Hardwick Common Volunteers Update

- Although a litter pick has only recently been carried out, it was agreed that another could be done possibly at the end of April.

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

- King's Coronation May 2023 – The suggestion of holding an event on 7th May was discussed again and Cllr K Fuller has a potential provider for a hog roast. It was agreed that the event should be free to residents to attend with the cost being met by the Parish Council and the concert would be shown on the projector in the main Hall. ACTION: Clerk to produce a leaflet including an RSVP to get an idea of numbers.

11. Highways – the Council will discuss any Highways issues

There are bad potholes on Rectory Lane – Clerk to report again.

12. Planning

a) Applications Considered

23/00228/CU - Change of use of Managers accommodation (No 39 The Green)) and cabin 5 of Hays Wood Retreat due to alternate access approved under permission 18/00064/F - swapping cabin 5 to managers accommodation and holiday let use of No 39 The Green at Hay's Wood Retreat, Setch Road, Blackborough End, PE32 1XU

Councillors agreed that they had no objection to this application. And the terms of the easement now mean that access from School Lane will now be limited to emergency vehicles only. Clerk to contact the SDA to confirm this.

b) Comments

c) Decisions from the Borough Council

23/00231/PAGPD - 51 New Road, PE33 0QR - Single storey extension to rear of property which extends beyond the rear wall by 4.18M with maximum height of 2.56M and a height of 3.58M to the eaves – Application Withdrawn

22/01293/F – Replacement place of worship at Jacaranda, 65 New Road – application permitted.

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

West Winch Growth Area – Cllr Morrish gave a summary of a meeting attended 2nd March. The Local Plan examination had been adjourned to allow BCKLWN time to prepare more information to support their proposals. The examiners queried the nature of the proposed A10/railway 'Strategic Growth Corridor', when 40% of Borough housing growth is proposed at West Winch, whilst comparatively little is allocated at Downham or Watlington. They questioned how the Core Strategy Policy for 1,600 dwellings at WWGA by 2026 had ballooned to 2,500 dwellings by 2036 (and 4,000 dwellings in the fullness of time) in the current plan. They have stated there is simply not the evidence to show that the site is capable of absorbing this amount of development. However, BCKLWN officers stated they propose to side step this matter by striking out all reference to the 'strategic corridor'. They will not be allocating more development at Downham or Watlington and would be working on the evidence to support the plan for 4,000 houses at West Winch.

Wash Barrage - Cllr Morrish and the Clerk attended a Teams meeting hosted by the King's Lynn Joint Advisory Group for the Wash to participate in a discussion regarding the proposal made by a group called 'Centre Port' for an 11 mile long 'hydroelectric dam' from north of Boston to east of Hunstanton, including plans for port expansion at Boston and a road along the whole structure. It was clear that there had been little consultation about the plan or any feasibility or environmental assessments carried out. At present groups who work in and around the Wash are sceptical of the idea.

14. Correspondence –

1 – A letter regarding a Creation of Woodland near Boundary House, The Green, asking for the PC's comments – Councillors are happy with the proposal.

2 - A First Responder contacted the PC to ask for a donation towards their kit and uniform. Cllr Gidney said he may be able to help from his Councillor Grant and to pass his details on to her.

3 – Letter from a resident re the planning application in item 12 and any implications with the deed of easement – see item 12.

4 – An email from the Art Group raising the matter of the front door of the table storage cupboard, it is still too heavy for many members of the group to lift easily. Many options were discussed as to how the weight could be lessened or an easier way to open the door. Cllr Braybrook and Cllr K Fuller to revisit the door front and see how it could be made less heavy.

5 – A letter regarding Offshore Wind from the Parishes Movement from an OTN – Cllrs agreed there was no action to take on this.

15. Finance

a) To hear an update on Cashbook balances - 1st – 28th February 2023

	Opening Balance 01/01/23	Less Chqs	Less DD's	Add income	Closing Balance 31/01/23
	£	£	£	£	£
NRPC Account	43,412.30	871.04	2.40	0.00	42,538.86
VMP Account	19,805.47	1,670.68	246.90	327.61	18,215.50
					60,754.36

The following amounts were approved for payment;

Date	Supplier	Description of Service	Amount on Invoice	VAT element - non recoverable
			£	£
<u>VMP Account</u>				
05/03/23	R Curtis	Clerks Salary 6 th Feb – 5 th Mar 23	171.73	0.00
05/03/23	R Curtis	Expenses	15.34	0.00
10/03/23	Mr Brights	Feb – Mar 23	194.74	0.00
			381.81	
<u>NRPC</u>				
05/03/23	R Curtis	Clerks Salary 6 th Feb – 5 th Mar 23	655.68	
28/02/23	BCKLWN	Dog Bin Emptying	328.00	0.00
17/02/23	R Morrish	Wire for Trees – (NRHCV)	28.99	0.00
			1,012.67	0.00

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

17. Items for future agenda – Kings Coronation Event

18. Date of next meeting – Monday 17th April 2023, Tuesday 9th May, Annual Residents Meeting 16th May

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed 17th April 2023