

The Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday the 11th day of NOVEMBER 2019 at the Royal British Legion, Long Lane – commencing 7.30 pm

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Messrs Rayner (Chair), Lambert (Vice-Chair), Cock, Cole, Storey and Studd, Mrs Arnold, Mrs Bane and Mrs McGeeney. Also present 3 members of the public and Squadron Leader Turnbull.

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Mr Edwards.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

MINUTES: Amendment to Item 15 – Change Borough to County and insert ‘should’ before ‘represent’. Minutes of the last meeting were then taken as read, agreed and duly signed by the Chair.

PUBLIC SPEAKING: The meeting was suspended for 2 minutes to allow members of the public to speak.

MATTERS ARISING

1. RAF Feltwell – Sqn Leader Turnbull said early morning mid-October, 18 jets left for the Middle East to counteract perceived Iranian aggression and will be away for about four months. Steelwork on the A1065 is for the KVF35 compass and flight stimulator and squadron operation building. He said the tall security light had been adjusted but he could see it needed adjusting a bit more. The congestion, he has been informed, is due mainly to the Milken buses however subject to planning, the entrance will be redesigned. He said the noise survey is ongoing but he has spent time with the Explosive Ordnance Dept who also would like to use Stanta more for their demolition activities however said it is difficult to book slots here. Mr Storey asked that when he brings a member of USAF personnel to the meeting, could they advise if the explosions are detrimental to the structure of residents’ property. Squadron Leader said that would be possible but reiterated that he would like to meet with members of the Parish Council prior to this meeting to discuss any other immediate concerns. He wished to thank the community for their exceptional support yesterday during Remembrance Sunday which was also much appreciated by the USAF. He will be able to confirm available funding for the village VE Day event on 22/11/19 and the Chair thanked him for this and for arranging the American contingent at yesterday’s service. Sqn Leader departed the meeting at 7.52 pm.

2. SNT – Police Connect emails circulated but nothing relating to Feltwell has been received.

3. Risk Assessment – Mrs Arnold carried out the inspection on Saturday and said the field was in good condition, no litter was present, the bins were empty and recycling area was all clear. The graffiti on the teen shelter is very faint. There is a split in the plastic casing on the zip wire. One of the caps has cracked at the end of the guttering (tennis court side), Clerk to ask Handyman to repair. Clerk said tree survey is being conducted tomorrow and that Denver Trees had cut and shaped the Silver Birch. 5 x ‘No Dog’ signs are ready to collect. Clerk to ask Handyman to liaise with Mr Lambert re drilling holes for installation. Mr Lambert has dealt with the Poke Weed. Mr Rayner asked whether the wall should be cordoned off. Mr Lambert suggested writing to the resident again, explaining that the wall is not safe and advising that the Parish Council will not accept any liability for it or any damaged persons near the wall. He also suggested writing to the Borough Council’s Environmental Team, stressing that this is near a public play area. Mr Rayner proposed writing to the resident and the Borough Council, Mrs McGeeney seconded, all in favour. Clerk to write to resident and Borough Council. Mr Cole to carry out the next inspection.

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

4. Balance Sheet – No queries.

5. Allotment Pest Control – Reports received for September and October. Mr Cole said he had not seen any vermin present at the allotments.

6. NALC – NALC bulletins circulated as received.

7. Briefing sessions (i) Local Plan – Site Allocations & Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (ii) 5 year land supply – Mr Storey said this is ongoing.

8. Street Light Replacement – 11 x LED street lights have been replaced. The one at Shrub Hill could not be completed as the engineer could not safely draw the fuse so has been reported to UKPN. Also, the existing bracket will not support the weight of the new LED so a replacement bespoke bracket has been ordered at a cost of £120 + VAT. Engineers will return to site when the bracket has been received.

9. Ranger Visit – Report received. Buddleia bush has been cut on Short Beck. Inspection is required for the pathway from St Nicholas Church on Hythe Road to be widened and the hedge from the Base to the West End pub on Long Lane (what was) to be cut back.

10. Parish Partnership Scheme – Mrs Bane proposed purchasing another replacement bus shelter under this scheme, this time for Bell Street, Mrs McGeeney seconded, all in favour. Clerk to confirm cost is the same and submit bid for two new replacement bus shelters.

11. Locality Budget – Mr Storey has tried to contact Andrew Wallace but to no avail. Clerk said she had received a reply from him late that afternoon stating that he needed to speak to Linda McDermott (Head Office) about this.

12. Village Sign – Clerk has tried to contact Mr Batten but he has not returned her call. In the meantime, she had been contacted by Harry Stebbing Workshop who made the original village sign. She asked them to quote for a wooden crook which has come in at £175 + VAT including delivery and fitting. Mr Studd proposed Harry Stebbing Workshop make a new crook for the sign, Mr Cole seconded, all in favour. Clerk to organise.

13. T T Jones Electrical Ltd – Column Replacement & Electrical Testing – Clerk said new column was installed 4/11/19 but the DNO need to complete the transfer of service from the redundant column. T T Jones will then return to site to remove old column and check supply to the new one. DNO have not as yet advised a transfer date.

14. Cllr Martin Storey Report – Mr Storey said he had not had access to his NCC iPad for 10 days due to a fault and therefore apologised for not being able to produce a report. He said information is available on the NCC website or he could be contacted directly.

15. Oak Garden – Clerk said crack is 10mm wide. She has contacted UKPN re the wires.

16. Tree - Old Methwold Road – Clerk has been trying to clarify whether trees on the Oakfield Estate belong to the Parish Council. Mr Storey said they did. Clerk will now obtain prices for a tree survey.

17. Hedge – Wilton Road – Highways have advised the Clerk that Orbit will be returning to completely ‘revamp’ this hedge and land local to it. Mrs Bane said it had been trimmed away from the path.

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

18. Fence – Mr Rayner said he wouldn't be able to get a price until after Christmas as the gentleman had not been very well.

19. High Street/St Mary's Junction – Clerk said despite chasing this several times, she has still had no reply from Mark Sharman or Damien Jeffries. Mr Storey said he would find out what is happening.

20. Doctors' Lease – Clerk read out an email from the Assistant Practice Manager stating that although the Partners were happy with the increase in annual rent, they believed the lease should be kept to six years. Mr Rayner had spoken to the Practice Manager who said the surgery receives £180/year per patient and had stated that if the cost of the lease increased significantly then they would be unable to afford it. Mr Rayner said if the surgery did not have the overspill car park, there would be major parking issues along Wilton Road. Mr Studd proposed the terms remain as 6 years at £375/year with a proviso added that the rent would be reviewed after 3 years, Mr Storey seconded, all in favour. Clerk will advise Practice Manager. Mr Storey commented that it would have been useful if the Surgery had furnished the Parish Council with some figures to explain their budget. Clerk advised solicitor's estimated cost to draw up a new lease was £600 + VAT.

21. Edmund de Moundeford Trust – Expiry of Trustee Term – Mr Hawkins has advised the Clerk that Mr Storey's position represents Norfolk County Council although he was originally appointed by the Parish Council. He went on to say that the Trust Deed states there should be nine trustees of which three can be nominated from the Parish Council. Mr Hawkins stated that at present the Parish Council has two appointed members (Mrs McGeeney and Mrs Enefer-Harrison) and as Mr Lambert and Mr Cock are also trustees albeit not Parish Council representatives, he felt that the Parish Council has more than required representation on the Trust. Mr Lambert confirmed that the Trust Deed does indeed state there can only be nine trustees and Mr Storey said that a vacancy cannot just be created when there isn't one. He continued that if a vacancy did become available, he would do his best to make sure the Parish Council is aware. Mr Cock commented that the Trust Deed is not available anywhere although Mr Lambert said he had a hard copy. Mr Rayner felt this was a grey area and Mr Storey said that if he wished to take this matter further then he should speak with Mr Hawkins.

22. Budget/Precept 2020/21 – Flowerbeds: Mrs McGeeney said hardwood railway sleepers are £34/sleeper. Her beds are approx. 2.5m x 1m and each has eight sleepers which totals £272/bed. Concrete posts and bolts are also required. 24 bolts are needed per bed and these cost £12 for 15. She said Bird Brand are willing to donate the wood preserves and she was confident British Sugar would donate the top soil. Mr Storey suggested asking local business to each sponsor a flower bed. A resident present at the meeting said she would be willing to assist with the planting of the beds. Another resident asked how these would be maintained. Mr Storey suggested employing a gardener and Mrs Bane said the Handyman might undertake this task. Mr Cole suggested trialling the idea with having just one planter maybe near the Memorial Bench. **Roadsweeper:** Mr Rayner said he had looked into paying an independent road sweeping company to sweep the roads a couple of times a year. One price came in at £115 call out charge, £39/hour, £90 for waste removal, totalling approx. £500/day. Another price received from the JS Group in Norwich was £35/hour for a minimum of 4 hours and £45/½ tonne waste removal. Mrs McGeeney said this was fine but the roadsweeper would need to come when there was no vehicles parked along the roads which was hardly ever. **Exercise Equipment:** Mrs Bane said the fete had raised approx £1300 towards this and that herself, the Chair and the Clerk had met Sovereign Play at the playing field last week to discuss this further. Sovereign quoted £17,000 for eight bits of equipment

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

as well as a table tennis table for the existing hard stand area. She said there were added extras that could be removed if necessary and that the cost could be spread over three years. Grants are also available. Mr Cock thought this was a good idea but Mr Storey questioned whether this would take away business from the local gym. He also said that CIL money could go towards this equipment. **Playground Floor Matting:** Mrs Bane said some of this needs replacing. Clerk to obtain prices. **Street Light Columns:** Mrs Bane suggested installing some new columns. All to be discussed next meeting.

23. Trees Camp Close/Moat Side – Clerk said Borough Council are sending out an inspector to look at this area but as yet has had no update.

24. Memorial Garden – A resident said there were already gravel strips in place specifically for displaying wooden crosses and went on to say that the whole area looks tired and needs a revamp. The Chair agreed and said the gate was not in good condition and the step needed patching up. He said the existing Tommy could be concreted in and that a new Tommy had been purchased by the Parish Magazine. Squadron Leader Turnbull had mentioned that in conjunction with Kier, they had a small pot of money which could assist with the building of an area in the Parish where the Tommy could be permanently displayed or maybe contribute to the repairs of the Memorial Garden. The One Stop had offered to purchase a WW1 Memorial Bench but would like a plaque on it. The Chair will make some enquiries. Mr Cock said that if a new bench was purchased, there should be an official unveiling and that Mr Bill Lande was a WW2 serviceman who could be asked to do this.

25. VE Day Celebration – 8th to 10th May 2020 – Chair is arranging a meeting with various village groups to discuss this. Chair said the cost of a town crier is £80 + VAT. BCKLWN have £100 grant available but this must be match-funded. Mr Studd proposed the Parish Council match-fund this amount, Mr Cock seconded, all in favour. There is also a £500 grant available from the Norfolk Armed Forces.

26. Resignation – Mr Hawkins said unless Mrs Enefer-Harrison resigns, she is elected as a member of the Edmund Moundeford Trust until the AGM 2021.

27. Allotment Shed Break-Ins – Numerous sheds were broken into 28/10/19 around 7.30 pm. Clerk contacted PC Lee Anderton who advised anyone affected to report it to the Police. Mr Cole met PC White at the allotments and he had displayed a notice with relevant advice and contact details. Chair had also spoken with PC Chandler, local Farm Liaison Officer who had suggested UV marker pens but said the matter would now be passed over to the Allotment Committee.

28. Letter from Cllr Margaret Dewsbury re Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service's Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan – Mr Studd made the observation that the document mainly states that resources are being reduced which was worrying considering the amount of new housing proposed. He said he would be happy to make this comment personally.

29. Festival of Light – Mrs Bane proposed the Parish Council partake again this year, Mr Storey seconded, all in favour. Mrs McGeeney to organise.

CORRESPONDENCE

30. Police Connect - Emails received and circulated

31. PC Lee Anderton – Email – Newsletter (October)

32. RAF Feltwell – Telephone call – Multiple demolitions 30/10/19 1000 hrs - 1600 hrs

CORRESPONDENCE (CONT)

- 33. RAF Lakenheath – Email – Natalie Murphy, Community Relations Advisor – Invitation to Yuletide Reception, Friday 6/12/19 RAF Mildenhall – Chair and Mrs Arnold to attend
- 34. Campaign to Protect Rural England – Email – November issue of Norfolk Voice
- 35. Community Action Norfolk – Emails – Funding, Events, Training and Sector Newsletters
- 36. West Norfolk Clinical Commissioning Group – Email – Update on mental health services for adults, children and young people
- 37. Rural Services Network – Weekly bulletins
- 38. Early Help Children's Services – Email – November Directory & Bulletin
- 39. Gary Johns Architects (Ely) – Email – Promotion on their services
- 40. Earth Anchors – Email – Promotion on bins
- 41. Brochure – Parish Magazine

42. **CHEQUES** – Cheques were signed for the following – J Martin £62.35, S Sargent £83.68, Viridor £134.47, R H Maintenance & Landscapes £262.50, E.ON £498.04, Post Office (SSE) £278.26, J D Signs £60.00, Denver Trees £250.00, RBL Feltwell £5.00, RBL Poppy Appeal £50.00, URM (UK) £39.60, T T Jones Electrical £2230.15, John Rolph £100.00. Standing order to J Martin £846.47, direct debit to BT £51.24.

43. **PLANNING**

- **T B Construction (East Anglia) Ltd: Reserved Matters Application: Amended – Construction of 4 dwellings at 34 Nightingale Lane** – Mr Lambert felt the Parish Council's decision should reflect that of the residents' views that the dwellings should be single-storey. Mr Storey abstained, 8 against, REFUSED.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

44. Highways – Broken bollard needs replacing opposite 3 Short Beck. Repairs to footpath at Wilton Road will take place this week.

45. Library Van – Mr Cole said this was parked along Bell Street outside the War Memorial and was causing a lot of congestion. Clerk said this may be due to unavailable parking at the usual location opposite the One Stop. Clerk to speak to them.

46. Fire Extinguishers – Clerk said extinguishers in the Changing Rooms have been serviced.

47. Business Premium Account – Interest rate reduced to 0.1%.

48. Dog Bins – Mrs McGeeney said three bin bags, presumably full of dog faeces, had been dumped by the dog bin outside Oakfields Estate. Clerk to put piece in Parish Magazine stating this was not permitted as the Borough Council will not collect these.

49. Trenchard Square – Mrs McGeeney asked what was happening with these houses. This question will be put to Squadron Leader Turnbull at the next meeting.

50. Weeds – Weeds are in abundance outside the Chinese, the Londis and Watermans. Clerk to speak to Borough Council.

Next meeting to be held on Monday 9th December 2019 at 7.30 pm at the British Legion.
Meeting declared closed 9.37 pm.