

The Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday the 9th day of DECEMBER 2019 at the Royal British Legion, Long Lane – commencing 7.30 pm

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

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Mrs Bane, Mrs McGeeney and Mr Studd.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

MINUTES: Minutes of the last meeting were taken as read, agreed and duly signed by the Chair.

PUBLIC SPEAKING: There were no matters raised from the public.

MATTERS ARISING

1. **RAF Feltwell** – Sqn Leader Turnbull apologised to residents for the inconvenience caused by the recent closure of Wangford Road for the construction of an access path to the new construction compound. He warned those owning or buying drones to adhere to new legislation brought into force 30/11/19 requiring any drone over 250g to be registered with the Civil Aviation Authority. Mr Lambert said he had been in a nearby field during the last set of demolitions which he said gave off a strong smell of sulphur. He hadn't noticed this from previous explosions and questioned the health impact on residents. Mr Storey again stressed his concern regarding possible damage caused to residential properties from the explosions which he felt were getting louder and stated "enough is enough". Sqn Leader said the noise survey was ongoing but he would make enquiries regarding the emissions. He said properties on Trenchard Square would eventually be inhabited by RAF Marham personnel. He said the British/American Committee will donate £250 towards Feltwell's VE Day celebrations for which the Chair thanked him. Sqn Leader departed the meeting at 7.38 pm.

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

3. **Risk Assessment** – Mr Cole carried out the inspection and said stumps around the inside of the perimeter fence are a trip hazard. There are encroaching brambles through the chain link fence from the exterior of the field, Clerk to speak to Rangers. There is a black pipe near the fence which the Clerk said was put in place when the skate park was built in case a light was installed in future. There is a thick metal ring on a concrete block in the car park which is a trip hazard. Ivy is encroaching onto the entrance onto the field near the scout hut and the guttering still needs attention on the Changing Rooms, Clerk to speak with Handyman. There are heaps of grass towards the back of the Changing Rooms, possibly left by the football teams, Clerk to speak with the managers. There are sharp edges on the container which are dangerous, Clerk to speak with Junior team manager. The noticeboard near the main gate is dilapidated and the sign on the kissing gate has green moss on it and is hardly legible. There is one waste pipe from the scout hut that looks as if it has been cut in half, Clerk to speak with Claire Scarff. Basketball hoop needs maintenance as the bolts are loose. Clerk to obtain prices for new unit. Zip wire plastic casing needs attention, Clerk to speak to Handyman. See-saw needs painting, the picnic bench needs a coat of preservative and there is rust on some of the play equipment. Handyman to tend to these in the Spring. There is some metal poking out of the ground near the multi-play area and a bolt above one of the suspended seats has become loose. Clerk had circulated the results of the tree survey prior to the meeting which included prices for various stages of work required, listed in order of priority. Mr Lambert proposed carrying out all work required at £1500 + VAT, Mr Edwards seconded, all in favour, Clerk to arrange. Clerk said CNC Building Control at the

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

Borough Council will survey the damaged chalk wall. Clerk had obtained a price for new matting under the teen shelter and climbing frame, and new see-saw seats but it was felt two other prices should be obtained. Mr Edwards to carry out the next inspection.

4. Balance Sheet – No queries.

5. Allotment Pest Control – No report received.

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 still ongoing.

8. Street Light Replacement – Light at Shrub Hill has now been replaced.

9. Ranger Visit – Next visit scheduled for January. Brambles protruding through the chain link fencing onto the playing field to be cut back. Pathway from Portal Close to the entrance of Hereward Way to be cleared of all greenery.

10. Parish Partnership Scheme – Clerk said cost for High Street bus shelter has been reduced as another is being purchased for Bell Street; costs are now £5800 for High Street and £5300 for Bell Street. Clerk has submitted both bids which have been acknowledged and a decision will be advised mid-March.

11. Locality Budget – Mr Storey spoke with Linda McDermott who needed to ascertain workloads. Clerk said at the request of Andy Wallace she had obtained a quotation for the sign from Westcotec which was £1365 plus a commuted sum payable to NCC to cover maintenance.

12. Village Sign – Clerk said new crook should be in place by the end of December. It will be completely oak and have an oil finish to protect it from the weather. The Clerk had been advised to apply a further coat of Osmo 420 clear oil every 12-18 months.

13. T T Jones Electrical Ltd – Column Replacement & Electrical Testing – DNO have not as yet advised date for the transfer of electricity to the new column.

14. Cllr Martin Storey Report – Mr Storey reported changes to local bus services following new legislation coming into force 2020. He said Coach Services and Lynx Buses are offering alternatives but these won't be as regular. The public consultation regarding council division boundaries has been extended to 11th February 2020. There is a free fire safety drop-in advice session at Downham Market 5/12/19.

15. Tree - Old Methwold Road – Clerk is awaiting price for tree survey on trees around the Oakfields Estate, the one opposite the Chequers and at Old Methwold Road.

16. Fence – Mr Rayner said this has been put on the back burner.

17. High Street/St Mary's Junction – Clerk said Mark Sharman had confirmed that large 'SLOW' lettering would be painted onto this road. Mr Lambert said this ought to be painted before the Newcombe Drive junction as this would have better visibility. Clerk to ask Highways where they intend to paint the lettering and advise preferred positioning.

18. Doctors' Lease – Clerk read out response from Practice Manager stating that the partners are

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

prepared to pay the increased rent but feel the lease should be renewed and reviewed every six years. As the Solicitor had now been consulted, Mr Lambert proposed the lease remain at six years due to the cost to draw up the lease (£600) and the rent increased to £500/year, Mr Edwards seconded, four in favour, Mr Storey abstained. Mr Cock added that it was a sad state of affairs when recently they would not allow a member of their medical staff to tend to an emergency with a resident outside of their practice yet in their email they stated that 'the surgery is for the benefit of the community of Feltwell' and it was agreed that this should be added to the Clerk's reply.

19. Budget/Precept 2020/21 – Mr Lambert felt that with the many projects being considered, the precept should be kept at £40,000 for 2020/21. He also pointed out that residents' Council Tax will be reduced due to the increased tax base. Mr Lambert proposed the precept be kept at £40,000, Mr Storey seconded, all in favour. Clerk to advise Borough Council.

20. Trees Camp Close/Moat Side – Clerk said the Arboricultural Officer (BCKLWN) had ordered some works to the area but this would not be until the new financial year.

21. Memorial Garden – Chair said he would obtain quotations to replace the step.

22. VE Day Celebration – 8th to 10th May 2020 – Chair said celebrations are being organised by parishioners.

23. Resignation – Clerk said notice for election had gone up and deadline for election requests is 11/12/19. Subject to no requests, the vacancy would be advertised accordingly.

24. Allotment Shed Break-Ins – Mr Storey said the Committee were looking into chain-link barriers to the entrances.

25. Dog Bins – Mrs McGeeney advised by email that the bin bags were still sitting beside the dog bin outside Oakfields Estate. Mr Cock said he would dispose of them.

26. Ratification of Allotment Management Committee and Garden Allotment Tenants Meeting held 29th April 2019 and Matters Arising From – Minutes were ratified.

27. Review Grass Maintenance Contract – No changes were made to the 2019 season's specification therefore Mr Cock proposed inviting companies to tender based on this for the 2020 season, Mrs Arnold seconded, all in favour. Mr Edwards asked why the Parish Council funded the churchyard grass cutting. Mr Lambert explained that the Church cannot afford to cut it as the money from the burials doesn't even come close to covering the cost of cutting the grass. He went on to say that if the grass doesn't get cut then the churchyard would have to close and then the Parish Council would have to take on its entire upkeep.

CORRESPONDENCE

28. Police Connect - Emails received and circulated

29. BCKLWN – Email – Mayor's Design Awards; Letter - Governance Structure; Planning Committee Notification 2/12/19

30. NCC – Email – 'Significant changes to local market day bus services'

31. EOD Operations, RAF Lakenheath – Email - Demolitions at RAF Feltwell on 27/11/19

32. PC Lee Anderton – Email – Newsletter (November)

33. Commonwealth War Graves Commission – Email – Returfing around war graves at St Nicholas Churchyard

CORRESPONDENCE (CONT)

34. Fiona Walker, Office of Elizabeth Truss – Email – Question/answering session with Liz Truss at Browns Kitchen Restaurant, Mundford, 29/11/19
35. The Local Government Boundary Commission for England – Email – Extension of public consultation on proposals for new council divisions/division boundaries for NCC to 11/2/20
36. Peterborough City Council – Email - Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Proposed Submission Plan Consultation – 15/11/19 to 9/1/20
37. TWR Accountants – November Tax Tips & News
38. Community Action Norfolk – Emails – Funding Newsletter
39. NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups in Norfolk and Waveney – Email – Blog by Dr Paul Williams
40. Rural Services Network – Weekly bulletin 19/11/19
41. E.ON – Email – Monthly Marketing Report (October)
42. Early Help Children's Services – Email – December Directory
43. Power For People – Email - Request to support the Local Electricity Bill
44. E A Engineering (Thetford) – Email – Promotion on their services
45. Ultimate Workforce – Email – Promoting grounds maintenance work
46. Playground Facilities – Email – Promoting play equipment
47. Brochures – Parish Magazine
48. **CHEQUES** – Cheques were signed for the following – S Sargent £107.16, E.ON £481.97, Viridor £152.04, R H Maintenance & Landscapes £262.50, Fenland Fire Appliance £39.60, S P Landscapes £420.00, J Martin £22.50, RBL Feltwell £60.00, T T Jones Electrical £375.60. Standing order to J Martin £846.47, direct debit to BT £51.24.

49. PLANNING

Warren Energy Ltd, Breckland Farm: Retrospective application to vary Conditions 1 (approved plans), 2 (maximum tonnage of feedstock) and the variation or deletion of Condition 3 (feedstock source) of planning permission ref. C/2/2017/2003 to allow the offsite importation and onsite processing of 49,000 tonnes of diversified feedstock – Mr Storey abstained, 6 in favour, APPROVED.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

50. Highways – Potholes near Trenchard Square and Lodge Road near The Beck junction need repair, signs at the entrance to Mulberry Close have been damaged and need repair, Clerk to speak to Highways.
51. Hythe Road – Mr Edwards asked if this could be widened towards the allotment end. Mr Storey said he could have a word with Highways.
52. Parking at entrance to Oakfields – Mr Cole asked if anything could be done about vehicles parking on the green as they are churning up the grass. Chair will speak to owner of the vehicles.

Next meeting to be held on Monday 13th January 2020 at 7.30 pm at the British Legion. Meeting declared closed 9.35 pm. Chair wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

On 3/1/2020, planning was approved for the following applications by 6 Councillors:-
- Mr & Mrs A Wheatley: **Two Storey side Extension to dwelling at 40 Addison Close**
- Mr & Mrs N Leach: **Construction of garage at Hill Cottage 6 Short Beck**