



Barsham Parish Council

Meeting Minutes

Monday 9th March 2020 at 7.30pm, Barsham & Houghton Village Hall

Parish Councillors present: Andrew Ross (Chairman, James Goodley, Robert Fletcher, Frank Chapman, Grace Howlett, Tom FitzPatrick (District Councillor) from item 13 until item 17. Also in attendance: Jodie Bond (Parish Clerk) there were no members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Chairman opened the meeting at 7.50pm and welcomed those present.
Apologies received from Marie Strong (County Councillor), Stuart Laws (Vice Chairman) and Jimmy Goodley. Apologies accepted.

2. **Members' declarations of interest in items on the agenda**

There were none.

3. **Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 20th January 2020**

The minutes of the meeting were approved and were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. **To report progress on items not on the agenda from the last meeting**

Following the play area inspection, a quote from Action Leisure & Play for £965 + vat had been received for the recommended remedial works. It was discussed and agreed that the Clerk would source further quotations for the cradle swing seat separately, which is the item that requires the most urgent attention.

5. **Receive reports from:**

- 5.1 Police Newsletters are uploaded onto the pc website.
- 5.2 NCC - Cllr Marie Strong Report – (see appendix 1)
- 5.3 NNDC - Cllr Tom FitzPatrick Report– (see appendix 2)

6. **Open forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from the public**

There were none.

7 **Shrine Traffic Update**

Cllr Chapman asked if there had been any more correspondence Cllr Ross advised that there have been no further meetings but agreed it is important to keep a presence at future meetings.
The general feeling was that some residents are more affected than others, however, there were no real issues at present and the current situation appears to be working.

The issue had been that people could not get in and out their houses, but at the moment vehicles generally come in one way and out the other, which keeps traffic moving and works better.

8 **Defibrillator Update**

Cllr Laws had reported that he has worked out the defib locations and suggests the following:-
W. Barsham Church, E. Barsham Pub, N. Barsham phone box and Houghton St Giles Church.
It is believed there may be one at the Slipper Chapel, so one may not needed in N.Barsham.

Due to time constraints Cllr Laws may need help to progress this project. Cllr Howlett will liaise with Cllr Laws and Clerk to agree the plan for further progress.

9. **Grounds Maintenance Provision for 2020**

Norse had notified the Clerk that due to financial reasons they would not be able to fulfil our grounds maintenance contract for this year.

CGM had provided the next closest quotation however, a letter had also been received from Barry & Shaun's Gardening Services. Based on their previous work experience and their competitive price of £476 it was agreed that we would instruct them to carry out the ground's maintenance for this year. Proposed by Cllr Fletcher, Seconded by Cllr Chapman. Clerk to obtain copies of public liability insurance and risk assessment prior to commencement.

10. Planning Matters

PF/20/0280 Lodge Farmhouse

(Conversion of former farm buildings to a single permanent residential unit including an annexe)

PC comment – Cllr Fletcher advised that the existing resident at this property had previously contacted the Council with concerns about the speeding and traffic issues on the road, and the problem with accessing the B1105 safely. It was agreed that the Clerk would submit the Council's decision of No Objection, however these comments would also be included.

PF/20/0390 Dale Cottage

(Creation of annex bedroom over existing attached garage with rear dormer window and external staircase)

PC comment - No Objection.

11. Financial Matters

11.1 To approve the payment of accounts list

Payment to	Description	Amount (£)
J Bond	Salary	£183.34
J Bond	Expenses	£15.10
Hempton PC	Clerk Mobile	£10.66
	Total	£209.10
Receipts from	Description	Amount (£)
Barclays	Interest	£1.24
A. Clovis	Allotment Rent	£10
	Total	£11.24

12. Correspondence

Correspondence was made available to all councillors.
Clerk to report highways issues to the Rangers, due on site on 6th April.

13. Consider and adopt the revised Risk Management Policy

The updated risk management policy had been circulated to all councillors prior to this meeting. It was discussed and AGREED to adopt the revised policy.

14. Consider and agree to Councillors to attend Council Training

Agreed not to attend this time.

15. AOB and Items for inclusion on next agenda

It was noted that the door was hanging off of the phone box in Houghton and the glass plaques have been stolen. Cllr Fletcher will check to see if the phone is still in the kiosk and inform the Clerk so that it can be reported to BT for repair. Clerk to check historic minutes to see if has been adopted by the PC.

16. Date of next meeting 18th May 2020 (APM & APCM)

The Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting will be held on 18th May.

17. To pass a resolution (under the Public Admission to Meetings Act 1960) to exclude members of the public and press for the following confidential staffing items:

17.1 To report the outcome of the Clerk's appraisal

Cllr Howlett wished to discuss this further between Councillors, outside of the meeting.

Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55pm

Signed by Chairman: Date:

NCC Marie String Report

Coronavirus, - COVID-19:

Most of us are finding to keep up with accurate news and for this reason NCC recommends the Public Health England advice for information as this is maintained and updated daily.

Update on the Independent Local Government Commission Review of Norfolk County Council Divisions:

This is my eleventh year as county councillor and I have never known such confusion over an important issue. Whilst I have managed to check that local councils have received updates obviously I could not circulate the repeat changes of date and procedure to all residents. The following details, hopefully, will not be further amended:

'The Commission has asked Norfolk County Council to provide updated electorate forecasts by 11 February and will extend the existing consultation period by six weeks to 24 March. Any party that has already made a submission based on the existing electorate figures is invited to make another submission once the updated electorate have been published. When they have been received, the new electorate forecasts will be published on the Norfolk review site at <http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/eastern/norfolk/norfolk-county-council>. As a result of this, the public consultation on the draft recommendations will now take place from 2 June - 10 August 2020. Whilst some parish councils have submitted a proposal I feel it is very important for everyone to at least check on the proposals during the final consultation period.

Norfolk Coast Path: A 1.7mi (2.8km) stretch of the Norfolk Coastal Path between Holkham and Wells has been given a makeover which has opened up a new 6.75mi (10.9km) circular walk. I feel it is a privilege to live in such a beautiful part of this county and projects such as this one allows more people to enjoy our wonderful North Norfolk coast which is why I was especially pleased to meet two wheel chair members of Active Trails, which assessing routes for accessibility, whilst there is still more work to be carried out listen to their comments including their 'thumbs up'.

Norfolk County Council Budget 2020: Details can be found in the following press release: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/news/2020/02/council-budget-agreed> and to learn about the debate which took place access NCC website for the minutes of the meeting.

Speeding:

Reporting Highways Concerns: Rather than wait for a Parish Council meeting you can speed up repairs by reporting issues direct to highways@norfolk.gov.uk or telephone 0344 800 8020.

Deter Speeding:

To deter speeding several parishes now have 'Village Gates' – letting drivers know they are approaching housing and pedestrians. Instead of gates or as well as other parishes have opted for SAM2's with flashing lights indicating speed. Gates: Cost will be dependent on width of verge, height and style of gate with costs likely to be between £500 and £1000 per individual gate, fully installed. Purchase only price of gates can be found on the 'Glasdon' website. SAM2: Cost will be dependent on requirements but likely to be in the region of £4K. Both Gates and SAM2 are acceptable for application to the NCC Parish Partnership - 50% paid by town/parish 50% by NCC. Details of the Partnership is likely to be sent to local council this Spring for applications by December. Outcome will be known by March/April 2021 in time for installation in the following 12 months.

Speed Watch: Congratulations to the Sculthorpe Group excellent example to other parishes. Whilst some parishes have tried Speed Watch and been disappointed other parishes continue and are satisfied with the outcome. Raise the possibilities at parish council meetings with your local police officer.

Broadband Checker:

Having received enquiries from residents in parishes which have fibre broadband asking when it will arrive I thought other residents might find the following useful:

More residents now have the ability to access fibre broadband but are not up-to-date with how to check what is available to them. Therefore I have copied below a checker which for the vast majority of properties will provide an accurate result. However, occasionally there are properties where the data is inaccurate. If the checker shows availability contact your Internet Service Provider (ISP) which in turn will contact Openreach. If Openreach identifies that the checker has given incorrect information the ISP will advise you accordingly. I am assured that on balance most properties will return the correct information so it is worth the effort.

<https://www.openreach.com/fibre-broadband/>. Having used this link press 'Use our fibre checker' button. Enter your postcode, tick the box to say you're not a robot and then click on the green search button to the right of the box where you entered the postcode. Pick your address from the list - it then either shows services as available or says whether something is planned. When services are available it has a 'View Providers' button which shows which Internet Service Providers are offering services at your address. If a positive response check with your ISP and find out what Openreach tells them. (Regret the checker is not infallible but best on offer at present.)

Upwards and onwards

Marie

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Funding

North Norfolk Big Society Fund

Grant awards of up to £15,000 are still available for community projects. Since the Big Society Fund started in 2012, NNDC has awarded over £1.9m to 268 community projects. The panel met on 4th March to consider the most recent applications

Applications are welcomed for community projects that would benefit from funding. Full information including contact details can be found on the District Council's website.

The Big Society Fund Grant Panel meets four times per year in March, June, September and December. The closing date is one month prior to the meeting.

NNDC Arts and Culture Fund

This fund offers grants of up to £2,500 to voluntary and community organisations, town and parish councils, whose project is based within North Norfolk, with the aim to improve health and well-being of North Norfolk residents through active participation and engagement.

Applications for an Arts and Culture grant are considered three times a year and the deadline for applications is the last Friday of June, October and February respectively. Decisions on completed applications received will be made by within four weeks of the deadline date. Full information including details on how to apply is on the District Council's website.

NNDC Community Transport Fund

This Fund offers grants to voluntary and community organisations, town and parish councils, whose project will benefit vulnerable, disadvantaged, and isolated people of all ages living in rural areas by providing a flexible community transport service that will enable them to access the services and facilities they need. Applications for grants from the Community Transport fund are considered three times per year. Decisions on applications will be made within four weeks of application closing date which is the last Friday of February, June and October. Full information including how to apply can be found on the Community Transport Fund's page on the District Council's website.

NNDC Budget

The NNDC budget was agreed at Full Council on 26th February. This included a rise in the NNDC share of council tax rise by £4.95 for the average (band D) property which will now be £153.72 per year. This increase was just short of the threshold to trigger a local referendum. I had supported an amendment to support the ambulance service by giving a grant to fund a trial to offer additional training and support to voluntary Community First Responders, but this did not receive enough support.

Apprenticeships and T Levels

North Norfolk District Council will hold a free T Level seminar local businesses ahead of the introduction of the new technical qualifications. There will also be information about the latest developments in

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apprenticeships, including funding.

The event is intended to help local businesses learn how they can benefit from industry placements and the range of support available to help recruit, train and upskill their workforce. There will be time for networking with local training providers.

The 'Qualifications A to T' workshop is on April 1 2020 between 4pm and 6pm. You can register or ask for more information by contacting economic.growth@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Councillor Tom FitzPatrick

Walsingham Ward

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