

North Runcton Parish Council

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

Tuesday 9th November 2021 7.45pm

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

In attendance: The Clerk – Rachel Curtis - 8 members of the public, Bor Cllrs Nash and Gidney and County Cllr J Moriarty

1. To accept any apologies - Cllr B Houchen

2. To follow the procedure to co-opt a Councillor

The Parish Council followed its co-option process and considered 2 applications. Malcolm Mills and John Braybrook. Mr Braybrook received the majority of the votes and was therefore appointed to the position of Parish Councillor. Cllr Morrish extended thanks to both candidates for their interest and asked Mr Mills to consider helping the Council in other ways.

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

4. County and Borough Councillors Matters

Cllr Nash said he felt there was little progress to report from the Borough Council at the recent stakeholders meeting regarding the West Winch Relief Road. Work is ongoing for the Unreasonably Persistent Complainants Policy. The Borough Council have issued a press release regarding fly tipping Cllr Gidney reported on the following;

The Borough Council is applying for grant funding to install 20 new electric charging points locally.

Green Flag awards have been given to the Walks and Boston Square Garden in Hunstanton.

The Remembrance Service will be streamed online on Sunday 14th Nov.

The Boroughs Carbon Audit has shown reductions in levels in previous years.

There is a grant of £1,000 available for good causes which could be suitable for Buttercups to apply for.

Clerk to let the manager know and give her Cllr Gidney's details.

He expressed concern regarding the plan for the West Winch Growth Area to discharge storm water into sewage drains.

Cllr Moriarty said that attending the Relief Road briefing for the first time had been a steep learning curve and he has spent some time with officers to get up to speed on the project.

There is a £10,000 grant available for road safety schemes, it was suggested that re-instating the TROD on Rectory Lane to Coronation Ave would be beneficial to pedestrians as the stretch of road offers no safe place to walk along. The Parish Council will liaise with Cllr Moriarty to investigate this scheme further.

Cllr Gunn offered to look into it.

There followed some discussion about an alternative to the common gate on Common Lane, as less mobile residents find it difficult to get in and out of their cars to open and shut the gate. Cattle grids were suggested but it is thought they are too expensive for the PC to consider (and all common rights holders would need to be involved). Further discussion required.

5. Public Participation

- A parishioner asked if an item of correspondence would be read out regarding the speed watch issue, the Clerk confirmed it would be in item 8.

6. To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th October 2021

The Council approved the minutes and the Chairman duly signed.

7. Clerks Report on any matters arising from the minutes of 12th October and subsequently any matters arising that have been actioned not on the agenda for this month's meeting

- The Parish Council will be represented at the remembrance service by Cllr Morrish.
- 76 Parish Councils are now supporting the campaign to coordinate the energy connection network for

Offshore windfarms.

8. To hear reports taken from the SAM2 Vehicle Activated Speed Signs

John Braybrook confirmed he would undertake the training to move the SAM2 signs to their locations and download the data to create reports.

To discuss arrangements for the Speed Watch Group

A recent incident where a member of the public made a complaint against a member of the speedwatch group while they were carrying out a session was discussed. After the complaint was made the situation escalated and it is now in the hands of the police who will be carrying out an investigation. Residents are not happy with how the PC handled the situation, although the PC has made it clear that it values the work of the volunteers who carry out the sessions and since Cllr Stevens left, ~~and~~ now recognised ~~that it~~ the need for other Cllrs to be more directly supportive of the group. Several members of the group have indicated they are going to resign which means more volunteers will need to be found. Six volunteers are required, ideally more as 3 people are required to run a session. Cllrs Williams, Gunn, Palmer and the Clerk agreed to undertake training. However, it was made clear that the PC should ensure there are plenty of volunteers and that groups should ideally have male and female volunteers (although this has always been the case previously anyway). Cllr Williams said she could only participate once a year. Cllr Morrish said he was sorry that the incident had occurred and that volunteers were resigning, but that he felt it was entirely appropriate to suspend the sessions until all arrangements had been properly reviewed.

9. To report on VMP management matters

The Clerk had obtained quotes for renewing the electricity contract. The best tariff was British Gas Lite 2 year fixed. The standing charge per day decreased by 55.16p per day and the daytime kwh price increases by only 2.42p and for the evening decreases by 3.49p. It was felt that in the current climate of rising energy prices this is a good deal and should be accepted.

10. North Runcton and Hardwick Common Volunteers Update

A recent work session was held at Sheeps Course Wood with 8 volunteers. And the annual bulb planting was done with over 1,000 bulbs planted. The owl box still needs to be put up.

11. Action Planning – to consider PC events/projects for 2021

Cllr Morrish has been in correspondence with the Borough Council to ask if they had guidance on how PC's can become carbon neutral. The officer dealing with this is now leaving, but indicated it was something BCKLWN would investigate.

12. Highways – the Council will discuss any Highways issues

None

13. Planning

- a) Any applications to consider –
21/02004/F – Proposed New Bungalow and Garage at Land South of The Winch Pub, Lemuel Burt Way, West Winch – No comment
- b) 21/02146/F | New Access | North Runcton Rectory 42 Rectory Lane North Runcton Norfolk PE33 0QS – no comment
- c) Decisions received from BCKLWN – none
- c) Comments made to the BCKLWN - None

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

Key dates stated in the recent West Winch Growth Area stakeholders meeting, which was attended by Cllrs from North Runcton, West Winch and Middleton, was that community consultation regarding a masterplan for the whole area and the design of the relief road would be held in Spring 2022. It was then proposed that planning applications for both would be submitted later in 2022 and that road building might start by 2024. This is however dependent on Government funding coming forward.

15. Correspondence

- The residents of the Gingerbread House on The Green have agreed to put right any damage to the Green caused by construction vehicles during their recent renovation.

- It is thought that the PCC will not require the VMP for refreshments after the carol service on Christmas Eve.
- It was noted that there are some hedges along Rectory Lane that need cutting back to enable pedestrians to pass on the grass verge, however this may be looked at as part of the work for the TROD if the scheme is accepted.

16. Finance

a) To hear an update on Cashbook balances - 1st October – 31st October 2021

	Opening Balance 01/10/21	£	Less Oct Chqs	£	Less DD's	£	Add income	£	Closing Balance 31/10/21	£
NRPC Account	41,260.43		1,218.92		2.40		0.00		40,399.11	
VMP Account	21,692.16		617.62		83.16		671.25		21,662.63	
									62,061.74	

The following payments were considered for approval;

Date	Supplier	Description of Service	Amount on Invoice	VAT element - non recoverable
			£	£
<u>From VMP Account</u>				
05/11/21	R Curtis	Salary 6 th Oct – 5 th Nov 21	152.88	0.00
05/11/21	R Curtis	Expenses	10.71	0.00
01/11/21	Mr Brights	Hall Cleaning - Sept	194.74	0.00
			358.33	
<u>From NRPC Account</u>				
05/11/21	R Curtis	Clerks Salary 6 th Oct – 5 th Nov 21	586.56	0.00
08/09/21	NR PCC	Churchyard Maintenance	325.00	0.00
			911.56	

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

None

18. Items for future agenda – Jubilee Celebrations, Precept

19. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 14th December 2021

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

Signed 14th December 2021