

North Runcton Parish Council

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

Tuesday 14th November 2023 - 7.45pm

Present: Cllr R Morrish – Chaired the meeting, Cllr P Yallop, Cllr L Gunn, Cllr S Palmer, Cllr J Braybrook, Cllr K Williams, Cllr J Fuller, Cllr B Houchen

In attendance: The Clerk – Rachel Curtis, Cty Cllr Jim Moriarty, Bor Cllr Simon Nash, Bor Cllr Tom Barclay and 3 members of the public

1. **To accept any apologies – Cllr K Fuller**
2. **Declaration of Interest / Dispensation in items on the Agenda**
3. **County and Borough Councillors Matters**

Cllr Nash reported he had attended a presentation on a proposal for a railway station to be built behind Halfords in Kings Lynn. There is divided opinion on this idea and much work to be done to put any detail to the plan. The Borough Council recently held diversity training for Councillors which Cllr Moriarty also attended. Cllr Nash is organising a trip to Costessy to look at the recycling centre. Cllr Gunn, Palmer and Williams expressed an interest to attend with Cllr Morrish who will ask if anyone from Middleton and West Winch PC would like to go also.

Cllr Moriarty reported he had attended another presentation on the railway station proposal and it is being looked into as to whether it is feasible. There was a good turn out at the recent WWGA consultation event held in West Winch. The event will be held early 2024. It has been noted that not every household in the immediate area received a flyer to advertise the event, and Cllr Moriarty said he will personally ensure these are delivered for the next one. Cllr Palmer voiced concern that no surveys have been undertaken for noise/light and pollution, so how will the developers know what mitigation to take. Councillors agreed with this concern and Cllr Moriarty said he would follow this up. The recording on historic rights of way not recorded on the definitive map, subsequently abolished has now been reversed and the cut off date extended to January 2031. Norfolk County Council will vote in December for an elected leader to replace the leader of the Council. This new post holder will not necessarily represent a political party, but this move needs to go forward to enable access to central government funding. There is a relaxation of the volume and costs associated with taking DIY waste to the tip.

Cllr Barclay offered his assistance with any matters and will help the PC in any way he can.

4. **Public Participation –**

The PCC hope to submit the second part of the application for funding for the Church project imminently. Ken Matthews also asked if anyone had any spare pallets the Church would like them to build an area for composting.

5. **To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th October 2023**

The Council approved the minutes and the Chairman duly signed.

6. **Clerks Report on any matters arising from the minutes of 12th September 2023 and subsequently any matters arising that have been actioned not on the agenda for this month's meeting**

- In answer to the query about the easement on School Road with the Fuller's - Spire solicitors recommend to use a Surveyor for any work to be done. PC to follow this up and gain quotes for the work to be done.
- SDA – the planning enforcement team were happy with the use of Hays Wood Retreat for weddings as any use of the facilities would be for guests.
- The house in disrepair on Old Hall Drive, following an email sent by the Clerk, the Borough Council are aware of the situation and are monitoring the condition of the property.
- The Clerk confirmed that the contract with CGM has been terminated.

7. To Review the Wording of the Financial Regulations

The wording of the financial regulations which states '*The Council shall not consider requests from charities or other fundraising groups*' was discussed. This is following a request from the Tennis Club for funding. As this was something added to the regulations many years ago, Councillors felt that the wording may need review. In general it was felt that the PC should try to assist projects that might benefit local residents, although some conditions would need to be agreed and it was unlikely that the Parish would ever have the funds for any major works. Cllr Gunn agreed to draft some wording. The matter will be discussed again at the next meeting

8. To hear any reports from the SAM 2 sign

Cllr Braybrook gave an update on traffic speeds, the highest being 70mph on Rectory Lane. The Clerk confirmed that Westcotec will replace the damaged sign on Rectory Lane, cost of around £200. Cllr Barclay said he would speak to the road traffic police to see if he can arrange for them to visit North Runcton more frequently to carry out speed gun checks.

9. To report on VMP management matters

To hear an update on the PV Panel project

The project due to be installed this week has been postponed. Buttercups had raised late concerns and it was concluded it was easier to undertake the works during the February half term. Clerk/Cllr Morrish to liaise with Buttercups regarding their queries.

The Clerk is still working with British Gas Lite to get the meter number changed on the account to be able to provide accurate readings, this has been ongoing for some time.

It was noted that the energy price cap is being lifted and hire charges for VMP users will need to be reviewed in January.

10. North Runcton and Hardwick Common Volunteers Update

Cllr Palmer said that a litter pick has been completed.

11. Action Planning – to consider PC events/projects for 2023/24

- Cllr Morrish has arranged some winter evening talks for the new year-
25th January – The Norfolk Wildlife Trust
22nd February – Houghton Hall Gardens
28th March – Wash Management
Further information would be forthcoming.
- The recent quiz was a success and well attended, £160 was raised for the VMP.

12. Highways – the Council will discuss any Highways issues

Cllr Yallop said he could help with the issue of the drains flooding at the back of Cedar Grove. His family have done some work to try and alleviate the problem which the PC thanks them for. And the Clerk to put Highways in touch with him.

13. Planning

a) Applications Considered

23/01846/F - Front porch extension, single storey rear extension with first floor balcony area, internal alterations and detached pergola. at Deanscroft 7 West Winch Road West Winch – No comment

23/01820/LB - Application for listed building consent for internal alterations, installation of extract vent and adjustment of external waste pipes at The Old Rectory 38 Rectory Lane – No comment

Decisions from the Borough Council –

23/01464/CU – Change of use of land for storage of scaffolding equipment - Church Farm 21 The Green North Runcton – Application Approved

23/01585/F | Change of use of agricultural building, construction of manege and erection of horse walker for domestic use (retrospective) | Church Farm 21 The Green North Runcton – Application Approved

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

15. Correspondence – non received.

16. Finance

a) **To hear an update on Cashbook balances - 1st – 31st October 2023**

To be updated at the December meeting.

The following amounts were approved for payment;

Date	Supplier	Description of Service	Amount on Invoice £	VAT element - non recoverable £
<u>VMP Account</u>				
22/10/23	Mr Brights	Cleaning Oct 23	194.74	0.00
05/11/23	R Curtis	Clerks Salary 6 th Oct – 5 th Nov 23	171.73	0.00
			366.47	
<u>NRPC</u>				
05/11/23	R Curtis	Clerks Salary 6 th Sept – 5 th Oct 23	655.68	0.00
01/10/23	NWPC	Poppy Wreath	24.99	0.00
			680.67	

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

18. Items for future agenda –
Risk Assessments

19. Dates of next meetings - 12th December 2023, 9th January 2024

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed 12th December 2023