

North Runcton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of North Runcton Parish Council – Sub-Committee held at the
Village Meeting Place

Tuesday 15th December 2015 – Meeting started at 7.45pm

Present: Cllr John Sherry (Chair), Cllr Kerry Fuller (Vice Chair), Cllr Paul Yallop, Sally Garrett, Steve Gore, Russell Patton, Jon Newman

8 members of the public were present from 8.15pm onwards

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Gill Sergeant

2. Declaration of Interest/Dispensation in items on the Agenda

None

3. Closed Session 7.45 – 8.15pm

The Clerk gave each member of the sub-committee a copy of the proposed easement to read, and collected them in when the closed session had finished.

8.15pm – Members of the public were allowed into the meeting

4. The sub-committee will agree the minutes of the meeting held on the 17th November 2015

The Council approved the minutes and the Chairman duly signed.

5. The Clerk will report on the mechanism of running a ballot

The Clerk reported she had obtained information from the electoral registration officer at the Borough Council regarding a Parish Poll, which can be run by staff from the Borough Council, the cost of which will be recharged to the Parish Council being an estimated amount up to £2,000. The ballot would be run adhering to the following regulations as per the Local Government Act 1972;

- The Parish Council would agree on a question for the ballot, which would require a yes or no answer and request to the Borough Council that they require a Poll
- The Borough Council would issue a press release and advertise the date on their website, it would be up to the Parish Council to publicise the Poll locally
- The Borough Council does not issue polling cards, neither is there provision for postal votes, proxies or postal proxy votes
- The Poll would be held on a Thursday, between 4pm and 9pm.
- As North Runcton is a warded Parish there would be 2 polling stations.
- The counting of votes would be carried out by Borough Council staff.
- A Parish Poll represents the view of the local electorate only and the Parish Council is not bound by the result.

6. The sub-committee will discuss questions for inclusion on a ballot paper

The sub-committee agreed that there would be a controlled way of getting information regarding the ballot question to parishioners and there would be one point for all information. S Garrett suggested that voters would also gather information themselves. Any information should be balanced and state risks associated with voting yes and risks

associated with saying no. It was suggested that information could be publicised in the Parish Newsletter.

The Sub-committee felt that the timescale of monthly meetings was too long and more frequent meetings are required, it was agreed to decide upon dates at each meeting.

7. Items for future agenda

Closed Meeting to allow more time to read the easement

8. Date of next meeting

Monday 21st December 2015

The Chair asked the public present if they had any comments

- Would the minutes of closed meetings be published, the Clerk said she would provide a brief summary
- It would be possible for the SDA to change their name and therefore the name of the sub-committee would need to be amended

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed