

NORTH RUNCTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 11th February 2014

Present: -

Cllr. J Leamon (Chair, Bor. Cllr.), Cllr, R Morrish (Vice-Chair), Cllr D Eakins, Cllr. F Leamon, Cllr. A Towler, Cllr. B Houchen, Cllr. R Markham, and Cllr. P Yates.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. J Fuller and Bor. Cllr. P Foster.

2. Declaration of interest / dispensations in items on the Agenda.

Cllr J Leamon declared her personal interests with reference to her position as Member of the Borough Council Planning Committee and Member of the East of Ouse, Polver and Nar Internal Drainage Board with reference to items 17 and 14 respectively.

3. County and Borough Councillors Matters, PCSOs Report.

There was no representation from the County Councillor or PCSOs.

Cllr J Leamon provided the following information in her role as Borough Councillor:

PCSOs now have the power to fine dog owners who are caught not clearing up after their dogs. It was noted that once the new signs for the gates on each Common are erected, the PCSOs will begin monitoring the area.

There will be two SNAP (Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel) meetings held at the Village Meeting Place in North Runcton on 19th March. There will be one session between 12.15pm and 1.15pm and a later session between 7.00pm to 8.00pm.

The Mayor will be opening the Mart on 14th February.

Cllr J Leamon reported that there have been some changes to Local Council Tax support and that further information could be found on this on the Borough Council's website.

The Borough Council is providing a rating service on restaurants in Kings Lynn indicating whether they score high or low on criteria such as cleanliness.

Nominations for the Opportunity Awards are wanted for those who have personally overcome a disability or helped others to do so.

4. Public Participation – All Members of the Public Welcome – 15 mins Session.

It was noted that a lot of water is lying in several places along the A10.

5. To Approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th January 2014.

Cllr Markham proposed that the minutes be accepted and Cllr Morrish seconded this. All agreed.

6. To Report Only on any Matters Arising from the Minutes.

It was noted that a draft version of a new set of standing orders had been produced by the Clerk and is currently being considered by the working party. Cllr J Leamon noted that it is very important that Councillors consider all of the rules that the standing orders involve and whether they are all suitable to North Runcton Parish Council, as once adopted, the Council must always operate according to them.

7. Risk management – the Council will consider three quotations for the risk management of its assets based on a revised requirement.

Following comments made by Cllr J Leamon, the Clerk withdrew from consideration the quotation provided by the health and safety business owned by her Father.

The Councillors considered the remaining two quotations. It was noted that the lower of the two remaining was on the basis of the Council entering into a three year contract. Cllr Morrish proposed that the Council should approach CES Ltd, who quoted the lower amount of £575 + VAT per annum for three years, and request a one year contract which costs no more than £625 + VAT per annum. Cllr Eakins seconded this. There were 6 votes in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention.

8. Maintenance of School Road – the Council will consider formalising the maintenance of the road.

The Clerk reported that further investigation into the arrangement with the Fuller family with regard to maintenance of the road would be appropriate and a meeting set up with the family to discuss this further. This was agreed to be arranged.

9. War Memorial – the council will hear an update from the War Memorial Committee and consider agreeing to apply for a grant on behalf of the Committee should this be necessary.

Cllr J Leamon provided some historical information on the erection of the War Memorial which is attached as an addendum to the minutes. Cllr Markham reported that the War Memorial Committee would like to apply for a grant for £1500 from the Borough Council towards the cost of the project which now includes the felling of some trees, the possible creation of a walkway around the memorial and a fund for future maintenance and cleaning of the memorial in addition to the initial repairs and is estimated to come to a total cost of £4,300. Since an application must be made by 21st February and needs to be made by an established organisation, the War Memorial Committee would like the Council to agree that the application can be made through the Parish Council, although it is aware that further donations may be received. Cllr Markham also requested that the Council considers releasing £600 of the £2817.60 already collected in donations in order to pay for the tree work. Cllr Morrish proposed that the Council submits an application for funding on behalf of the Committee and releases the £600 to pay for the tree work. Cllr Towler seconded this and all agreed. Cllr Markham and Cllr Eakins were thanked for their efforts with regards to the fundraising so far.

10. Village Sign maintenance – the Council will consider a quotation for maintenance of the Village Sign.

The Clerk produced a quotation from Kings Lynn Signs for £132 + VAT to stain the post holding the sign and repaint the gold lettering etc only. The quotation noted that should the Council only give attention to the gold paint, it is liable to make the rest of the paint work look faded and suggested that if the Council considers having the whole sign repainted, to contact a specialist sign maker/restorer. Cllr Houchen noted that he knew of a reputable sign maker/restorer. He agreed to put together a tender request which will be sent to three companies, including the company that he knows, for tenders to be provided in sealed envelopes to be opened at the next Parish Council meeting when they have all been received.

11. Parish Council Records – the Council will agree a date to meet and go through the Council's records to determine which documents can be stored in the Norfolk Records Office.

The Councillors considered some dates, however, Cllr J Leamon noted that she could not commit to a date at that time due to existing commitments. It was agreed that Cllr J Leamon will supply dates of her availability to meet and go through the documents to the rest of the Council so a date can be arranged.

12. Draft Sustainability Appraisal Report – the Council's response to this document will be formally recorded.

It was formally noted that the Council's official comment on the Report was to support the comments made by the Neighbourhood Plan Committee. These are attached as an addendum to these minutes.

13. Correspondence received – see attached schedule.

There was no correspondence to consider.

14. Neighbourhood Plan – the Council will hear a progress report.

Cllr Morrish noted that the Neighbourhood Plan Committee had met with representatives from Hopkins Homes, ZAL (Zurich Insurance) and the Borough Council planning department. The Borough Council representatives had reported that the application submitted by Hopkins Homes will not be determined within the usual 16 week standard period but it was hoped for a determination by the Summer. The representatives from ZAL confirmed that they are also planning to put in an application for development on land that they own in addition to the Hopkins Homes application, which is significant. The Borough Council confirmed that it has not got the expertise internally to produce a master plan and is outsourcing this to a firm called Atlas. Cllr Morrish confirmed that a draft Neighbourhood Plan has been produced and submitted to the Borough Council, Hopkins Homes, ZAL, West Winch Parish Council and all North Runcton Parish Councillors for comment. Once the final version is agreed, it will then have to be put out for public consultation for 6 weeks and then a further 6 weeks for formal Borough Council consultation. Since the Committee plans to provide the completed document to the Borough Council for consultation by April, the initial public consultation will need to start imminently. It was noted that dates for Open Days will be organised soon. A Surface Water Management Plan has also been commissioned by the Committee who have seen a draft of it and hope to circulate soon with a view to providing it at the public consultation stage.

15. Village Meeting Place – report and discussion on any further repair/maintenance works required.

Cllr J Leamon reported that a leak had been discovered in the Village Meeting Place recently and that she had contacted the Clerk to organise emergency work to get this repaired. The builder who had recently undertaken some repairs to the roof and outside of the building was able to attend quickly and deal with the issue by laying some more felt.

Cllr Markham opined that the Council engages a builder/general maintenance contractor to assess the Hall, inside and out, for any repairs that are required. It was generally agreed that all Councillors should assess the Village Meeting Place for any potential repair requirements and that Cllr J Leamon would send out a list of tasks required to be undertaken at the VMP regularly to ensure that it remains in a reasonable state for hirers.

16. Highways – the Council will discuss any Highways issues.

Cllr Markham raised the issue of drainage problems suffered primarily at Kings Lynn Caravan and Camping Site. Norfolk County Council Highways is aware of the problem but also confirms that the Highway Agency has some responsibility as the blocked drain runs beneath the A47. The Councillors acknowledged this issue but noted that the appropriate Authorities were already aware and dealing with it. It was also noted that the drain on New Road just off the junction with the A47 may need some attention as it is blocked.

17. Planning

a) Applications to consider

Construction of flood storage area (change of use from agricultural land). Amended Scheme at Land East of Roundabout South of Middleton Stop Drain, Queen Elizabeth Way, Kings Lynn

The Council approved the comments as drafted by Cllr Morrish, below.

North Runcton Parish Council has no objection to this application. However, as we noted on the previous application regarding this project (13/00360/FM) we would like to ensure that the site is remediated after the earthworks and subsequently managed to maximise its biodiversity potential. We assume such requirement could be fulfilled by planning condition.

We also have the following comments:

Other catchments impacts: We believe that areas south of the A47 and included in the area proposed for future urban expansion in the BCKLWN Core Strategy, naturally drain into the Pierpoint Drain. This includes at least part of the site presently proposed by Hopkins Homes for 1100 new dwellings and a school (current application 13/01615/OM). North Runcton and West Winch Parish Councils have presently commissioned a

strategic surface water management plan to identify a sustainable approach to future drainage within both parish areas. This is being undertaken in conjunction with the East of Ouse, Polver and Nar IDB, and we would very much like to ensure that King's Lynn IDB have consulted with the former and satisfied themselves that future development impacts within the catchment area have been adequately considered.

Future pedestrian / cycle access: Due to the above mentioned urban expansion plans, where the longer term scenario presently includes for 3500 new dwellings and associated infrastructure, North Runcton and West Winch parish councils are drafting a 'Neighbourhood Plan'. A strategic goal is to improve the non-vehicular access network within the parishes – and especially connections to King's Lynn. In particular it is an objective to provide excellent cycle access to the growing employment areas at Hardwick industrial estate – preferably with grade separated crossings of the A47 and A149 road corridors. There would be an opportunity to pass under the A47 via a former railway bridge and to use the former trackbed as a cycle path (and this route was safeguarded for such use in the former BCKLWN local plan). The most viable crossing of the A149 corridor is also likely to be under it - at or near the Middleton Stop Drain.

It should be stressed that this is only a conceptual plan at this stage, and that no discussions have taken place with landowners. However it would be regrettable if the viability of such a scheme was in future undermined by an avoidable design constraint within the present attenuation basin application. We would ask that consideration is given to providing for a 3-5m width access corridor between the A149 road and the attenuation basin. We note a 9m setback is already proposed and assume that there would not be any conflict between the uses if part of this was also used for future public access.

b) Decisions received from BCKLWN / NCC

APPROVAL GRANTED

Use of land for the stationing of 4no. additional camping pods at Kings Lynn Caravan and Camping Park, Parkside House, New Road, North Runcton.

18. Finance

N.R. PARISH COUNCIL				
Mrs K Senter	Clerk's salary	BACS	£	205.83
HMRC	PAYE	BACS	£	51.70
KVT BusinessCare Ltd.	One third parish phone bill etc	101001	£	27.60
NTPT (NALC)	F Leamon – Cllr. training	101002	£	40.00
			£	325.13
VILLAGE MEETING PLACE				
J R Mann Builders	Repairs to VMP – replacement cheque	100037	£	375.82
J R Mann Builders	Repairs to VMP	100038	£	110.00
			£	485.82

Cllr Morrish proposed that the payments be agreed and paid. This was seconded by Cllr Markham and agreed by all.

19. Items for report or future agenda only.

It was noted that the Council may need to consider employing a cleaner for the Village Meeting Place.

20. Resolve to exclude the press and the public in light of the following item of a sensitive nature.

Cllr Morrish proposed that the press and the public be excluded and Cllr F Leamon seconded this. All agreed.

21. School Road – the Council will consider further correspondence with reference to ongoing issues.

The Council considered correspondence received but agreed to adjourn the item to the next meeting.

22. Dates of forthcoming meetings in 2014: -

The following meeting dates were agreed: - 11th March 2014.

There being no further business the meeting closed.

Signed

11th March 2014