

## **MORSTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES of the parish council meeting held on Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 at the Village Hall, Morston - (7pm)**

**Covid 19 – The public health advice and guidance (as at previous meetings) was still followed.**

**Present:** J.Burdell (Chair), C.Bean, J.Tibbetts, R.Hamond, J.Temple, C.Ward, and the Clerk. Also present were V.Egan (National Trust) and two members of the public

### **1a. To receive and consider apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr.S.Bean. Apologies were also received from Dr.V.Holliday (NNDC).

### **1b. To receive Declarations of Interest on agenda items**

R.Hamond declared interests in 4c and 6b.

### **2. To approve the minutes of meeting held 28.7.21.**

The minutes, which had already been circulated, were accepted as a true record.  
(Prop: RH, Sec: JPT).

### **3a. Public Participation (requests to speak on agenda items)**

Request re item 14.

### **3b. To receive reports from District & County Councillors, Police & NT.**

\*\*\* Dr.V.Holliday (NNDC) submitted a written report which had been circulated and referred to (a) a new Director for Place and Climate Change (b) recent issues with bin collections (c) the social prescribing service (d) underspend by NNDC of £750k (e) the Reef in Sheringham will be opening shortly (f) the new Local Plan will be out for consultation later this year (g) preparation for the storm season and (h) the phone number 111 campaign.

\*\*\* V.Egan (NT) reported that she was pleased to be attending a meeting again and informed members that there had been new appointments at the NT. Replacing the toilets had now become a priority and a new Project Manager was in post. She hoped to report back in November to MPC with more details, and talks with AWA were ongoing. There was a need to increase the number of toilets and she assured members that the project would be completed as soon as possible. There was a funding problem and she would speak further to members at a future meeting on this matter.

Referring to the defibrillator, it was hoped this would arrive soon. Members requested that further training would be arranged similar to that when the first defibrillator was installed at the village hall.

### **4. Finance:**

#### **(a) To approve the following payments :-**

P.Bullimore £323.30, HMRC £80.80, Creake Pest Control Servs £110.00,

J.Tibbetts £644.48, Secret Gardens £290.00, PKF Littlejohn £240.00,

P.Bullimore £27.43, T.Leach £80.00.

\*\*\* The above payments, as scheduled on the agenda, were approved.

(Prop: CB, Sec: JT).

**(b) To consider new street lighting contract w.e.f. 1/10/21.**

The Clerk informed members that the cost of £36.09 per annum represented good value for money. The 7 lamps would be cleaned and inspected annually and being tied into a contract enabled the clerk to obtain emergency call-outs if necessary (extra costs involved). It was agreed to renew the contract with T.T.Jones Electrical Ltd and the papers be duly signed (Prop: JB, Sec: CB).

**(c) To consider request for donation from Local Lynx.**

The Clerk read the letter from the Local Lynx Treasurer dated 10/9/21 and after a brief discussion it was agreed to donate £250 as last year. (Prop: JT, Sec: CB).

**5. Planning:**

**(a) To note decisions & information received from NNDC since last meeting.**

RV/21/1565; Approval to extend the planning permission re toilets on the quay etc.. had been given to the National Trust.

**(b) To consider planning applications received since agenda was printed**

None received.

**(c) To note PC decisions re planning applications since the last meeting.**

Under the policy of “Decisions between meetings” the Clerk had informed NNDC of : PF/21/2186; Change of use of land, Langham Rd; Object on the same basis as before. PF/21/2199; Conversion of garage at 24 The Street; Support subject to the garage continuing to be part of Church Cottage (24, The Street) PF/21/2312; Rear extn, roofing etc at 19, The Street; No objections other than note re powder coated metal windows not suitable.

**6. Highways and Footpath Matters:**

**(a) To receive update re maintenance of the pond.**

JB had received a quotation in the sum of £6,700 for the borehole (circulated to members 20/9/21) and coupled with what had already been spent (approx. £4k) concerns were expressed regarding the way forward. A lot of money had been spent on getting rid of the invasive species of weed etc under the supervision of the Environment Agency. It was agreed to invite a parishioner who had written on this matter previously, who had some expertise on this subject, to contact the Clerk or members to help progress this matter. V.Egan (NT) would also see whether officers in their organisation could be of assistance.

**(b) To further consider the maintenance of the Havokey**

Following some members having concerns re contributing to the costs the Clerk had written to the NT requesting further information. There had been no reply and V.Egan was invited to speak on the matter. She informed the meeting that the NT does not use this access very much and were not responsible for the standard of the track hence the suggestion that the PC might contribute. The NT had no funds available til February 2022 for any major work although the hedges etc. had been cut back. RH stated that the track was in a terrible condition and JT queried the NT’s stance on responsibility based on their work there over many years. JPT asked who would be responsible and liable for damage to cars if claims arose. After further discussion V.Egan (NT) agreed to come back to members with suggestions for simple repair work and consequently lower costs than had been intimated previously.

**(c) To further consider the parking area east of church (surface)**

JB agreed to chase Wordingham’s regarding “renewing the surface”

**7. Meetings & Conferences (announcements & reports)**

No new announcements or reports.

**8. Caravan Site and Village Hall:**

**(a) To further consider way forward following completion of tenancies.**

The Chair opened the discussion by stating that he wished “to put to bed” any thoughts re not having a caravan site. His thoughts had been to get back to a “workable space” for the village hall because the land had been gifted in 1935 for that purpose. The caravan tenancies expire in the spring of 2023 and JPT stated that this was an opportunity to look at all possibilities. JPT reminded members of the community spirit surrounding the recent Covid19 party. The working group had produced a report for members to digest giving background details, occupancy arrangements, shortcomings, alternative arrangements, etc...which they hoped could be discussed and acted upon because the village hall and site was given to all Morston parishioners and had become dominated by the scale and usage of the caravan site.

**9. To receive update re Ambulance Response Times**

Minutes of recent meetings etc... had been circulated.

**10. To further consider the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebrations (June 2022)**

JPT suggested parishioners could be more involved in these celebrations. Carry forward to next agenda.

**11. To receive report re Morston Regatta on 14/8/21**

CW reported that the weather, wind, and tide had all been perfect. 45 boats had entered and it had been one of the best regattas for years. CW had received many positive comments.

**12. To receive report re Covid19 “Thank you party”**

JPT had produced a written report and stated that this had been a great party with around 100 people attending (had received more positive responses to invitations). Things had gone really well and demonstrated what a good community spirit there is in Morston. The volunteers were essential and worked hard and the Chair asked for a vote of thanks be recorded for JPT and all concerned.

**13. To receive correspondence (not included in agenda items above)**

NALC would be presenting a commemorative plaque to Morston re Covid19 resilience etc. The Norfolk Lieutenants Office would make the presentation.

**14. Public Participation (comments/other matters)**

RH reported on a new rep. for the Local Lynx.

**15. To confirm date of next meeting and/or future arrangements.**

This was agreed for Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2021. (7pm)