

MORSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the parish council meeting held on Wednesday, 26th October, 2022 at the Village Hall, Morston - 7pm

Present: J.Burdell (Chair), C.Bean, J.Tibbetts, R.Hamond, J.Temple, M.Harrison and the Clerk. Also present were Dr.V.Holliday (NNDC), and 7 members of the public.

1a. To receive and consider apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr.C.Ward.

1b. To receive Declarations of Interest on agenda items

No interests declared.

2. To approve the minutes of meeting held 28.9.22.

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

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

The Chairman received a request to speak on item 6(a).

3b. To receive reports from District & County Councillors.

*** Dr.V.Holliday (NNDC) had submitted a written report which had been circulated to members. It referred to :- (a) Planning; update re nutrient neutrality, a planning services review, and update re the Local Plan (b) Coastal; Coastal Adaption Supplementary document produced (c) Housing; 52 affordable houses to be built this year, and the many grants available for adapting homes (d) Leisure; various stakeholders discussing jet ski users and work on Cromer Pier has started (e) Environment; update re problems with new waste collection rounds (f) Financial; provisional out-turn for 2021/22 is a surplus of £616k. (g) Two new community first responders from Stiffkey (h) NNDC performance figures – comparison with other districts.

Dr.Holliday also spoke re 2nd homes council tax and members had mixed views.

3c. To receive report from NT and consider new toilet block & its funding.

No report received.

4. Finance:

(a) To approve the following payments :-

P.Bullimore £329.90, HMRC £82.60, Countrystyle Recycling £71.70,
Reboot Systems £55.00, T.Leach £40.00, P.Bullimore £20.05,
Mayday Office Eqmt £20.22, Secret Gardens £370.00, PKF Littlejohn £240.00

*** The above payments, as scheduled on the agenda, plus one other payment, were approved (Prop: JPT, Sec: CB). The other payment was to S.Meakin in the sum £18.85 for copying paper.

(b) To receive report re the Insurance Review.

The Clerk reported that he had concentrated on the revaluation of the village hall and had now instructed North & Hawkins Surveyors to carry out the work. He would report to members again next month.

(c) To review Clerk's Expenses.

The monthly allowance for the Clerks "fixed expenses" was £13.75. It was agreed to increase this sum to £25.00 and would cover the use of a room as an office.

Phone and Broadband. (Prop: JB, Sec: JT)

(d) To note External Audit Report 2021/22.

The Clerk read the satisfactory external audit report. Noted.

5. Planning:

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

Nothing received.

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

None received.

(c) To consider the NNDC Planning Review

Details had been emailed to members on 13/10/22 and it was agreed that the Clerk's response to the questionnaire be forwarded to NNDC. i.e. concerns re the difficulties getting to speak to a planning officer when required.

6. Highways and Footpath Matters:

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

JPT reported that a general meeting had taken place where they had formed a not for profit community group. A small committee had been appointed and a constitution constructed for what would be known as SWAMP (Sustainable work at Morston Pond). A membership fee of £5 pa would be charged, but JPT had experienced difficulties opening a bank account and requested help from the parish council. It was agreed that the group uses the PC bank account for the time being with JPT and the Clerk keeping the appropriate records (Prop: JB, Sec: RH). It was further agreed that the PC advances up to £2,500 to cover initial costs such as paying for a contractor to scrape the pond, (Prop: JB, Sec: RH). With up to 30 people expressing an interest in this project JPT was optimistic going forward.

(b) To further consider review of street lighting.

The Clerk reported that he had not been able to obtain further quotations for the proposed light adjacent to the Havokey. It was agreed to suspend financial regulations, proceeding with T.T.Jones Electrical, and request an updated quotation for a new light on this site. (Prop:JT, Sec: CB). The Clerk would also request the contractor looks at a light on Langham Road that was not working.

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

The Chair was still waiting for the contractor's to visit the site.

(d) To note damage to posts & sign at parking area east of church.

The Clerk had reported this matter to NCC Highways and to the Police. The damaged road sign would hopefully be dealt with by NCC Highways a.s.a.p., but in the meantime the Clerk would contact the PC's contractor to replace the damaged timber posts and reflectors surrounding this area.

7. Meetings & Conferences (announcements & reports)

Dark Skies event (emailed to members on 21/10/22) – Noted.

8. Caravan Site and Village Hall:

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

The Chair stated that drafting a new tenancy agreement was still the priority and he and JPT would arrange this in time for members to study the document prior to the next meeting. The Clerk would make a diary note to cover this arrangement.

9. To note Local Government Elections in May, 2023.

It was agreed to continue to promote the local elections in 2023 and JPT would circulate information within her email group.

10. To note/consider NCC Highways Partnership Scheme 2023/24.

Agreed to carry forward to next meeting (applications close in December, 2022)

11. To receive initial report re the Morston Regatta 2023.

CW had informed the Clerk that a date for 2023 had yet to be fixed.

12. To further consider updating the PC. website.

The existing arrangements would continue (RH posting routine information from the Clerk on to the website) and JPT would try and progress a social network side.

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

A thank you letter had been received from the Local Lynx re the donation.

The Chair had received new pads for the village hall defibrillator but asked the Clerk to enquire as to whether a reserve set needed to be purchased.

14. Public Participation (comments/other matters)

Fly-Tipping had occurred on the old surveyors allotment (adjacent to the Blakeney boundary on the A149) and the Clerk was instructed to inform NNDC and the police.

15. To confirm date of next meeting and future agenda items.

This was confirmed for Wednesday, 30th November, 2022. (7pm).