

MORSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 27th March, 2024 at the Village Hall, Morston - 7.00pm.

Present: J.Tibbetts (Chair), R.Hamond, C.Bean, M.Harrison, J.Temple, C.Ward.

1a. To receive and consider apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr.R.Metcalf. Apologies were also received from V.Egan (NT) and V.Holliday (NNDC).

1b. To receive Declarations of Interest on agenda items

None received.

2. To approve the minutes of meeting held 28.2.24.

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)

No requests to speak on agenda items.

3b. To receive reports from District/County Councillors and the Police

V.Holliday (NNDC) had submitted a written report which had been circulated.
Reports re the Blakeney Surgery and the Digital Switchover were covered.

3c. To receive report from NT.

The Chair had received a verbal report from V.Egan (NT) which covered thanks to JT and his team for work on the car park and an update on the toilet project. (The scheme was being put to the Regional Board for finance approval). The PC was also invited to a site meeting on the quay to discuss the scheme.

4. Finance:

(a) To approve the following payments :-

P.Bullimore £378.10 (clerks net salary), HMRC £94.40 (tax on salary)
T.Jones Electrical £204.83 (light mtce), P.Bullimore £27.95 (clerks exp),
Nfk Parish Training & Support £55.00 (sub), CPRE £45.00 (sub),
Mayday Office Equipment £22.57 (photocopying charges)

*** The above payments, as scheduled on the agenda, plus one other payment, were approved (Prop: CW, Sec: JT). The other payment was in the sum of £540.00 payable to J.Cox for tree surgery.

(b) To receive further update re the Investment Plan

The Chair was hoping to move this matter forward as at long last the PC had internet banking.

5. Planning:

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

No decisions etc since the last meeting.

The Chair referred members to the NNDC Planning Officers guidance on the Toilet Project. (Pre Application proposals). Key points raised were (a) the development should not result in an increase of visitor numbers (b) the footprint is too large; an accepted need for replacement toilets but the need for anything further is less clear (c)

the development should have the support of the local community. The Chair stated that the local community, the Parish Council, and the Ward Councillor have legitimate concerns regarding the potential suburbanisation and commercialism of a wild natural landscape, in this precious undeveloped coast. They all want the NT to demonstrate why development, other than replacement toilets, is necessary for the operation and management of the site and to ensure any development, does not have the potential to draw more visitors to the site.

(b) To consider planning applications received since agenda was printed
None received.

6. Highways and Footpath Matters:

(a) To receive report re updating SAM2 sign for traffic survey

It was not certain whether the SAM2 sign could be updated to collect data and with the costs likely to be in the region of £800, if it was possible, it was agreed to look into having a private survey.

7. Meetings & Conferences (announcements & reports)

The Chair reported her attendance at the NNDC Planning Roadshow in Cromer and gave the dates to members of the future events.

8. Caravan Site and Village Hall:

(a) To consider kitchen improvements

Following discussion, and receipt of a parishioners letter, it was agreed to purchase a new fridge, cooker, and sundry items (glasses) for the kitchen. The Chair, RH, and CB would deal with this considering the environmental impact of the purchases and limiting the cost to £1500.

(b) To note/consider the Village Hall Inventory

It was agreed to carry this matter forward to the next meeting.

(c) To further consider montage/collection of mementos for display.

Nothing further to report.

(d) Update on Maintenance Log & Work (including west fence (Quay Lane)

This would be carried forward to the next meeting. (JPT and RL to meet JT to forward the painting of the speed humps in Quay Lane)

(e) To consider replacing electricity supply boxes for caravans.

Following concerns re a damaged box, and reports from the electrician that the boxes did not meet current regulations, it was agreed to replace all the boxes at a cost of £380 per box. The Clerk would instruct the electrician to proceed.

9. To receive update re proposed closure of Blakeney Surgery.

Already discussed at item 3(b).

10. To receive update on concerns re feral cats in the village

It was agreed to distribute leaflets to all households inviting comments and suggestions.

11. Governance:- To consider Action Plan (2024/25) and the Biodiversity Policy

MH reporting verbally shared his thoughts re a Biodiversity Plan. This would be circulated to all councillors and discussed at the next meeting.

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

There had been a request, from a tenant, to deal with the weeds on the caravan site. JT agreed to deal with this matter.

Thank you letter from the First Responders. The Chair and RH will be organising a talk from the First Responders later in the year.

Email complaining about the state of the NT car park and roadway asking for the PC to have some input.

13. Public Participation (comments/other matters)

Request for a SWAMP report to be on the next agenda.

14. To confirm date of next council meeting & future agenda items.

This was confirmed for Wednesday, 24th April, 2024 at 7pm