

## **MORSTON PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES of the annual parish council meeting held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2019 at the Village Hall, Morston - (followed the parish meeting)**

**Present:** J.Burdell (Chair), Mrs.C.Bean, S.Bean, Mrs.J.Tibbetts, Mrs.R.Hamond, C.Ward, J.Temple, and the Clerk. Also present were Dr.M.Strong (NCC) and two members of the public.

#### **1a. To elect Chairman & signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

J.Burdell was elected Chairman for the coming year and duly signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office (Prop: CB, Sec: JPT).

#### **1b. To elect Vice-Chair & signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

It was agreed to carry this appointment forward to the next agenda. (Prop.JB Sec.JPT)

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

All members were present. Apologies were received from K.Ward (NNDC) and V.Egan (NT).

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

No interests declared on agenda items.

#### **2. To approve the minutes of meeting held 24/4/19.**

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

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

A parishioner requested to speak on item 8(b).

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

\*\*\* Dr.M.Strong (NCC) reported on the following :- (a) referring back to the parish meeting Dr.Strong warmly applauded the parish councils efforts in bringing Broadband to the village (b) the Wells re-cycling shop would be opening very shortly (c) update on childrens centres; Action for Children (d) variations in the mobile library stops (e) NCC. Cabinet System starts next Monday (f) requests to arrange for overgrowth to be removed from road signage.

\*\*\* K.Ward (NNDC) had informed members that she was attending a NNDC Meeting. She had been allocated the Planning Portfolio following the recent elections. No reports from the NT and the Police.

#### **4. Finance:**

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

P.Bullimore £255.70, HMRC £63.80, S.Meakin £100.00, Came & Co £1302.36, T.Leach 120.00, P.Bullimore £43.94, Secret Gardens £255.00, NNDC £1025.50

The above payments, scheduled on the agenda, were approved (Prop: CW, Sec: CB)

##### **(b) To note/consider Internal Audit Report & Governance Statement.**

The Clerk read the satisfactory internal audit report for the year ending 31/3/19 to members, and following discussion, the Governance Statement was approved and duly signed.

**(c) To note/consider Accounting Statements 2018/19.**

A brief discussion, including comments regarding the year end balances, was followed by members approving the Accounting Statements for 2018/19. The statement was signed by the Chair and Clerk/RFO.

**(d) To note/consider annual insurance.**

The insurance with Inspire via Came & Co. was in its final year of a three year agreement and was duly approved by members.

**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**

PF/19/0744; Installation of boiler flue at Scaldbeck House, Stiffkey Road.

Members agreed to support this application (Prop: JB, Sec: CW). RH did not vote.

**(c) To consider response re consultation on NNDCs First Draft Local Plan.**

Following K.Wards advice received previously, in that nothing much has changed for Morston in the new draft Local Plan, it was agreed not to respond.

**(d) PF/19/0614; Variation of conditions 2 & 4 at 1, Morston Hall Barns.**

Members agreed that they had no objections to this application (Prop: CW, Sec: RH). JPT did not vote.

**6. Highways and Footpath Matters:**

**(a) To receive update re the proposed path through the Churchyard**

Nothing further to report.

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

The Chair had met with the contractor (Conservation Works) who had agreed to carry out another spraying of the pond. During their conversation, and referring to the annual problem of very low water levels, the contractor asked whether a bore-hole had been considered to supply water to the pond. Members asked the Clerk to contact the contractor with a view to carrying out a feasibility study regarding this suggestion

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

The Clerk had no new announcements.

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

**(a) To consider purchasing new chairs for the village hall**

JPT said she would provide details of the company to the Chair and Clerk so this matter could be progressed.

**(b) To review the caravan site tenancy agreement; replace west hedge.**

Members agreed that they would accept the quotation from the contractor without going out to tender because he had carried out good work for the PC in the past and was a local trader. The Clerk was asked to arrange another site visit when the Chair could enquire as to whether this was the best type of fencing and whether a watering system for the hedge could be installed. The Chair would also enquire regarding costs for new fencing on the northern and eastern boundaries of the site.

**(c) To consider purchasing audio equipment for the village hall**

The new microphone, as recommended by JPT, would be ordered soon.

**(d) To consider email regarding village hall charges.**

The Clerk read an email from a hall user enquiring as to why there had been a large increase in the hall hire charges and whether the PC would consider a reduction in

their charges. After discussion members felt that the charges had been too low for many years and they had only been brought in to line with other village hall hire fees. The Clerk was instructed to reply accordingly.

**9. To receive update re the Morston Regatta. (2019) (CW).**

CW reported that arrangements were progressing and he had been informed that a band for the evening event had been booked.

**10. To consider PC calendar for 2019-20.**

It was agreed to continue meeting on the final Wednesday of the month with a break in August and December each year.

**11. To receive update re Better Broadband for the village**

The Chair reported on a meeting with all interested parties on 21/5/19 regarding the cable project on the A149. The new contractors, using the new mole type machine, hoped to carry out the work in September/October subject to the landowners crop timetable.

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

Nothing received.

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

No comments or other matters.

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

This was confirmed for Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2019 (7pm).