

MORSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the parish council meeting held on Wednesday, 31st July, 2019 at the Village Hall, Morston - (7.30pm)

Present: J.Burdell (Chair), Mrs.C.Bean, S.Bean, Mrs.J.Tibbetts, Mrs.R.Hamond, C.Ward, and the Clerk. Also present was S.Fenn (NT).

1a. To receive and consider apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from J.Temple. Apologies were also received from K.Ward (NNDC) and Dr.M.Strong (NCC).

1b. To receive Declarations of Interest on agenda items

No interests declared on agenda items.

1c. To elect Vice-Chair & signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

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

2. To approve the minutes of meeting held 26/6/19.

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

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

No members of the public present.

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

*** Dr.M.Strong (NCC) reported via email on the following :- (a) update re 5G mobile network (b) update on the new Norwich western link road costing approx. £153m. (c) bringing Norfolk roads back up to a suitable standard would cost approx £36m. (d) amnesty days at recycling centres (e) further reminder re reporting potholes and other highway problems.

*** K.Ward (NNDC) reported via email on the following :- (a) the capability and capacity review had been carried out by the new council (b) this had given the cabinet a clear view on what needed changing (c) the new Local Plan consultation was now closed with some 2,000 comments being received (d) the trees on the caravan site were on the edge of the conservation area and therefore the Tree Officer at NNDC needed to be consulted as did the removal of the old hedge on the western boundary. (e) a pre-application re a dwelling north of the coast road in Blakeney.

*** S.Fenn (NT) spoke on the following :- (a) the NT had now agreed to a defibrillator being installed on their building on the quay and requested the PC to finance this. Various conditions would have to be agreed before this could proceed. This was not an agenda item and the Chair stated that this would have to be considered at the next meeting. (b) improved catering facilities at the quay; a report for members information would be available prior to the next meeting (c) work on the Havokey road surface would be carried out in the next two weeks.

4. Finance:

(a) To approve the following payments :-

P.Bullimore £255.70, HMRC £63.80, Mayday Office Equipment £11.95
Secret Gardens £330.00, P.Bullimore £37.24, D.Sadler £4,250.00,

T. Leach £100.00, J. Tibbetts £72.76, Indigo Waste Services £22.80

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

(b) To further consider request for donation towards emergency servs drone.

It was agreed to carry this matter forward to the next meeting when it was hoped the police would be in attendance and further information would be available.

(c) To note re-declaration of compliance with the Pensions Regulator.

Noted. The PC had met its legal requirements as an employer.

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 response re national flood & coast erosion strategy (England)

It was agreed that members respond as individuals if they so wished. No response from the PC.

(d) To note PCs response to NNDC re PF/19/0923; Larkfields, Blakeney.

The PC response was to make “no comment” - Noted.

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 Clerk had not heard from the contractor and the Chair would follow this up asking them to carry out a further spraying and give a brief report regarding bore-holes.

(c) To note/consider NCC Highways Partnership Scheme 2020/21.

Carried forward to next agenda. Applications to NCC close in December, 2019..

(d) To note problems with grass cutting and moles

The Chair summarised the situation and informed members that the grass cutting contractor was increasing his price to £145 per cut. Repeated damage to his equipment has forced him to consider terminating the contract. The Chair said he would not like to see a situation whereby the village grass cutting was jeopardised by the state of the churchyard (stones and building materials left by contractors) and it was agreed he writes to the parochial church council to try and resolve the matter. It was also agreed that he appoints a local mole-catcher to try and terminate the mole problem (Prop: CW, Sec: JPT). Members agreed that the contractors work in the village in recent times was of a high standard and they did not want to lose his services.

7. Meetings & Conferences (announcements & reports)

No new announcements.

8. Caravan Site and Village Hall:

(a) To receive update re purchasing new chairs for the village hall

JPT would be taking this “on board” again and would report back to members.

(b) To receive update re the replacement of west hedge/ & boundary fence

The fencing work on the north and east boundaries of the site had been completed. The western hedge (fronting Quay Lane) was earmarked for November when birds nesting and high visitor numbers to the quay would not be a problem. The NNDC

Tree Officer had agreed the removal of what was left of the old hedge and it would eventually be replaced with holm-oak. It was agreed to place a small article in the Local Lynx informing parishioners and other interested parties (RH).

(c) To receive update re state of the trees on parish council boundary

The NNDC Tree Officer had agreed the PCs proposals and said that the contractor would liaise with him, when necessary, when the work was carried out. The Chair had arranged to meet the contractor on 5th August with a view to carrying out the lopping and felling work soon. Members had already agreed to the sharing of costs with the landowner in the interests of site tenants.

(d) To receive/consider update re request for tenants insurance certificates

The Clerk informed members that one tenants certificates were still outstanding and he would follow up this matter again. Having spoken to the tenants concerned he hoped that this would be resolved by the next meeting. Noted.

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

All was in hand although CW stated that he could not be at the sailing events which would be overseen by the Blakeney Sailing Club. A big tide was expected on the day and the prizegiving and barbeque would follow in the evening.

10. To receive update re Better Broadband for the village

The Chair reported that the cable laying company and the land owner were discussing access to the fields and the “green cabinet” was now in position in Langham Road. JB said that the project would soon come to fruition and fibre broadband would be a great asset to the village. Members thanked the Chair for his work on the scheme.

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

Note re NNDC Environment Awards from K.Ward, and a questionnaire from HMRC (Valuation Office) re the caravan site (Clerk & Chair to complete)

12. Public Participation (comments/other matters)

No members of the public present.

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

It was agreed that the next meeting would be on Wednesday, 25th September, 2019 (7pm).