

MORSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the parish council meeting held on Wednesday, 22nd March, 2023 at the Village Hall, Morston - 7pm

Present: J.Burdell (Chair), C.Bean, R.Hamond, C.Ward, M.Harrison, and the Clerk. Also present were Dr.V.Holliday (NNDC), M.Dalby (NCC), V.Egan (NT), and two members of the public.

1a. To receive and consider apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. J.Tibbetts and J.Temple.

1b. To receive Declarations of Interest on agenda items

No interests declared.

2. To approve the minutes of meeting held 22.2.23.

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

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

The Chair received a request from a parishioner to speak on 6c.

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) New Local Plan approved for submission (b) crack down on bad jet-ski use (c) NNDC Mammoth Marathon had been cancelled (d) No obvious reason for loss of three blue beach flags (e) £150k of shared prosperity fund is now with NNDC (f) update on housing statistics (g) the Household Support Fund extension is now live (h) weekly collection of used household batteries (i) a balanced budget is proposed for 2023/24 (j) update re Shoreline Management Plan. (k) update re the County Deal (l) increase in members local Highways Allowance to £11k. (m) major multi-million pound deal to improve education support for children (n) Norfolk to benefit from new Family Hubs & Start for Life funding.

VH also spoke further on jet-skis and gave an update on the Blakeney Surgery.

*** M.Dalby (NCC) had submitted a written report which had been circulated to members which referred to the consultation on the A149 Hunstanton to Sheringham speed limits. Members were broadly in favour but had some reservations regarding 40 mph being applied to roads such as the Stiffkey Chase west of the village. (Prop: RH, Sec: CB).

3c. To receive report from NT.

V.Egan (NT) reported on the new toilets stating that Natural England had been consulted on the pre-app work and an external management company had now been engaged to forward this project. A “start-up” meeting had been arranged for 24/3/23 with all agencies involved. VE also referred to pre-season ongoing work on the car park and getting ready on Blakeney Point for the bird breeding season.

4. Finance:

(a) To approve the following payments :-

P.Bullimore £354.10, HMRC £88.40, Anglian Water Business £74.04,
J.Burdell £61.53, P.Bullimore £51.80, "SWAMP" £203.87

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

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.

6. Highways and Footpath Matters:

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

Further work had been carried out by SWAMP and JPT would give a report at the next meeting. A brief discussion took place following the Chair's concerns re leaving bags of waste adjacent to the pond site.

(b) To receive update re street lighting.

The Clerk informed members that T.T.Jones Electrical had been instructed to install three new lights (one immediately east of the Havokey and two adjacent to the Anchor Pub). It was noted that there may be a delay as permission was required from BT to use their pole immediately west of the pub.

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

A parishioner asked about the PC paying for further work on this piece of land. The Clerk had spoken with the manager of the pub who had indicated that they would consider sharing costs if further work was necessary. The surface was still in a satisfactory condition.

7. Meetings & Conferences (announcements & reports)

No further announcements.

8. Caravan Site and Village Hall:

(a) To further consider purchasing new village hall chairs.

CW had done extensive research which included visiting premises in Binham, Blakeney and Cley to look at chairs. He had concluded that fabric covered chairs were more suitable and brought a sample chair to the meeting. He stated that all chairs seen were similar in design and asked members to approve purchasing 80 of this particular chair. This was agreed (Prop: CB, Sec: RH) and the Clerk was instructed to place an order with "Furniture Online" for 80 red chairs. The cost was approx. £32 per chair plus VAT and a trolley would also be ordered at a cost of £129 plus VAT. (Total cost including VAT = £3250). CW was hopeful of a delivery in 4 – 5 weeks. Members thanked CW for his work.

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

Posters advertising the elections were now on the notice board and the website. The Clerk had nomination packs available for members.

10. Update re use of V. Hall for Wells Comm.Hosp. outreach programme.

No further news.

11. To receive report re the Morston Regatta 2023.

CW had nothing further to report.

12. To consider report re Blakeney Neighbourhood Plan.

Information had been circulated to members which was inviting comments following the Independent Examiner's Report. As with the original plan members agreed not to comment.

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

A receipt/acknowledgement from the ICO re the data protection fee was noted.

14. Public Participation (comments/other matters)

There was a brief discussion re wi-fi at the village hall which the PC had considered in the past.

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

This was confirmed for Wednesday, 26th April, 2023. (7pm)

The Clerk informed members that the May meeting would have to be earlier in the month because of regulations regarding an election year. To comply the PC would have to meet on Wed. 17th May.

The Annual Parish Meeting was usually held on the same night as the PC meeting in May.