

MORSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the parish council meeting held on Wednesday, 29th June, 2022 at the Village Hall, Morston - 7pm.

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

1a. To receive and consider apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr.J.Temple. Apologies were also received from V.Egan (National Trust).

1b. To receive Declarations of Interest on agenda items

No interests declared.

2. To approve the minutes of meeting held 25.5.22

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)

No requests to speak on agenda items.

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

*** Dr.V.Holliday (NNDC) had submitted a written report which had been circulated to members. It referred to :- (a) Coastal; No further news re share of £36m fund re innovative approaches to coastal erosion (b) Housing; 160 affordable homes built last year and 49 households currently in temporary accommodation (c) Culture; Next meeting of Community Art Funding Panel on 28/7/22 (d) Leisure; There is currently a bid in for a new swimming pool in Fakenham and seasonal lifeguards are now in place on 4 coastal sites (e) Economic Growth Team are working on a Business Engagement Plan (f) There are plans for the collection of food waste next year (g) Net Zero Action Plan has been adopted (h) Finance; NNDC one of the best at paying out Coronavirus grant aid (i) Customer Services; new phone system for directing customers being introduced (j) Planning; Consultants appointed to work with planners on the Nutrient Neutrality issue. Dr.Holliday also gave a verbal update on the ambulance response times issue.

*** M.Dalby (NCC) had submitted a written report and referred to the following :- (a) Consultation on Norfolk Bus Services (b) The "Million Trees for Norfolk Project" and (c) Norfolk Swift Response Team now set up to provide urgent physical or practical support which does not come under the 999 category (free service).

***The Clerk informed members that the council would not be getting police reports in the future and the police would be giving a reactive service to councils. i.e. dealing with specific issues raised by councils. Crime statistics are always available on their website.

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

An email (28/6/22) from V.Egan had been circulated to members referring to proceeding to a pre-application stage with the toilets, and thanking members for their feedback. It also referred to the temporary car park work being carried out. Members

expressed concern re the progress being made with the toilet block and Dr.V.Holliday said she would make enquiries with the NT.

4. Finance:

(a) To approve the following payments :-

P.Bullimore £329.90, HMRC £82.60, Efire £127.20, E. Eng.Ambulance £336.00, D.Sadler £195.00, T.Leach £20.00, P.Bullimore £55.98, S.Meakin £110.00, Secret Gardens £370.00, T.Jones Elect £110.62, E.Eng.Ambulance £1989.40.

The above payments, as scheduled on the agenda, plus three other payments, were approved (Prop: CW, Sec: RH). The “other” payments all related to expenses regarding the Jubilee celebrations and were as follows:- G.Kay £161.00, A.Cardoe £39.45 and J.Tibbetts £90.95.

(b) To note Internal Audit Report for 31.3.22.

A satisfactory report was duly noted.

(c) To approve Governance Statement for 31.3.22.

This was approved and duly signed by the Chair and Clerk (Prop: JPT, Sec: RH)

(d) To approve Accounting Statement for 31.3.22.

This was duly approved and signed by the Chair and Clerk (Prop: CB, Sec: CW).

(e) To receive update regarding Insurance Review.

Following the Clerk’s statement at last month’s meeting, and the decision to seek more professional help, the Clerk informed members that an insurance practitioner from Saffron Insurance had agreed to carry out the review. Members agreed to this appointment (Prop: JB, Sec: JPT). He would be visiting the village to look at all the PC’s assets, reading all the relevant detail contained in the PDF files submitted by the insurers, and submitting a report and recommendations to the council in the next couple of months.

(f) To note compliance regarding Pension Regulations.

This was duly noted. The Clerk was not in a pension scheme with Morston PC.

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) PF/22/0545; Reduction of height of chimneys; Anchor Inn, The Street.

(d) PF/22/0546; Retention of works re above to make safe; Anchor Inn.

It was agreed “no objections” to the above applications (Prop: JB, Sec: JPT).

6. Highways and Footpath Matters:

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

JPT reported that she was still seeking further information although it was worth mentioning that a rare plant had been discovered at the site. She was still consulting with experts as to the best way forward.

(b) To consider review of street lighting (report by Chair)

The Chair and Clerk had met with a director of T.T.Jones Electrical and a report/redacted quotation from the contractors was circulated to members. The Chair went through this report and asked members to consider whether the village needed further lighting. CW had concerns with security at night and RH referred to the dark skies policy. The Chair said that members might have different opinions and time was needed to consider the way forward. It was agreed to accept the quotation for

electrical testing (T.T.Jones Electrical £140 + VAT) on the street lights and the Clerk was asked to instruct the contractors to proceed with this work (Prop: CB, Sec: JPT)

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

No further news.

(d) To receive update & consider traffic speeds in the village.

Members agreed to remove this matter from the agenda for the time being. As well as pedestrian warning signs being installed much work had been agreed at the western end of the village on the A149 (different coloured road surface, 30mph roundels painted on the road, large posts holding the speed restriction signs to be painted white, new post installed for the SAM2 flashing speed sign, and an existing electronic speed message sign. Members agreed that some speeding motorists would never be stopped without more police intervention.

7. Meetings & Conferences (announcements & reports)

Ambulance Response Times meeting on 5/7/22 – circ to members 25/6/22.

Salthouse meeting on 31/5/22 – circ to members 25/5/22.

8. Caravan Site and Village Hall:

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

The Chair stated that he and JPT would be meeting to produce a further draft of a new tenancy agreement with a view to presenting to councillors, and if approved, discussing with tenants fairly soon. NNDC would be contacted regarding producing a new licence for the site. Noted.

9. To consider the proposed Barclays Bank closure in Holt.

The Clerk was instructed to write expressing concern regarding the proposed closure of Barclays Bank in Holt. (copy to Duncan Baker MP)

10. To receive report re the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations (June 2022)

JPT reported on what had been excellent celebration events. Many people had assisted her and the cost to the PC was around £500. The Chair agreed and congratulated JPT and all who had helped. CW stated that the bonfire was great with the blue light visit creating an interesting talking point; there had been an excellent turnout and the party was also brilliant.

11. To further consider the Morston Regatta in 2022.

CW reported all was looking good and reminded members of the earlier start this year. The prizegiving would be similar to last year.

12. To consider updating the PC. website.

RH had emailed members on this matter on 26/5/22. She thought professional help was the way forward expanding the website as members wished. JPT knew of somebody who could maintain the site and assist the PC. It was decided more thought was required and it was agreed to carry this matter forward to the next agenda.

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

Thank you letter from Nfk Accident Rescue Service re the £100 donation.

14. Public Participation (comments/other matters) – Enquiry re site bins

15. To confirm date of next meeting. – Confirmed for Wed.27th July (7.30pm)

