

MORSTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the parish council meeting held on Wednesday, 25th January, 2023 at the Village Hall, Morston - 7pm

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

1a. To receive and consider apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr.J.Tibbetts. Apologies were also received from M.Dalby (NCC) and V.Egan (NT).

1b. To receive Declarations of Interest on agenda items

No interests declared.

2. To approve the minutes of meeting held 30.11.22.

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

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

The Chair received requests to speak on items 5(a) and 6(c).

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) Nutrient Neutrality; a joint venture board was being set up to hopefully allow development to proceed (b) Planning Service Improvement Plan; report to go before Overview & Scrutiny in Feb.23 (c) Household Support Fund; round three is now open (d) Energy Bill Support Scheme; scheme to assist those not eligible for bill discounts to start in Jan.23 (e) N.Nfk. Steering Group looking for young people to join Youth Council (f) The Reef in Sheringham now has approx. 1500 members compared to 500 previously with Splash (g) Walking Festival planned for Sept.23 (h) Bin Collections; still issues to be sorted (i) NNDC Carbon Footprint has decreased by 57%. (j) Safer Seals Campaign; to be continued (k) Hornsea Three Community Fund; consultation events now being held (l) Speed Limits on coast road; now looking at reducing 60 mph limit to 40 mph between Hunstanton and Weybourne. Following a request from C.Ward a brief update was given on ambulance response times.

*** M.Dalby (NCC) had submitted a written report which had been circulated to members. It referred to (a) introduction of "housing with care flats" to assist with NHS bed-blocking (b) NCC considering next step re Government's Homes for Ukraine Scheme (c) Norfolk residents to benefit from a £2 bus fare cap

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

No report received.

4. Finance:

(a) To approve the following payments :-

P.Bullimore £354.10, HMRC £88.40, Countrystyle Recycling £33.00,
M & M Business Systems £100.00, P.Bullimore £28.40, R.Hamond £12.46,

Arthur J.Gallagher £148.86,

*** The above payments, as scheduled on the agenda, were approved.

(Prop: CB, Sec: CW).

(b) To receive update re the Insurance Review.

The Clerk reported that all matters had been concluded with the insurers other than the subject listed at item 8(b). The following were noted (a) “Street Furniture” value on the policy schedule had been increased regarding the bus shelter (b) The village hall insurance cover on this asset had been increased to £287k as per the surveyors recent report (c) Caravan site; no changes required by the insurers (d) locks on village hall; all ok – operational and in good order. This item would now be removed from the agenda.

(c) To consider Budget & Precept for 2023-24

All papers and a draft budget had been circulated to members on 23/1/23 and with the predicted income exceeding expenditure by a considerable amount it was agreed to again submit a NIL precept to NNDC (Prop: RH, Sec: JB).

(d) To note payments approved in December, 2022.

The following payments were noted :-

Payments made on behalf of SWAMP; I.Fluxman £1750.00 & J.Tibbetts £546.13.

Other payments :- T.Leach £20.00, P.Bullimore £353.90, HMRC £88.60, Beeston Regis PC £227.00, Countrystyle Recycling ££42.00, East of Eng. Ambulance Service £76.88, P.Bullimore £30.95, and R.Hamond £42.08.

(e) To consider going out to tender for grass cutting in 2023.

It was agreed to go out to tender (Prop: JT, Sec: RH) and the Clerk would invite quotations from contractors listed in the Local Lynx etc. as well as the existing contractor.

5. Planning:

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

The Langham Rd site had been refused by NNDC (Ref: PF/21/2186).

A parishioner congratulated the PC on the response submitted recently to NNDC regarding “The Garden of Eden” application.

(b) To consider planning applications received since agenda was printed

None received.

(c) To further consider review of Dark Skies Policy re low VLT glass.

Members were updated by Dr.V.Holliday (NNDC) and it was agreed to remove this matter from the agenda until there were further developments.

6. Highways and Footpath Matters:

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

Nothing to report from SWAMP etc..The Clerk informed members that he had reported the blocked ditch east of the Langham Road and adjacent to the A149 to NCC Highways.

(b) To receive update re street lighting.

The lighting contractor had sent a very negative reply regarding a proposed new street light west of the Havokey. (legalities of a road closure and high costs from EDF). Members, after discussion, instructed the Clerk to obtain a quote for the site immediately east of the Havokey.

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

The Chair reported that the surface was fairly stable and not bad compared to winters in the past and he would keep monitoring the situation. A parishioner expressed

concerns re the PC spending money on what was mainly an overspill car park for the local pub.

(d) To receive update on complaint re speed humps in Quay Lane.

No further correspondence had been received from the complainant and it was agreed to remove this from the agenda.

7. Meetings & Conferences (announcements & reports)

No new announcements.

8. Caravan Site and Village Hall:

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

The final draft of the new tenancy agreement, as produced by JPT and the Chair, was agreed. (Prop: CB, Sec: CW). This would be published and sent to the current tenants along with an invoice for the coming season's rent. The rent would be considered and agreed at the next meeting.

JT asked that the west fence be repaired and plants replaced as necessary.

(b) To note & consider insurers comments re letting of village hall

The Clerk read the email from the insurers dated 2/12/22 which in summary stated that use of the hall for normal parish activities (meetings, parties, quiz nights etc) were covered by the policy but hirings from people or organisations for their own/financial gain were not. The Clerk was asked to enquire further with the insurers because of a few bookings that might come in that category.

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

It was agreed to try and promote next year's elections as much as possible.

10. To consider use of v. hall for Wells Comm.Hospital outreach programme.

An email requesting the use of the village hall from the Well's Hospital Charity Operations Supervisor was read to members. It was agreed that the village hall would be made available free of charge if it was deemed suitable (Prop: RH, Sec: CB). The Clerk would inform them accordingly and ask them to liaise with CB when necessary

11. To receive initial report re the Morston Regatta 2023.

Nothing further to report.

12. To consider future of caravan site waiting list.

The Clerk was instructed to maintain the waiting list as in past years.

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

No other correspondence.

14. Public Participation (comments/other matters)

Parishioners spoke about (a) the number of feral cats in the village; the Clerk would make enquiries (b) the Langham Dome sign on the A149; the Chair would revisit this matter which had been discussed previously.

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

This was confirmed for Wednesday, 22nd February, 2023 (7pm)..

