MPC Minutes January 2017

MORSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the council meeting held on Wednesday, 25th January, 2017 at the Village Hall, Morston – commencing at 7pm.

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), K. Ward (NNDC), PC.J. Pegden, and three members of the public.

1a. To receive and consider apologies
No apologies received.

1b. To receive Declarations of Interest on agenda items
No declarations of interest.

2. To approve the minutes of meeting held 30/11/16.
The minutes, which had already been circulated, were accepted as a true record.
(Prop: CB, Sec: JPT).

3a. Public Participation (requests to speak on agenda items)
No requests to speak on agenda items.

3b. To receive reports from District & County Councillors, Police & NT.
*** Dr.M.Strong (NCC) reported on the following :- (a) update re mobile phone signal and discussion re Broadband (b) summary of recent tidal surge/flooding (c) NCC Budget Report; increases due because of Social Care/Services (d) £5.1m from Government re road improvements (e) first Syrian families to arrive in Norfolk during early February.
*** K.Ward (NNDC) reported on the following :- (a) Electoral Review:- 48 councillors to be reduced to 40; Glaven Valley Ward ceases to exist and is replaced by a large "Coastal Ward" – also see agenda item 10 (b) Government funding for Community Housing :- Money to be given for affordable housing in areas effected by second home ownership (holiday

homes); NNDC trying to estimate the numbers of second homes in each area of N.Nfk; Morston is currently third on the list although there is no land available for affordable housing.
*** PC.J.Pegden reported on the following :- (a) people apprehended re stolen outboards etc. at Overstrand; appear to be organised gang who targeted the whole of the N.Norfolk coast; offenders are to appear in court. (b) reminded members to watch out for hare coursing.

4. Finance:
(a) To approve the following payments: -
P. Bullimore £246.20, HMRC £61.60, Secret Gardens £370.00,
P. Bullimore £35.60, Nicholas Hancox Solicitors £390.00, B/Regis PC £30.69,
Indigo Waste Services £43.20.
After the Clerk gave details of the payments scheduled on the agenda the above were approved (Prop: SB, Sec: RH).

(b) To consider future maintenance of PC website.
The Clerk informed members that notice-boards and to some extent newsletters were becoming things of the past. The Transparency Code states that PCs are legally obliged to have certain information displayed on their websites. e.g. Financial Returns, Audit Reports, etc. Agendas and minutes are currently displayed along with this information but the PC needs to expand the website and make better use of it for communication with the public. The Clerk suggested paying a small fee (£50 pa) to somebody with the expertise to expand and maintain the website. It was agreed to carry this matter forward to the next meeting.

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 receive update re trees at Anchor Cottage, The Street.
The Chair summarised the situation stating that tree cutting activity had been reported to NNDC. The Tree Officer had visited the site and stated that enforcement action might be taken. This was now in the hands of

NNDC.
(d) To note NNDC's recommendations re BT payphones.
The PC had agreed to not object to the removal of the payphone and this was noted on the NNDC response to BT. It was noted that most objections from PCs in the Nth.Norfolk area related to the lack of a mobile signal.

6. Highways and Footpath Matters:
(a) To receive update/consider restoration/maintenance of the pond
The Clerk had contacted the contractor who would be submitting the application for spraying to the Environment Agency.
(b) To further consider state of the grass area east of the church.
Following another lengthy discussion it was agreed that the Chair be given delegated authority to liaise with Stuart Farrow to produce a suitable scheme (Prop: CW, Sec: CB).
(c) To receive update on refurbishing seat (village green)
The materials (slats) had arrived and would be stored until the spring when the weather was more suitable to carry out the work.

7. Meetings & Conferences (announcements & reports)
No new announcements.

8. Caravan Site and Village Hall:
(a) To receive update re Internal Improvements to Village Hall (JB)
The Chair reported that the work would start in early February and the contractor had received a cheque in the sum of £5,000 as an advance for materials. The sub-committee would choose the floor tiles.
(b) To receive update; registering village hall/caravan site on Land Register.
The Clerk informed members that the land and village hall had now been registered with all relevant documents being received. The solicitors bill was approved at item 4(a).
(c) To note/consider caravan waiting list
In order to verify the waiting list for January, 2017 the Clerk was instructed to make enquiries regarding the dates of birth of two lots of names on the list.

9. To receive report/consider the Morston Regatta in 2017 (CW)
CW reported that he had received the loud-haler and would be submitting his invoice for payment at next months meeting. He had nothing further to report.

10. To note Boundary Commissions draft recommendations re Electoral Review
K.Ward had already updated members on the Boundary Commission's proposals to create another ward (Coastal) and reduce the number of NNDC councillors from 48 down to 40. Members agreed that they did not wish to comment. The public consultation regarding this matter closes on 31/1/17.

11. To receive correspondence (not included in agenda items above)
A Christmas card from N. Lamb MP and an advertising brochure from Interprint had been received – noted.

12. Public Participation (comments/other matters)
A parishioner suggested that the PC website should be kept to just the "legal requirements" and not be expanded further.

13. To confirm date of next meeting and future agenda items.
This was confirmed for Wednesday, 22nd February, 2017. (7pm)