

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF CORPUSTY AND SAXTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 21ST JANUARY 2020 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present:

Imogen Waterson, Diane Oliver, Andrew Brown, Sophia Hodgson, Guy Hodgson, Tony Barnett, Steffan Aquarone.

Kirsty Cotgrove (Clerk)

Members of the public - 2

20/01. To consider accepting apologies for absence.

The Council resolved to accept apologies for absence for Stephen Fenny, Marty Jacobs and Tim Buddle.

20/02. To record declarations of interest from members in any item to be discussed.

None.

20/03. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19th November 2019.

The Council resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting as a true and accurate record. They were duly signed.

20/04. To receive update from Steffan Aquarone, County Councillor.

County Cllr Aquarone gave a verbal report, concentrating on the County Council's response to the climate emergency.

To receive update from Andrew Brown, District Councillor

District Cllr Brown gave a verbal report, covering the Town & Parish Council Forum, the next stage of the Local Plan, where the Council will decide whether to focus on infill development or widening permitted development settlement boundaries. He reported that there was a special full council meeting last week, to discuss the reduction in the paid Head of Service role, from two to one. The effect of the Neighbourhood Plan, in relation to the emerging Local Plan was discussed. The District Council are considering obtaining a loan of £17 million, for a 'local homes for local people project'. The funding will be obtained to purchase 100 properties, 75 affordable / social and 25 for temporary housing. Tree planting is going ahead. The increase in council tax was discussed.

To receive a police report

The Clerk had emailed the most recent newsletter.

20/05. To adjourn the meeting to allow public participation.

A Parishioner was in attendance, who is the owner of the empty property in the centre of the village. She reported on the current situation regarding the renovations and advised why there have been unavoidable delays. Windows should be put in in the near future. Cllr Waterson thanked the Parishioner for attending and updating the Parish Council.

20/06. To update on the Highways subcommittee.

A Parishioner is putting together an application in relation to speed reduction, and is waiting for some SAM2 data from Cllr Buddle. The data required is for the 85th centile at slightly over 30mph, which is unfortunate, as excludes the regular 90mph traveller along the B1149. Highways issues were discussed and are more fully set out in the attached document (appendix a). It was agreed that Cllr G Hodgson will have a meeting with County Cllr Aquarone to discuss progressing the plans to alleviate identified issues.

County Cllr Aquarone and two Parishioners left the meeting at 20:33.

20/07. Matters arising from previous minutes for information only – Adams Lane right of way / empty property in the centre of village / village maps / pelipods / removal of electricity pole / electricity pylon on Green.

Adams Lane right of way – Progress is being made. Notices should go up soon, which will start a 6-week period for people to object in necessary. Highways will be asked to keep path clear.

Empty property in the centre of the village – Already discussed in public participation.

Village Maps – Cllr Waterson has chased Maddison Graphics, and will ask them to mark the map to state that the airfield is on private land with no public access.

Pelipods – The Clerk has chased BT, but has still not had a response. It was agreed that she should raise a complaint.

Electricity pole – Cozens have been instructed to decommission the pole.

Electricity pylon on Green – The Clerk has received a response, that they are unable to bury the cables, but are looking into removing the box attached to the pole.

21st January 2020

20/08. To update on the Hornsea 3 and Vattenfall projects.

Cllr Barnett attended the Planning Inspectorate public enquiry. He had submitted a 28-page report, stating concerns with their method plan, which is available on the Parish Council website. No members of the public were allowed to speak at the enquiry. Hopefully the inspectors are beginning to understand the massive issue of the effects of this and two other projects all in the same area at around the same time. It is thought that there has been a lack of consultation regarding traffic effects. There has been little consideration of the environmental sensitivity to people with these projects. It is concerning that, due to the size of all the projects, even an offshore ring main will require multiple landfalls across Norfolk. Through informal discussions, Powergen have indicated that they would prefer overhead cables, rather than underground. The applicants have already entered into semi-formal agreements with landowners regarding the purchase of land on the cabling routes. Cllr Waterson thanked Cllr Barnett for attending the hearing.

20/09. To discuss the possibility of a volunteer car service.

There has been a request for a volunteer car service for people without cars to attend appointments, go shopping etc. This was noted in the neighbourhood Plan consultations. Cllr Hodgson will draft an article for the Parish magazine, to ascertain if people would use such a service, and how often.

20/10. To agree a quotation for St Peters church gate.

The Clerk is obtaining quotes. Cllr Waterson confirmed that the Norfolk Churches Trust would consider contributing up to half the cost when they have a quotation.

20/11. To receive reports from the Village Hall and School representatives.

School – There are lots of positive signs. The new entrance is working well, and the new library is going in. The Norwich University of the Arts are lending people to decorate it.

Village hall – The old school roof may need repairing or replacing. The lease signed indicates that this would be the responsibility of the Village Hall Committee. The Village Hall should come up with a plan of action, initially to ask a builder to look at the roof to ascertain what needs to be done and at what cost. The deeds also need to be found and legal advice needs to be obtained to confirm liabilities etc. Cllr Hodgson will draft an article for the newsletter to ask for committee volunteers.

20/12. Planning –

To agree responses to applications – None.

To record planning decisions made between meetings - None

To consider Late Planning applications- None

To receive decisions from North Norfolk District Council – None.

20/13. Finance -**(a) To receive the current financial position**

A bank reconciliation and budget considerations sheet had been emailed to Councillors prior to the meeting.

(b) To approve payments to be made and made between meetings

The list of payments made and to be made was attached to the agenda. The following payments were authorised / paid between meetings:

K Cotgrove – December salary & expenses	£348.16
K Cotgrove – January salary & expenses	£372.19
CGM – grounds maintenance December	£97.36
CGM – grounds maintenance January	£97.36
E.on – December electricity DD	£57.49
E.on – January electricity DD	£59.41
Indigo Waste – glass recycling	£16.80
Mellor Metals – removal of fly-tipped tyres	£712.98
NNDC – uncontested election charge	£151.84
Cozens – quarterly lighting maintenance	£216.00

20/14. Correspondence

(i) Community Led Housing Newsletter – contents noted.

(ii) North Norfolk Town & Parish Forum 22 January 2020 – Cllrs Waterson and Brown will be attending.

(iii) Police & Crime Community Budget Consultation 2020-21 - contents noted, but no response.

(iv) VE Day 75th Anniversary & Battle of Britain 80th Anniversary Commemoration meeting 20 January 2020 – Cllr Waterson attended this meeting where NNDC asked what Parishes and Towns are intending to do. Various

21st January 2020

suggestions were mooted during discussion. Cllr Waterson has spoken to the school, who would consider a maypole dance on the Green. It was agreed that Cllr G Hodgson will draft something for the newsletter to see if anyone would be interested in getting involved in a Reminiscence morning at the Village Hall, with memories of World War 2, and to record the event. Cllr Oliver will organise this event. Cllr Barnett asked for the Parish Council to note the role of Russia in the War.

(v) Upper Bure Riverlands Survey – The Clerk will forward this for Councillors to complete online

20/15. To receive items for information

The bottle bank has still not been emptied, despite Cllrs Waterson, Brown and S Hodgson all calling to chase. The Clerk will contact the supervisors at Indigo Waste.

A Parishioner has complained that a shipping container has been put in the pub garden, which is blocking the light to her house. The pub has also removed the bank bordering the School car park, and have not obtained permission to drive across the car park, which belongs to the Parish Council. The Clerk will contact them to ask them to gain permission in future. The container requires no planning permission as it is not a permanent structure.

Cllr Barnett advised Councillors about a Happiness Project being undertaken internationally. It was agreed to put this on the March agenda.

20/16. To receive items for the next agenda

Highways, Happiness Project.

20/17. To close meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9:58pm.

The next meeting will be Tuesday 17th march2020, 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

Signed

Dated

This update summarises the issues as identified by the Highways Sub-Committee and the outcome of the residents' traffic survey.

In the light of previous consideration by the Parish Council ('PC') and discussions with the Highways Authority ('HA'), the issues are categorised as 'current' and 'parish-led'.

Following a meeting between the Highways Sub-Committee and Steve White of the HA, the PC asked our county councillor, Steffan Aquarone to progress current issues with the HA.

It is intended that current issues be pursued with the HA and that the parish-led items be placed on a watch-list to be reviewed periodically by the PC, save for item 10 which requires current consideration.

Current Issues

- 1 The need to control the speed of vehicles approaching Saxthorpe from Holt. Recommendation that a roundabout be placed at the junction between the B1149 and the B1354 in front of Saxthorpe Garage. Ideally, there would be a roundabout also at the Matlaske Road junction.
The HA have advised Steffan that there is potential for a scheme to be arranged to mitigate this issue, but that a feasibility study would be required which would cost approximately £3,000. Steffan kindly offered a contribution of £1,000 from his budget.
Following comments by councillors, Steffan was asked to enquire how the seemingly arbitrary fee for the study was arrived at and whether there were any other potential sources of funds to support this. To date, this has not been forthcoming.
- 2 The need to control speed and reduce dangerous driving on the link road, the junctions of (1) Norwich Road with the B1149 and (2) Post Office Lane / Monks Lane with the B1149 being particular areas of concern. It has been suggested that the speed limit on the link road be reduced to 40 mph, that a pedestrian crossing be created at position (2) mentioned above, and that signage and road markings be introduced to indicate that that pedestrians cross at these points.
The HA has informed Steffan that the link road was built to a 50mph speed usage and is considered a safe speed for drivers on this part of a key arterial route. The HA has said that is an inevitable consequence of the necessary bypassing of the village.
The HA agreed to look in to options for a 2nd crossing point but subsequently dismissed the suggestion.
Given the strength of opinion expressed in survey responses about speed and dangerous driving on the link-road, it is suggested that the HA should be invited to consider how residents' concerns can substantively be addressed. There are other arterial routes where speed limits have been reduced. If the speed limit is thought to be sacrosanct, then physical infrastructure could be introduced to reduce speed at the southern end of the link-road.
- 3 The approach to Saxthorpe from Briston on the B1354 is dangerous with encroaching hedges and poor visibility. There is a particular danger to pedestrians as there is no footpath. The signage is limited, being regularly obscured by hedge growth and damaged by vehicles.
It was put to the HA that the 30 mph limit should be extended further from the village. Steffan has been informed by the HA that this is not a realistic request.
It is suggested that the HA should be asked to advise the options to make this section of road safer, to include re-consideration extending the 30 mph zone away from the village.
- 4 It would also be desirable to have gated village signs on the approaches from Norwich/Aylsham, Briston and Holt, and on the Heydon Road.
Steffan has been told that the HA fully supports the introduction of gated signs. The estimated fee is £1,500 per set. The HA had agreed to advise where gated signs could be located, given the limited space at two of the key locations, the approaches from Briston and Holt.
The HA advised that the next deadline for applications for funding was the start of December 2019. The advice as to location was not received before this deadline.
The HA has also suggested that gates could be added to the 'mantelpiece' sign at the east Entrance to the B1354, but further information has not been provided.
- 5 Linked to item 2 above, parking on the visibility splay at the junction of Norwich Road with the B1149 obstructs visibility and makes the junction less safe.
The HA has informed Steffan that such parking is not illegal. It is suggested that the HA should be asked to reconsider the issue on the basis that a visibility splay would not be required if vision could legally be obstructed. Alternatively, steps could be taken to outlaw parking on the visibility splay.
- 6 The flora on the link road roundabout needs to be thinned to enable better visibility, and the broken chevrons be replaced.
Some work has been done to replace chevrons. The HA agrees that the vegetation should be thinned, but this has yet to occur.

Parish-led Issues

- 7 The SAM 2 readings demonstrate that speeding is an issue throughout the village. It is thought that reducing the speed limit to 20 mph from St Andrews Church to beyond the railway bridge on the Heydon Road, and along the Street, Corpusty to the current end of the 30 mph zone and along the Norwich road to the B1149 would be appropriate.
Steffan has reported HA resistance on the basis that there is no county council policy to reduce village speed limits. This does not mean that a 20 mph zone is inappropriate, and there is evidence of such limits being introduced elsewhere, e.g. Aylsham.
There is however a move to reduce limits around schools to 20 mph.
It is suggested that developments should be awaited and the issue be kept under review.
- 8 An increase in heavy vehicles driving through the villages has been noted, which residents wish to be reduced.

Steffan has been informed that the HA has no power to reduce road usage by heavy goods vehicles, particularly on roads that are designated as HGV routes, unless suitable alternatives are available. If HGV's are driving through the centre of our villages, which is the residents' concern, that is a different matter.
It is suggested that villagers should be asked to report lorry movements within the village to the clerk to the PC, and that the issue be kept under review.
- 9 Highway obstruction, to include hedge growth and obstruction of junctions.
It is suggested that this issue be kept under review and residents be approached as appropriate.
- 10 Residents of Post Office Lane and Great Yard are concerned about the danger of joining The Street due to limited visibility.
The siting of mirrors opposite these points would be a solution.
It is suggested that the PC contribute 50% towards the cost of such mirrors if the affected residents would like them to be fitted, subject to the HA confirming that it does not object to the proposed locations.