

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF CORPUSTY AND SAXTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 26th SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr Waterson, Cllr Buddle, Cllr Fenny, Cllr Jacobs, Cllr Oliver and Cllr Brown.
Melanie Eversfield (Clerk)
2 members of the public

A minute's silence took place in memory of late Queen Elizabeth

Open Forum

It was noted that the hog roast and races had been a good success.

22/94. To consider accepting apologies for absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Barnett. Apologies were also received from County Councillor S Aquarone.

22/95. To record declarations of interest from members in any item to be discussed.

None.

22/96. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2022.

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

22/97. To receive applications for Co-option to Corpusty and Saxthorpe Parish Council.

Two applications had been received to fill the two vacancies. Caroline Randell and Lesley Last were duly co-opted onto the Council.

22/98. To note updates from Norfolk Constabulary, County Councillor and District Councillor.

Norfolk Constabulary

It was noted that no updates had been received of late.

County Councillor S Aquarone

As Steffan could not attend the meeting he sent a report before the meeting, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes and on the website.

District Councillor A Brown

Andrew emailed the following report to all before the meeting:

1. NEW ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANT

60 applications for assistance through the scheme between April and June have been received since its launch.

2. GLAVEN VALLEY CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL

The second phase of the Area Appraisal has been approved following extensive surveying by Purcell Consultants of our local landscape and its heritage features in the wider Glaven Valley.

3. OUTLOOK MAGAZINE

The Council have relaunched the print version of the magazine giving information on the Council's services which will be delivered to everyone.

4. PUBLIC TOILETS REFURBISHMENT

The Council has undertaken works to demolish and replace toilets in Fakenham and Wells along with refurbishments of existing premises in North Walsham and Ludham.

5. FINANCIAL FORECAST

I am pleased to report that the Council's finances remain on a firm footing, and we expect a surplus of some £450k at the end of the current financial year in March 2023.

6. NUTRIENT NEUTRALITY RESTRICTIONS

The restriction on building anything delivering overnight accommodation within the River Wensum and Norfolk Broads catchment areas continues to delay an estimated 89 planning applications in the district since March this year.

7. LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The Council are arranging two briefing events for prospective candidates for district, town and parish council seats in next year's local elections on Thursday 4 May.

8. EMPTY PROPERTY STRATEGY

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The Housing Department have completed a review of policy and procedure to try and prevent empty property being created.

22/99. Matters arising from previous minutes for information only

(a) Feasibility Study.

It was noted that work to the study has started. The Parish Council would like to meet with Highways to discuss various options once the data has been obtained.

(b) Manor Farm Barns and RB4 – Adams Lane

A brief update was given to councillors. It was noted that two officers at NCC will be meeting to consider if enforcement action will be taken. Cllr Brown to continue to push this forward on behalf of the Parish Council.

(c) Empty properties in the Parish.

It was noted that all enforcement cases have been closed. NNDC has produced a strategy for empty homes. Cllr Brown to write to NNDC seeking combined enforcement and to inform them that the grant of letters of administration has been settled. It was also noted that Cllr Waterson had visited the owner of one of the empty properties to persuade them to sell the property.

(d) Tree Survey

It was agreed that the Rowen tree needs to be taken down urgently. The Clerk to deal with this under delegated powers. It was noted that the Clerk has also applied for 10 trees from NCC as part of the trees for Jubilee scheme.

(e) Village Gateways

It was noted that a site meeting with NCC Highways had taken place. Following this meeting it was noted that additional costings may arise. The Clerk has asked for these figures and is awaiting a response.

(f) Dukes Head planning application

It was noted that Cllrs Waterson, Fenny and Brown met with the owner and manager of the pub earlier on that day. Various things were discussed. The owner and manager were asked to seek a certificate of lawfulness from NNDC.

22/100. Finances

(a) To receive the accounts for 2022/2023 as at 31st August 2022.

Noted.

(b) To consider Internal Auditor quote for 2022/2023.

The quote from Mrs C Moore was received and accepted at a cost of £75.00.

(c) To consider grass cutting contracts.

A discussion took place regarding the current grass cutting contract. It was noted that the contract would run out in October 2022. Quotes for the 2023 season were received. It was agreed to proceed with Norfolk Garden Maintenance for the 2023 season at a cost of £440 per month (April to October). In the meantime Norfolk Garden Maintenance be asked to sort the three areas before the winter period as a one off at a cost of £550.

(d) To consider new provider for street lighting electricity

This to be deferred to the next meeting.

(e) To approve payments to be made and made between meetings.

The following payments were approved::

Mrs S Lake – 2021/22 Internal Auditor	£75.00
Countrystyle Recycling – Bottle Bank Emptying	£30.60
Npower – Street Lighting Electricity	£72.68
Mrs M Eversfield – August 2022 Salary	£328.46
Cozens (UK) Ltd – Street Lighting Maintenance	£216.00

22/101. To update on windfarm projects.

It was noted that there was not really an update on the projects. Cllr Brown spoke about Grantscape and stated that he would forward the information he has to the Clerk.

22/102. To update on Highway issues, including footpaths

It was noted that following the footpath audit some improvements have been made. The Clerk to chase County Cllr S Aquarone on the current status of the audit.

22/103. To update on Broadland Housing Association Matters.

It was noted that the Nutrient Neutrality issue is continuing to affect this application. It was agreed that Cllr Waterson would write to Anglian Water and ask that they deal with this.

22/104. To receive an update from the Village Hall Management Committee.

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It was noted that Cllr Waterson would be meeting with Andy Bell, Bob Stern and Guy Hodgson later on in the week to look at various issues including the outstanding rent that Synergy owes the Village Hall and the dilapidation of the building. Once a way forward is agreed then an urgent meeting with Synergy will be arranged. If need be the Parish Council will pay for legal advice and representation.

22/105. To receive an update from the School Governors.

An email was received in relation to use of land beyond the school for use as a forest school. This was agreed to as long as insurance is sought by the school.

22/106. To discuss the play area on the Green including fencing, inspection report and maintenance.

It was noted that the Clerk was still awaiting quotes for installation of bollards and also quotes for maintenance to the play equipment from the inspection report. Once the quotes for the play equipment have been received the Clerk will then look at prices for new and possibly replacement equipment as well as seeing if there are any grants available for new play equipment.

22/107. To discuss maintenance of the river on the common.

Cllr Fenny to speak to the contractor to see when the work can be done.

22/108. To receive an update on St. Peter's Church, including proposed composting toilet and maintenance to the gates.

It was noted that the Clerk would remind the Norfolk Churches Trust that the Parish Council would not be opposed to the siting of a composting toilet. Advice had been sought in relation to maintenance of the gates. It was agreed that the Clerk would find out how much it would be to restore the gates to its original state.

22/109. Planning

(a) To consider planning applications

- PO/22/1796 – Erection of dwelling for poultry farm manager – Land at Shrubbs Farm, Edgefield Road, Edgefield, Melton Constable, Norwich, NR24 2AT
RECOMMEND REFUSAL TO THE APPLICATION UNTIL CLARIFICATION ON THE FOLLOWING POINTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED:
 - 1) THE SITING OF THE CHICKEN SHEDS WHICH WILL BE VISIBLE FROM THE B1149 AND 3 FOOTPATHS THEREBY GOING AGAINST THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN TO ENHANCE OUR FOOTPATHS. WE FEEL IT WOULD BE MUCH BETTER ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE EXISTING COMPOSTING BUSINESS.
 - 2) THEY CLAIM THERE IS NO NEED TO DO ANY ARCHEOLOGY BECAUSE THE FIELD HAS BEEN PLOUGHED TO A DEPTH OF 1 METRE. WHEN TRENCHES WERE DUG FOR EARLIER POWER LINES THEY DISCOVERED SAXON ARTEFACTS MUCH DEEPER THAN THIS. WE WOULD HAVE THOUGHT A PROPER SURVEY OF THE ARCHEOLOGY WAS REQUIRED.
 - 3) ODOUR: THEY CLAIM THAT THIS WOULD BE WELL TOLERATED BY EXISTING AGRICULTURAL WORKERS WHO LIVE THERE. CERTAINLY IN THE PAST WE COULD SMELL THE CHICKEN SHEDS AT BRISTON FOR A LONG DISTANCE. WE THINK THIS WOULD BE A MAJOR FACTOR FOR THE VILLAGE.
 - 4) LORRY MOVEMENTS WOULD BE A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR AT CERTAIN TIMES.
 - 5) IS THERE A WELFARE ISSUE FOR THE BROILER CHICKENS? THEY WILL BE PACKED INCREDIBLY DENSELY

(b) To receive decisions from North Norfolk District Council

None.

22/110. Correspondence

- Norfolk County Council re. Parish Partnership Bid 2023/2024. Defer to the next meeting.
- SAAA – Consideration to opt out of formal external audit arrangements. Agreed to not opt out.

22/111. To receive items for information.

There were none.

22/112. To receive items for the next agenda

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Anything arising from this meeting.

22/113. To close meeting

It was agreed that from January 2023 the meetings would take place on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 21.50

The next ordinary meeting will be held on Wednesday 16th November 2022, 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

Signed

Dated