



BINHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk – Keith Leesmith
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2017/14

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20 November 2017 AT THE MEMORIAL HALL

Those Present Pennie Alford, Liz Brady, Liz Brown, David Frost (Chairman), & Stan Hewitt
Keith Leesmith (Clerk), PC Jason Pegden, & 5 members of the public

1a) Liz Brady: Was welcomed as a newly co-opted Councillor and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office

1b) Apologies received: Mike Bond, Marie Strong (NCC), Vincent FitzPatrick & Simon Hester(NNDC)

2) Declarations of interest: None

3) Minutes: Approved and signed for the meeting of 25 September 2017

As PC Jason Pegden needed to get back to Wells, on duty, the next two items were taken out of order

4c) Safer Neighbourhood Team report

The only recorded crimes were two domestic incidents, which have been dealt with. There were three calls to police in the same period. In the surrounding area there have been several burglaries of holiday homes (mainly isolated), some farm machinery thefts, and several incidents of hare coursing. As ever, if people are suspicious of similar incidents they are asked to dial 999, with descriptions, and preferably vehicle registration numbers.

9) To discuss the Norfolk Constabulary 2020 structure review

Jason Pegden said that Norfolk Constabulary had saved £30m over the past few years but still had to save another £10m. The action in the report was necessary to do this. Whilst the PCSOs had been useful they had limited powers and worked limited hours. By scraping them, more police officers could be employed. Most of the PCSOs would be re-employed either as police officers or in office roles. The nature of crime was changing, and the Chief Constable had no option but to take the measures that he was now suggesting. JP left the meeting at this point.

4a) Norfolk County Council Report

Marie Strong was unable to attend as she had two meetings elsewhere. She had sent a report to Councillors which KL read to the meeting, and which is attached to these minutes and appears on the website. In the report she mentioned; NCC Budget Consultation (participation encouraged via NCC website) and mobile phones (survey being undertaken to find problem spots). Also mentioned was Hate Incident Reporting (revised NCC protocol), the Norfolk Police 2020 report (MS meetings with the Chief Inspector and new local Inspector).

4b) North Norfolk District Council report

Both District Councillors had sent apologies but Vincent FitzPatrick had also sent a report, which KL read to the meeting. It is also appended to these minutes and appears on the website. The report contained items on the following:

The North Norfolk Big Society Fund (applications invited). Scam Alert – people claiming to be checking insulation/roofing. Wells Maltings given funding for disabled toilet. Possibility of restricting use of Wells Staithe Street Car Park to blue badge owners. Fakenham Highfield Car Park to be retained, and Fakenham community fridge.

Councillors are concerned that although we currently have two District Councillors, it is not often that either of them attends a meeting. Considering press reports over the last year (senior officers leaving, Councillors changing parties, requests for the leader to stand down etc.) it would be good to be able to question the DCs on these items. KL was asked to write to them.

4d) Parish Clerk

With regard to the noticeboard in Westgate KL had spoken to the contractor who had mended it last year and he suggested replacing the glass with UV-stable plastic. However, this was some weeks ago and nothing had happened since. It was now thought that the wind catching the doors and jarring them against the wall might be more responsible than passing vehicles for the damage. Stan Hewitt would look at the noticeboard with a view to repairing it and repainting it if necessary. He would do the same for the one at Cockthorpe. The North Norfolk Forum of Parish and Town Councils are taking their fight for a fairer distribution of “second homes money” national. Cromer and Sheringham Town Councils will promote a motion at the forthcoming NALC AGM for the National Association of Local Councils to become involved in the fight. NNDC are concerned at the amount of “garden waste” which is being flytipped. Although it is biodegradable, it still makes a mess of the countryside. Garden waste should either be taken to a recycling centre or a brown bin should be used. A gentleman from Fakenham (with some links to Binham) has requested a plot in the cemetery, but KL is concerned that the number of spaces is fast diminishing. It was agreed that we debate the issue at our next meeting in January. Just before the meeting KL had received an email from Historic England saying that they were considering listing the Binham War Memorial and asking for our comments. It was agreed that we approve an application for listing.

5) Planning Matters

There were no new applications to consider. KL appealed for more Councillor input to circulated planning applications. With regard to the new estate, the vehicle junction at Hindringham Road had been improved for cars, but possibly not for taller vehicles. UK Power Networks would eventually move the electric pole. Site facilities are expected to be set up before the end of the year, and DF and PA would attend the first liaison meeting with Broadland and their contractors soon.

6) To consider making a financial contribution to the *Lynx* magazine

The advertising in the *Lynx* did not produce enough to pay for production. Funds were running low and Parish Councils were being asked if they would be prepared to contribute. It was agreed that we send £100 from our “local donations fund”.

7) To complete the paperwork for revised bank signatories

PA had completed a “personal details form”. DF and LB signed a form to ask for her to be substituted for William Wales.

8) To consider the budget for 2018/2019 and approve the precept

KL had prepared a budget for next year and recommended that the existing level of precept of £4500 be maintained. This was agreed and the precept demand form was signed.

10) Financial report and accounts for settlement

A bank reconciliation had been circulated to Councillors with agendas.

The following accounts were approved for settlement:

Cliff & Sue Hudson	Grass Maintenance	350.00
Stody Estate Ltd	Allotment land rent	12.00
Keith Leesmith	3 rd quarter salary and expenses contribution	466.13
HMRC	PAYE on the above	111.80
Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreath	17.00
Local Paper	Contribution to Lynx magazine	100.00

11) Minor Items

Clive Brady has asked Broadland Housing and their contractor for contributions to the proposed defibrillator. He is waiting to hear from them. He spoke to NNDC regarding the Big Society Fund but was told that previous applications in other villages had always been rejected. They had suggested the British Heart Foundation, but enquiries there had suggested that whilst they might donate a defibrillator there was no back-up or ancillary service available. Clive had established that an electrical connection could be made for a modest fee.

Liz Brown would put up the Christmas tree soon. The usual carol singing would take place on Monday 18th December at 7.15pm. The Christmas supper would take place on Saturday the 2nd.

12) To confirm the date of the next meeting

Confirmed as – Monday 15 January 2018

13) To consider a resolution under the Public Bodies (Administration of meetings Act) 1960, as amended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude members of the public and press during consideration of items(s) regarding confidential matter(s)

Agreed

14) To discuss the co-option of an additional Parish Councillor.

Helen Owen had been approached and had agreed to be co-opted. It was resolved to formally ask her to join the Council.

The meeting closed at 2051