



BINHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk – Keith Leesmith
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2018/01

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15 JANUARY 2018 AT THE MEMORIAL HALL

- Those Present** Mike Bond, Liz Brown, David Frost (Chairman), Stan Hewitt, & Helen Owen
Keith Leesmith (Clerk), Marie (& Mike) Strong (NNDC), Vincent FitzPatrick (NNDC),
9 Members of the Public
- 1a)** A Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed just prior to the meeting by
Helen Owen. DF welcomed Helen to the Council.
- 1b) Apologies received:** Pennie Alford, Liz Brady
- 2) Declarations of interest:** David Frost – Item 5b – related to applicants
- 3) Minutes:** Approved and signed for the meeting of 20 November 2017
- 4a) Norfolk County Council report**
The public budget consultation has now ended and the decisions over next year's council tax will take place at meetings in February. There is a lot of pressure from the Local Government Association on the government's current poor funding of local councils. Their Leader, Lord Porter, (a Conservative) has pressed the point in writing. Locally this is a particular problem in the areas of Adult Social Services and Children's Services. It is important that road traffic accidents are reported to police. These reports form the basis of statistics of the "accident black spots" which may in future attract funding for improvements. MS continues to be a member of the digital innovation and efficiency committee, which has a brief to improve broadband and mobile 'phone coverage in the county. There will soon be a visit from representatives of the four major mobile 'phone companies to see if working together can assist in some of the County's "not spots". At recycling centres where goods are sold, the introduction of PAT testing will enable electrical items to be included in future. More and more information is available to the public on various websites. It is hoped that in the future young people may be encouraged to assist older generations to access these.
- 4b) North Norfolk District Council report**
VF provided copies of a report to both Councillors and members of the public. This is shown on the website with these minutes. The report included items on the Big Society Fund, Fakenham Community Fridge, NNDC Business Awards, and NNDC activity during the festive break. VF was asked to comment on press reports about a change of NNDC Leader of the Council. He said that Tom FitzPatrick was standing down as Leader, and his place was likely to be taken by John Lee (member for Suffield Park). In answer to a question VF said that the power in NNDC resides in the cabinet, which is appointed by the leader of the Council. He believed that Tom FitzPatrick and John Lee would currently be having talks to decide on a future cabinet.

4c) Safer Neighbourhood Team report

Invited but nothing heard.

4d) Parish Clerk report

A new Data Protection Act will come into force in May, which will cause difficulties to Parish Councils, amongst others. KL would be attending a training course later in the month. The repair to the notice board in Westgate and renovation of the notice board in Cockthorpe will be carried out in the near future. Because of the weather at this time of year it will probably be necessary to remove the boards for a short period so that they can be worked on indoors.

5) Planning Matters

(DF took no part in the discussion of item 5b and was about to leave the room when the item was decided)

5a) Erection of single-storey rear extension at The Stewards House, 27 Front Street

Resolved – no objection

5b) Erection of single storey side extension etc. at Priory Cottage, 8 Langham Road

Resolved – no objection

5c) New Walsingham Road/Priory Crescent Estate

Fences are currently being erected to control dust as the first step in the new build. The next work will be to put in services and the new road. DF and Pennie Alford attended a first liaison meeting in early December with the developer and contractor. It is expected that it will take two years to complete the estate. Steve Wilkinson the site agent is happy to speak to any local people about any problems but would prefer this to be after 4.00pm when most work is completed for the day. Broadland have now taken over ownership of the bridleway and are hoping to “tidy it up”. NNDC Housing Department will be handling applications for the affordable housing and Sowerbys will deal with the market housing. It is hoped to hold monthly meetings of the liaison committee starting in February and DF believes that different people should represent the village in turn. We are still not sure when the road closure will take place. There has been some disappointment about the improvement of the junction with Hindringham Road/Front Street, but this may be improved when the electricity pole is moved.

6) To review conditions for use and fees of Parish Cemetery

This subject had arisen because someone who had grown up in the village, but doesn't reside there now, had asked to reserve a grave plot. KL was worried that space is diminishing fast, and believed that we should have a policy for deciding the criteria for deciding which non-residents, if any, should be allowed to be buried in the cemetery. He suggested a formula such as “should have lived in the village for 10 of the last 20 years” or something similar. Councillors wanted more time to consider the matter, and decided to defer the discussion until the meeting in March. KL said they might also like to look at charges, which were last reviewed five years ago in March 2013.

7) Financial report and accounts for settlement

A bank reconciliation was circulated to Councillors.

The following accounts were approved for settlement:

Clifford Hudson	Grounds Maintenance	160.00
Norfolk Parish Training and Support	Data Protection Training	15.00

Keith Leesmith	4 th quarter salary and expenses contribution	466.33
HMRC	4 th quarter PAYE	111.60

8) Minor Items

Clive Brady had appealed to Broadland and to their Contractor and these had agreed to contribute £500 each towards the proposed defibrillator, which amounted to almost half the cost. Since the Parish Council had agreed to contribute half the cost, the purchase could now go ahead. It was agreed that we would undertake a *Managed Solutions* agreement with the Community HeartBeat Trust. This arrangement meant that although paying the full cost, we would not actually own the machine until the end of the contract period (minimum 4 years). However, the advantage is that the equipment is insured by the providers against public liability, theft and damage, and if it goes wrong will be replaced during the contract period. They will also carry out an annual "health check" on the machine and its cabinet. Clive would proceed with obtaining the defibrillator, liaising with KL where necessary.

HO asked who was responsible for footpaths in Priory Crescent. KL said he believes that Victory Housing is. The paths are in a poor state in places, with tree roots protruding and providing trip hazards. There was also an overhanging hedge at No5 that required people to walk in the road to get past it. KL would write to Victory.

LB thanked DF and his son for erecting the lights on the Christmas tree. The carol singing evening had been a success, and it was believed that more people took part this year.

It was asked if there was any news of the work that had been going on at the "marsh". DF had not heard anything from NNDC planning enforcement, which had been handling the matter, but he also believed that no work had been undertaken there for some time. However, he would walk past the site and access the situation.

9) To confirm the date of the next meeting

Next normal meeting – Monday 20 March 2016

The meeting closed at 2050