

Pre-Meeting Business: None

Public Participation: None

NORTH ELMHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the

MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

held in the Pavilion at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 5th July, 2023

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060 Those Councillors Present Were:

Mrs. J. Borgnis (Chairman), Mr. M. Phillips, Miss A. Ferris, Mr. T. Fitzalan Howard, Mr. B. Gee, Mr. P. Grainger, Mrs. A. Keeble, Mr. J. Labouchere, Mr. N. Markwell, Mr. M. Rayner and Mr. C. Smith

Also in Attendance: Mr. K. Webb (Clerk) and one parishioner.

061 Apologies for absence:

Mr. G. Bambridge (District Council)

062 To Receive Declarations of Interest:

The Chairman reminded the meeting that, should the occasion arise, interests should be declared by Councillors as soon as this was realised, and the interest should be minuted.

063 Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday, 7th June, 2023:

Resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record with the following amendments:-

Item 031 – Mr. Phillips did not give apologies because he attended the meeting.

Item 035 (a) The mushroom object referred to was seating.

Agreed by all. (Proposed by Mrs. Keeble and seconded by Mr. Labouchere)

UPDATED INFORMATION AND MATTERS ARISING

064 Update on Affordable Housing Scheme (item 034)

Nothing to report.

065 Land Management Matters (item 035)

- (a) Village Green Mr. Gee reported that he has removed the sides and rails of the storm shelter following the repeated vandalism. It is thought that the structure may have been compromised and some gluing may be needed. The grass has been cut but, as yet, the Play Area hasn't been.
- (b) Cathedral Ruins The Charles the Third Coronation seat has been ordered from an alternative supplier who does not require payment in advance. English Heritage have advised of repair work to be carried out and are seeking a scheduled monument response. Contractors have been appointed. It is hoped that the usual cutting of the banks will take place later this month.
- (c) Cathedral Meadows Nothing to report.
- (d) Broom Green Digging in the pond has been completed (on 26th June) with the very useful assistance of Mr. Goff's digger and employee which is much appreciated.
- (e) Millennium Wood (and Jubilee Wood) A small tree has been cut back by the Chairman.
- (f) Bridleway on disused railway line and other railway linked matters Nothing to report.
- (g) Prince William Wood Nothing to report.
- (h) Church Meadow Mr. Fitzalan Howard said that two new "no parking" signs had been put up.

066 Allotments (item 036)

Mr. Phillips reported that all the sheds had been broken into on 19th/20th June with some items being stolen.

067 Street Lights (item 037)

Mr. Markwell confirmed that K. and M. Lighting Services of St. Ives, Cambridgeshire and T. T. Jones Electrical of Norwich are two companies interested in taking over the street lighting maintenance contract from Westcotec.

068 Highway Matters (item 038)

The gullies in Orchard Close have been cleared out.

069 Pavilion and Playing Field (item 039)

The North Elmham Junior Football Club wants to run an event for 4/5 days, using the field and pavilion.

There has been a big increase in damage to the premises caused by vandalism. The perspex windows have been attacked, leaving a number of them cracked, tiles have been lifted and goalposts have been smashed. The police have been informed and have said that the number of patrols will be increased. Mr. Smith suggested that grills should be placed over the pavilion windows and this was agreed by all as an appropriate action.

We understand that the Walking Football team has officially split from the Football Club. They will be invited to attend the next meeting so that members can be made fully aware of their requirements and expectations.

070 Youth Club facilities (item 040)

Nothing to report.

071 Eastgate Centre (item 041)

Nothing to report.

072 Brookside Development update (item 042)

Mr. Rayner reported that the developers want to change the design of the fence at the school end of the footbridge. They are discussing the matter with the Chair of Governors with a meeting to be held on 7th July at the school.

073 Risk Management – considerations and updates (item 043)

Nothing to report.

074 Overview of Parish Council financial situation (item 044)

Nothing to report.

075 Defibrillators (item 045)

The defibrillators are checked once per month by the Chairman.

076 Call for Sites update – Breckland Council (item 046)

Mr. Rayner said that Breckland Council was not being very helpful about future consultations. We are waiting to hear whether there will be one before the Draft Plan is released. Jerome Mayhew MP is to attend the next meeting of CANT on 14th July.

077 Pavilion Funding (item 047)

Nothing to report.

078 Annual Budget (item 048)

Nothing to report.

079 Archive Group records (item 049)

Prices for shelving are awaited.

080 Vandalism to storm shelter on the Village Green (item 050)

Please refer to item 065 (a) for full details.

081 Request for funding from North Elmham PCC (item 051)

The Chairman is to send an email advising of the increased amount of £1,200.

082 The possibility of planting fruit trees

The suggestion had been made by a parishioner to plant fruit trees at the bottom end of the Village Green. Whilst it was felt that the proposition had merit, it was considered to be a national project more aimed at inner city than rural areas. There were concerns with costs, planting, maintenance, monitoring the area and general control. As such, although it was a good idea, the issues mentioned above outweighed any potentially positive impact. Mr. Fitzalan Howard proposed not to proceed and this was seconded by Mr. Phillips. All in favour.

083 Breckland Council's deployable surveillance cameras and display signage

A communication had been received from Lisa Turner, Environmental Enforcement Assistant, Breckland Council. She is aiming to procure some new mobile deployable surveillance cameras and is looking for town and parish councils with a high level of anti-social behaviour and fly tipping to trial the cameras in relevant areas. There will be suitable signage to advise the public that surveillance is taking place. It was agreed to propose three areas as being suitable – the village green, the pavilion and the allotments. Proposed by Mr. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Smith. All in favour. In addition, some high quality signs for “no fly-tipping or littering” and “no dog fouling” have been offered. The estimated cost of these is approximately £41.50 per unit. It was felt by all that the additional signs are not required at the present time.

It was mentioned that the grounds maintenance service is still less than satisfactory with the Playing Field generally being cut as required but not the Village Green. Mr. Phillips proposed that the matter be discussed at the next meeting and this was seconded by Mrs. Keeble. All were in favour. The Chairman is to scan the specification and circulate it to all members.

084 End of the electricity plan for the Pavilion on 21st August, 2023

A letter had been received from E-on Next advising that our current electricity plan for the Pavilion comes to an end on 21st August, 2023. The current expenditure is in the region of £1,030 and we are offered a one year fixed deal of £1,186. There is also an option of a two year contract but a request has to be made for details. If we do nothing and roll on to a flexible business tariff, the cost will be £1,816. Details of the two years plan are to be requested so an informed decision on how best to proceed can be made at the next meeting.

085 Accounts for Payment and Schedule of Income

a) Resolved to approve the following Accounts for payment:-

25/6/23	Biffa (wheelie bin service from 27/5/23 to 30/6/23) - (d/d)	£188.04
5/7/23	D. Tyson (pavilion cleaning for June)	£125.04
5/7/23	J. Duffield (work in Cathedral Ruins – May and June)	£475.00
5/7/23	K. Webb (Clerk's pay for June)	£765.92
5/7/23	HMRC (Tax and N.I. on Clerk's pay)	£218.91
5/7/23	ALCC (annual subscription)	£50.00
5/7/23	T. R. Cook (trailer work at Broom Green)	£462.00
5/7/23	Mole Country Stores (rock salt, compost and grass seed)	£143.11
5/7/23	Mole Country Stores (rock salt)	£127.80
5/7/23	CGM Group (grounds maintenance)	£355.30
5/7/23	Anglian Water (Playing Field from 2/4/23 to 1/7/23)	£109.94
5/7/23	CGM Group (grounds maintenance)	£280.76
5/7/23	R. Hart (supply and apply herbicide to grassland weeds)	£418.20

(Expenditure approved by all members)

b) Schedule of income:-

9/6/23	Pavilion lettings	£10.00
5/6/23	Bank Interest (6/3/23 to 4/6/23)	£83.12

Balances (at 2/7/23):- Current a/c - £129,816.30, Business Premium a/c - £40,408.69

086 To Consider Planning Applications and Determinations:-

- a) **Applications**
- i) Land at Brookside Farm – amendment to pp 3PL/2019/0874/F – in-fill between the two approved projecting gables to the rear of the bungalow (Plot 19) – 3NM/2023/0062/NMA
 - ii) Vicarage Farm Barns, Barn 3, Church Lane – conservatory to side of barn conversion – 3PL/2023/0655/HOU.
 - iii) Park View, Church Lane – Mr. and Mrs. N. Moore – new single storey rear extension – 3PL/2023/0677/HOU.
 - iv) Land adjacent to The Chapel County School – demolition of two agricultural outbuildings and to be replaced with self-build dwelling, new driveway and proposed vehicular access – E. Findlay – 3PL/2023/0540/F.
- b) **Determinations**
- i) Land at Brookside Farm – amendment to pp 3PL/2019/0874/F – in-fill between the two approved projecting gables to the rear of the bungalow (Plot 19) – 3NM/2023/0062/NMA – withdrawn.

087 Correspondence

- 1) Norfolk County Council advising that the Rangers will be visiting the village “over the coming weeks”.
- 2) BHIB confirming insurance renewal and forwarding Employers’ Liability and Public Liability certificates.
- 3) Advice from NCC of the renewal of the Parish Partnership Scheme for 2024/2025.
- 4) Notification of the closure of Barclays Bank, Fakenham with effect from 6/10/23.
- 5) Temporary disconnection of the streetlight at 31 Holt Road requested.
- 6) Npower information regarding our electricity EBRs discount.
- 7) An email of thanks from 2nd Dereham (Toftwood) scout group for using the Millennium Wood.
- 8) E-on Next advice that the electricity plan for the Sports Pavilion ends on 21/8/23.

088 Any Other Matters (for information only)

None

089 Agenda items for next meeting:

CGM Group and grounds maintenance

090 Next Meeting:

Wednesday, 2nd August 2023 at 7.30 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.02 p.m.

Chairman

Date

