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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 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2024**  
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#### **331 Those Councillors Present Were:**

Mr. M. Phillips (Chair of the Meeting), Miss A. Ferris, Mr. T. Fitzalan Howard, Mr. B. Gee, Mr. P. Grainger, Mrs. A. Keeble, Mr. J. Labouchere and Mr. C. Smith.

**Also in Attendance:** Mr. K. Webb (Clerk) and Mr. B. Borrett (County and District Councillor).

#### **332 Apologies for absence:**

Mrs. J. Borgnis, Mr. N. Markwell, Mr. M. Rayner and Mr. G. Bambridge (District Councillor)

#### **333 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.

#### **334 Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday, 6th March, 2024:**

Resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record. Agreed by all. (Proposed by Mr. Labouchere and seconded by Mrs. Keeble).

### **UPDATED INFORMATION AND MATTERS ARISING**

#### **335 Land Management Matters (item 305)**

(a) Village Green The cutting of trees has been completed. Two, near Eastgate Street, were rotten and, as a result, were given additional attention. A letter was received from a parishioner regarding nests but we are able to confirm that the contractor checked these and there were no eggs present. A licence was issued by the Tree Warden. The cutting of the trees was also essential for health and safety reasons as there was a real danger to people from falling branches. Mr. Phillips is to draft a letter to the parishioner who had raised the query.

Mr. Grainger said that a reminder had been sent to Highways regarding the matter concerning the cycleway. A response to the original request, which was made some time ago, is still outstanding.

(b) Cathedral Ruins Nothing to report.

(c) Cathedral Meadows A quotation is to be obtained for a replacement to the map that had been wrenched off its base.

(d) Broom Green Mr. Labouchere reported that the road had been flooded on 11<sup>th</sup> March as the result of a blocked drain.

(e) Millennium Wood (and Jubilee Wood) The fence around the pit has been replaced.

(f) Bridleway on disused railway line and other railway linked matters Nothing to report.

(g) Prince William Wood Nothing to report.

(h) Church Meadow Nothing to report.

### **336 Allotments (item 306)**

The mirror from Fulmodeston and Barney Parish Council is no longer available.

### **337 Street Lights (item 307)**

Nothing to report.

### **338 Highway Matters (item 308)**

Mr. Grainger said that reports regarding potholes have been acknowledged and the response times are improving. Potholes near the level crossing and at the Pound have been repaired.

Details of the two fatal accidents which occurred in the village in 2022 have been received from the Project Engineer (Network Safety), Community and Environmental Services, Norfolk County Council. These are as follows:-

- a) 21<sup>st</sup> August 2022 – a westbound driver on B1145 overshot the junction with B1110 in dark conditions and struck a southbound motorcyclist. The motorcyclist suffered a fatal injury.
- b) 17<sup>th</sup> September 2022 – a southbound driver on B1110 lost control at a river bridge 100 metres south of Spong Farm in dark conditions. The car left the carriageway to the nearside and collided with a tree, resulting in a fatal injury to the nearside front seat passenger.

Following these tragic fatal accidents, both locations were investigated by a Road Safety Engineer. At the B1145/B1110 site, no highway factors were identified beyond verge maintenance.

At the B1110 bridge site, it was identified that some warning signs were missing, road markings were worn and a bridge pilaster was damaged. As a result of this inspection, road markings were refreshed and SLOW markings were added on each approach. Some signing amendments and hazard marker posts were installed on the bridge. Vegetation was cut back from around a sign assembly and the bridge pilaster was repaired.

### **339 Pavilion and Playing Field (item 309)**

The skate ramp and kick board will cost £800 and £500, the expenditure having been previously agreed. A cutting schedule of all areas has been provided by the contractors, Nurture.

### **340 Eastgate Centre (item 310)**

Nothing to report.

### **341 Brookside Development update (item 311)**

A meeting is to be arranged with the developers regarding drainage issues.

### **342 Risk Management – considerations and updates (item 312)**

Nothing to report.

### **343 Overview of Parish Council financial situation (item 313)**

Nothing to report.

### **344 Defibrillators (item 314)**

Nothing to report.

### **345 Call for Sites update – Breckland Council (item 315)**

Nothing to report..

### **346 Archive Group records (item 316)**

Two quotations are still awaited and will be chased.

### **347 Annual Budget (item 317)**

Nothing to report.

### **348 CGM Group and grounds maintenance for 2024 (item 318)**

Nothing to report.

### **349 North Elmham Living Sustainably (NELS) Group (item 319)**

Nothing to report.

### **350 S106 monies (£15.1K) received from Breckland Council (item 320)**

Messrs Phillips and Rayner have visited the Play Area on the Village Green and are of the opinion that a two metre enclosing strip, totalling about 60 square metres, would be a useful addition to the facility. The cost would be about £4,770. A drawing is to be produced for members to consider. A precise quotation will be obtained.

### **351 CCTV Policy (item 321)**

Nothing to report.

### **352 Reorganisation of the Parish Charities (item 322)**

Nothing to report.

### **353 Maintenance of Churchyards (item 323)**

Nothing to report.

### **354 Report from District and/or County Councillors**

Mr. Borrett said that Norfolk County Council had been in discussion with Natural England regarding a bat licence for the Norwich Western Link route for some 18 months. A draft report was due on 29<sup>th</sup> February. On 8<sup>th</sup> March, some new criteria were produced by Natural England regarding bats and it is not certain who has actually formulated the new reports. The County Council has spent almost £40m on the project so far. The Government has started to repay this money.

Service Centre villages will be allocated a small proportion of new housing needed under the Breckland Local Plan. 2,000 houses are required and three sites have been proposed, one being Swanton Morley Barracks. Other sites are at Larling (near A11) and on the south side of Dereham, near Scarning.

The annual three day, all night rave at Sennowe Park which is licensed by Breckland Council was mentioned and it is known that a number of concerns have been voiced about the possibility of the disruption suffered by some nearby villages being repeated this year. Mr. Bambridge has full details and is making enquiries regarding the arrangements.

### **355 Accounts for Payment and Schedule of Income**

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

19/3/24	Npower (street light electricity from 1/2/24 to 29/2/24)–(d/d)	£460.99
25/3/24	Biffa (wheelie bin service from 24/2/24 to 29/3/24) - (d/d)	£134.90
21/3/24	E-on Next (pavilion from 5/2/24 to 4/3/24) – (d/d)	£175.29
31/3/24	Darren Brown (base for outdoor table tennis table)	£450.00
31/3/24	A. R. Crisp Farm & Landscaping (various work on trees)	£4,595.00
31/3/24	BD Fencing and Landscaping (repairs in Millennium Wood)	£456.00
1/4/24	D. Tyson (pavilion cleaning for March)	£125.04
1/4/24	North Elmham PCC (donation)	£1,500.00
1/4/24	K. Webb (Clerk's pay for March)	£826.64
1/4/24	HMRC (Tax and N.I. on Clerk's pay)	£244.58

(Expenditure approved by all members – proposed by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mrs. Keeble)

b) Schedule of Income:-

7/3/24	Pavilion lettings	£10.00
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Balances (at 2/4/24):- Current a/c - £60,5574.17, Business Premium a/c - £43,321.08

## **356 To Consider Planning Applications and Determinations:-**

### **a) Applications**

- i) 3PL/2024/0256/HOU – 31 Orchard Close – Mrs. H. Munns – proposed two storey gable extension – no objections.
- ii) 3PL/2024/0263/F – Oakleigh Garden Shop, 25 Station Road – change of use from dual use shop/dwelling to dwelling and proposed internal alterations and extension, including new detached garage – no objections.
- iii) Town and Country Planning Act 1980, Appeal under Section 78 – Bintree and North Elmham – land adjacent to The Chapel, County School. Appeal against decision by Breckland District Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the demolition of two agricultural buildings, to be replaced with one self-build dwelling, new driveway and proposed vehicular access – no comments.

### **b) Determinations**

- i) TRE/2024/0050/TCA – Lyndale, 78 Holt Road – crown reduction of walnut tree – no objection.
- ii) TRE/2024/0054/TCA – Campton Cottage, Eastgate Street – no objection.

## **357 Correspondence**

- 1) CPRE Countryside Voices magazine for Spring and Summer, 2024.
- 2) CPRE The 2024 Members' Guide.
- 3) Advice from the Environment Agency of maintenance work to be done on the River Tat and the River Wensum between April, 2024 and March, 2025.
- 4) Advice from the Environment Agency of maintenance work to be done at Wendling Beck (Upper and Lower) between April, 2024 and March, 2025.
- 5) E-mail from parishioner regarding the pruning of trees on the Village Green.
- 6) E-mail from parishioner regarding speeding traffic in Eastgate Street (this is a matter for the police and Norfolk County Council, Highways)

## **358 Any Other Matters (for information only)**

None

## **359 Agenda items for next meeting:**

None

## **360 Next Meeting:**

Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2024 at 7.30 p.m. (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council)

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.46 p.m.

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Chairman

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Date

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