

Pre-Meeting Business: None

Public Participation: The following matters were raised:-

- a) A parishioner from a nearby village was concerned with the extra housing planned for Fakenham and the recent sewage problems in the town. The standard of water from taps was considered very poor and undrinkable. Mr. Bambridge suggested that contact should be made with the Environment Agency who have recently had a new chief officer appointed. Strong opposition to a new town being proposed near North Elmham was expressed.
- b) A parishioner asked why he hadn't received a copy of the Stewardship Agreement for the area which adjoins his land. Mr. Fitzalan Howard stated that it had been explained, on at least three occasions in recent times, that a copy of the agreement could be obtained from Brown and Co (Abigail Maynard) who have permission to release it to the parishioner requesting it. It is hoped that this advice will now finally be taken.

NORTH ELMHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the

MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

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

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301 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), Mr. B. Borrett (County and District Councillors), Mr. G. Bambridge (District Councillor) and four parishioners.

302 Apologies for absence:

None

303 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.

304 Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday, 1st March, 2023:

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

UPDATED INFORMATION AND MATTERS ARISING

305 Update on Affordable Housing Scheme (item 276)

Nothing to report.

306 Land Management Matters (item 277)

- a) Village Green Mr. Gee reported that, following work, the pipe can now be seen.
- b) Cathedral Ruins Mrs. Keeble said that new fencing has been installed. The seat near the Ruins has been reversed into and it needs replacing as the concrete on both sides is broken. We are aware of the availability of Charles the Third Coronation seats (four seater) at a cost of £799. Mr. Markwell proposed that one be purchased and this was seconded by Mr. Smith. All in favour except for one abstention.
- c) Cathedral Meadows The Stewardship Agreement has been extended for a further five years as previously agreed.
- d) Broom Green Mr. Labouchere reiterated that the pond will need attention this year and he will meet Mr. Cook on site in the not too distant future.
- e) Millennium Wood (and Jubilee Wood) Nothing to report.
- f) Bridleway on disused railway line and other railway linked matters Mr. Rayner had received a report which was passed to the MNR. The MNR had checked the large stone and it appears that it had been dragged from the undergrowth and had not fallen from the bridge. It will be removed in the near future.
- g) Prince William Wood Nothing to report.
- h) Church Meadow Nothing to report.

307 Allotments (item 278)

Mr. Phillips said that all plots are occupied and there is a waiting list.

308 Street Lights (item 279)

Nothing to report.

309 Highway Matters (item 280)

Mr. Grainger said that Highways had advised that the situation with the Eastgate Street drain had been resolved.

310 Pavilion and Playing Field (item 281)

Mr. Smith reported that the new mains situation had been finalised. The renewal contract with CGM for 2023 has been agreed. The Football Club has asked for one roll of the pitch to be carried out and the Clerk will approach the contactors to establish whether this can be done.

311 Youth Club facilities (item 282)

Nothing to report.

312 Eastgate Centre (item 283)

Nothing to report.

313 Brookside Development update (item 284)

Nothing to report.

314 Risk Management – considerations and updates (item 285)

Nothing to report.

315 Overview of Parish Council financial situation (item 286)

Nothing to report.

316 Defibrillators (item 287)

Nothing to report.

317 Call for Sites update – Breckland Council (item 288)

Mr. Rayner reported on the meeting held at the Pavilion on 31st March and attended by George Freeman M.P. CANT has been restarted and thanks were expressed to Messrs Borrett and Bambridge who, in addition to Mr. Freeman, expressed strong objections to the proposition of a new town or village on the site near North Elmham. Every home in the village and surrounding parishes is to receive a leaflet with the key question being number 13. The request is that this should be answered “No”. Mr. Borrett stressed that the key item is the “Issues and Options” as there is no other alternative site. The principle of a new town needs to be removed.

318 Pavilion Funding (item 289)

There is currently one source of funding for new village halls and that is the National Lottery. Mr. Labouchere mentioned that the Public Works Loan Board is still offering loans at relatively low interest rates. Mr. Bambridge said that when an application is made it is important to include everything that is needed.

319 Annual Budget (item 291)

Nothing to report.

320 King's Coronation celebrations (item 292)

Arrangements are proceeding as planned. An advert is to be placed in Elmham News.

321 Archive Group records (item 293)

Mr. Smith has visited Mrs. Woodhouse and viewed the material to be archived. He is confident that it can be housed in the Institute building with some purpose built wardrobes/cupboards (probably three) needed. Mr. Smith is to obtain some quotations.

322 Report from County/District Councillor

Mr. Bambridge and Mr. Borrett answered questions and gave their views on the proposal for the curiously named "Railway Village". They are both completely opposed to it and will continue to press the matter at Breckland Council. The Local Plan and forthcoming local elections were also discussed.

323 Accounts for Payment and Schedule of Income

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

17/3/23	Npower (street light electricity 1/2/23 to 28/2/23) – (d/d)	£193.55
26/3/23	Biffa (wheelie bin service from 25/2/23 to 31/3/23) - (d/d)	£188.04
31/3/23	D. Tyson (pavilion cleaning for March)	£114.00
31/3/23	Norfolk Woods and Hedges Ltd (Christmas Tree)	£72.00
31/3/23	John Dollery (entertainment – Queen's Diamond Jubilee)	£480.00
31/3/23	Mandrake (UK) Ltd – February payroll	£26.40
31/3/23	Mandrake (UK) Ltd – March payroll	£26.40
31/3/23	J.R.G. Fletcher (key keeping – February and March)	£62.50
31/3/23	T. H. Scott and Son (hedge cutting at Cathedral Meadows)	£525.00
31/3/23	E-on Next (pavilion from 28/2/23 to 26/3/23)	£147.10
31/3/23	K. Webb (travel expenses from 1/11/22 to 31/3/23)	£59.40
5/4/23	K. Webb (Clerk's pay for March)	£751.00
5/4/23	HMRC (Tax and N.I. on Clerk's pay)	£212.52
5/4/23	Environment Agency (general drainage charges)	£109.71

(Expenditure approved by all members)

a) Schedule of income:-

6/3/23	Bank Interest (from 5/12/22 to 5/3/23)	£48.52
6/3/23	North Elmham Football Club (rent)	£200.00
10/3/23	Pavilion takings	£10.00
10/3/23	North Elmham Bowls Club (rent – three years)	£225.00

Balances (at 2/4/23):- Current a/c - £118,179.42, Business Premium a/c - £39,825.57

324 To Consider Planning Applications and Determinations:-

a) Applications

- (i) 3PL/2023/-0282/O – outline planning permission with all matters reserved for proposed dwelling and redevelopment of existing dwelling – William Seaman (Yaxham) Ltd – 55 Eastgate Street.
- (ii) Land off Holt Road – discharge of conditions 8,16,17 and 23 on 3DC/2023/0077/DOC.
- (iii) 3PL/2023/0359/LB and 3PL/2023/0358/HOU – replacement of sealed unit wooden framed window panes, repair of external timbers to dormer windows, repainting of woodwork and repointing of selected brickwork at front of house – Mr. Philip Hall – Wellesley House, 61 Holt Road.

b) Determinations

3PL/2022/0763/F – Brookside Farm, 74 Holt Road – re-positioning of Plot 12's garage – permission granted.

325 Correspondence

- 1) CPRE Countryside Voices magazine for Spring and Summer, 2023
- 2) CPRE 2023 Members' Guide
- 3) CGM Grounds Maintenance Contract for 2023 – this was formally agreed with all members in favour (proposed by Mr. Rayner and seconded by Mr. Smith). The new annual amount is £4,559.47, an increase of 9.0% on 2022.
- 4) Rural Payments Agency Countryside Stewardship Mid Tier and Wildlife Offers open for applications
- 5) Rural Payments Agency Countryside Stewardship and Environmental Stewardship schemes open for 2023 claims

326 Any Other Matters (for information only)

The circus is returning to the village in the last week in April.

327 Agenda items for next meeting:

None

328 Next Meeting:

Wednesday, 10th May 2023 at 7.30 p.m. (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council)
Wednesday, 24th May 2023 at 7.30 p.m. (Annual Parish Meeting)

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Chairman

Date

