

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NORTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 3RD APRIL 2017

PRESENT: Mr. A. Burt, Mr. B. Aket, Mrs. P. Blackmore, Mrs. P. Croft, Ms. L. Paris,
Mrs. K. Fullam, Mrs. P. Mathieson, Mr. R Skerry, Mrs. J. Rowland (Clerk)
Mrs. S. Mansell – District Councillor
2 members of the public.

APOLOGIES – Mr. D. Etchells-Butler, Mr.J. Levantis – District Councillor, Mrs.J.Storey – County Councillor.

REPORT FROM MRS. MANSELL, DISTRICT COUNCILLOR (appendix A)

Mrs. Mansell stated the Boundary Commission are involved with a reduction from 40 to 34 wards. Consultations are taking place. Sheltered housing no longer has warden cover, but in place in a local letting policy. Mendelsham's Neighbourhood Plan has been adopted – the first in Suffolk. There is a new MSDC web site.

Mr. Burt enquired about the Mendlesham Neighbourhood Plan and how MSDC view this with planning recommendations. Mrs. Mansell stated it has to be taken into consideration with any planning application, but commented that Mendelsham has no allocation policy, so relies on the MDSC 5-year housing land supply. She stated there has been an application for 2 bungalows outside the settlement boundary so it will be interesting to see the outcome.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS - none

1. MINUTES

- 1.1 The minutes of meeting held on 6th March 2017 were approved after noting that a landscaper will definitely be required for the slide mound.

2. MATTERS ARISING

- 2.1 Update from Concertus. Mr. Aket stated that at a Governors Meeting it had been stated that access for the work would be over farm land not the playing field, this had been confirmed through a phone call to the Company. However, they would still require access from the playing field to the new school play area with a gateway and some trees would require cutting down. Concertus also requested used of several car park spaces for vans and loos while the work is progressing. Mr. Aket stated 2/3 trees would need to be cut down. The company felt that as access would no longer be required across the field a more appropriate financial contribution would be £5 day rate parking fee x 4 spaces x 3 weeks making £420, then doubled to account for the access making £850. Councillors felt if this could be rounded to £1000 they would be agreeable for this work to go ahead. Mr. Aket will relay this decision to the Company.
- 2.2 Beacon – Interest has been registered and further details will follow in due course.
- 2.3 War Memorial – request has been made for funding from Mrs. Storey's locality fund, so a decision is awaited.
- 2.4 Supermarket community project funding. Mrs. Croft stated she has filled in the Waitrose application form and it must now be awaited which projects are "pulled out of the hat". Mrs. Fullam stated she has done the same with the Co-op, and will also approach Asda and Tesco.

3. PLANNING

- 3.1 Planning Applications received in respect of:
The Cotswolds, Ixworth Road, Norton for erection of a dwelling house (Ref 0776/17). The Council had the following comments to make:
 1. This area was at one time a pond and has caused drainage issues in the past.
 2. Parking and access. This proposal would cause additional traffic entering and exiting the site. Sufficient on-site car parking is essential.
 3. This proposal has the potential for overdevelopment of the area, and could set a precedent for other applications.
- 3.2 Planning application approved in respect of
Land fronting Stanton Street, Norton for erection of detached dwelling and garage (alternative scheme to

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(cont 2)

that approved under planning permission 2251/16) Ref 4742/16

4. FINANCE

4.1 The following accounts were approved for payments:

Westcotec, £536.40, cheque no. 001135

Street Cleaner, £140.00, cheque no 001136

Clerk and expenses, £228.11, cheque no 001137

HMRC, £69.00, cheque no 001138

S. Cracknell £98.79, cheque no 001139

MSDC £248.00, cheque no 001140

Action Play and Leisure, £1026.00, cheque no 001141

4.2 The Clerk confirmed receipt of Recycling claim for £495.87. The Councillors commented that the textile bin is often overflowing so a request will be made for a bigger bin.

4.3 Following recommendation from the Clerk, the Council approved the appointment of SALC as internal auditor.

4.4 The Clerk presented the dates for external audit from BDO as being 3rd July 2017.

5. NORTON TRAFFIC ACTION GROUP

5.1 VAS signs – The faulty light is being looked at and an insurance claim has been made. The other sign is with Mrs. Mathieson.

5.2 Speedwatch - Mr. Burt commented that the lighter nights would make speedwatch more viable.

6. PLAY AREA

6.1 Monthly playground inspection. One of the signs has been broken.

6.2 Youth Shelter repair – The Clerk will forward the name of the provider to the Chairman in an attempt to access replacement seats.

6.3 The Safety Audit stated the basket ball area should have a sign stating rules for use. A large sign will cost £40, smaller sign £20. It was agreed to order 2 smaller signs. Mr. Burt has already purchased a net.

6.4 Gateways. Bright colour paint is needed which Mr. Walton has offered to do. Mr. Burt will speak with him to arrange this.

6.5 Play area equipment – Mr. Burt commented that an in-ground trampoline could possibly be purchased with s106 money.

6.6 Section 106 money. Although this money has been earmarked for specific use, Mr. Burt felt there was a way to use the money, suggesting football pitches. He stated the current football pitch is too big for the children so suggested 5 a side and 7 a side pitches, with potential for 3 on the field. Posts, including nets would be £625 a pair. Also shelters and benches around the pitches. Mr. Burt suggested 7 a side and 3 dug outs at £8216, or 2 dug outs and 2 goal posts at around £5000 ish. Mr. Aket suggested an artificial cricket pitch which Vertas could install. He agreed to contact them and ask for a quote. Mr. Aket asked who decides on the spending of the 106 money. Mrs. Mansell said she believed there was a survey and assessment by the MSDC community team. With these various options on the table, the Chairman suggested that the Councillors meet at 7pm prior to the APM to discuss and make final decisions.

7. VILLAGE HALL DEVELOPMENT

7.1 Mr. Skerry stated all the current upgrade is now complete and an open day will be organized in due course. Mr. Burt enquired whether photographs would be put in the Messenger. Mr. Skerry will ask the Committee. The Clerk was requested to write to the Chairman with congratulations on the tremendous effort by the Committee.

8. VILLAGE WALK

8.1 Mrs. Haywood has agreed to undertake organizing a village walk later in the year.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 SCC notification of temporary traffic order 10/4/17 – 13/4/17, road closure for replacement signage on

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(cont 3)

rail bridge - noted.

9.2 Open Spaces survey – Clerk to complete on line.

9.3 SALC information leaflets - noted

9.4 RoSPA informed of a Playground Inspection Training course at Cambridge on 2-5 May 2017 - Noted.

9.5 Request received from Circus Ferrell to use the field between 21st to 23rd April with set up on 18th. There would be a workshop for the children with a bucket collection at the end of each performance to go to field hire. Mr. Aket commented that as the Councillor responsible for the field bookings he had not been informed to avoid a clash of booking. The Chair stated a rapid response was required so being unable to speak with Mr. Aket a decision had been made to accept the booking, so information will be forwarded to Mr. Aket.

10. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT AGENDA.

10.1 Mr. Aket commented about the van consistently parking on the pavement near The Dog. The Chairman wondered if the van was legally able to park if the path use was not compromised. Mr. Aket stated he had in the past asked the owner to park on the road or village hall car park, so that use of the path was accessible. A letter will be sent to the owner.

10.2 Mr. Aket stated he had two boxes of diamond jubilee mugs still in his possession.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

11.1 8th May 2017 + AGM of Council.