

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

PRESENT: Mrs. K. Fullam (Vice Chair), Mr. B. Aket, Mrs. P. Blackmore, Mrs. P. Croft,
Mr. D. Etchells-Butler, Ms. L. Paris, Mr. R. Skerry, Mrs. J. Rowland (Clerk)
Mrs. S. Mansell and Mr. J. Levantis – District Councillors
Public: Mr and Mrs. Walton.
Mr. D. Barker, Mr. J. Bird. (planning consultants)

APOLOGIES: Mr. A. Burt, Mrs. P. Mathieson.

CONSULTATION ON HAWES LANE/SUFFOLK HOUSE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Barker and Mr. Bird explained that the proposal is now for 12 developments. Mr. Bird showed the plan of the site and stated his firm does not have standard houses, they are designed and built for each site. The proposal is for 8 houses and 4 affordable homes. Mr. Etchells-Butler asked about the Hawes Lane access via Heath Road, and was told that there is potential for Highways to widen the road. Mrs. Mansell asked if there were any thoughts to widen the road going towards the Thurston Road. Mr. Barker said this had not yet been investigated.

Mr. Aket commented on the additional traffic that would use Heath Road, the lorries needed for the development and the fact that there is no footpath along this small road. Mr. Barker stated a traffic consultant has been appointed, a pedestrian and cyclist access would be provided, the usual construction management plans would be taken very seriously, and Highways requirements will be sought.

Mr. Aket enquired whether the pedestrian access could be changed to a small road access, and was informed that Highways felt it best to use the existing access. Mr. Aket enquired about the time scale, but this was uncertain until Highways views are received. Comment was made on the impact on the school with the likelihood of more children.

Mrs. Fullam asked for an update email to the Chairman in August and a further Council discussion in September.

COMMENTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Mrs. Mansell reminded the Council of the locality budget award. She commented on the boundary review, stating MSDC have put in their comments as consultee, and it is hoped that a draft will be published in August. Mrs. Mansell stated pre-application planning advice now has to be paid for. She stated the joint local plan will be out in the next month or so for consultation. Mr. Levantis commented that the boundary review is looking at 1 member per ward. He stated the pre-applications charges are in line with other authorities. The unsocial behaviour policy for tenants is an ongoing consultation document.

Mr. Aket enquired whether the pre-application charges are on a sliding scale. Mr. Levantis confirmed this was the case.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC

Mr. Walton asked for the Council to consider financial assistance towards the general upkeep of the hall.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST – none.

1. MINUTES

1.1 The minutes of meeting held on 5th June 2017 were approved and signed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

2.1 Update from Pretty's solicitor. Mr. Burslem stated he would require the Title Deeds if these are with the Council. He stated a plan to show the land SCC are able to pass over would be useful, but SCC may be able to draw this up. He stated he would contact SCC (the Clerk will forward the email contact). The cost for the Licence of Access would be £1200-1500.

Signed.....Chairman

14

7th August 2017

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

(cont 2)

- 2.2 Use of playing field for access to school grounds. Mr. Aket stated Concertus requested to access the school grounds to build 2 permanent classrooms. SCC have asked for access across the playing field, and need extended permission to cross the playing field with lorries. The work would continue until January 2018. The portacabins would not be removed until the new classrooms have been built. Mr. Aket felt SCC should be charged for the use with a clearly stated route for the trackway. Mr. Walton reminded the Councillors about the poor state of the hall entrance and the block paving. Mr. Etchells-Butler proposed a charge of £10,000 up to January, with a condition to reinstate the splay at the entrance. Mrs. Blackmore suggested a monthly payment of £2000 after January if the work continues. Mr. Etchells-Butler enquired where the access across the field might be, the need to protect the cricket wicket, and to keep off the footpath. Mrs. Fullam asked if the Friends of School had booked the field for the Summer Fair, and Mr. Aket confirmed they had. Mr. Aket will contact Rory with this information.
- 2.3 War Memorial – the work will start at the end of July/beginning of August.
- 2.4 Mrs. Fullam fed back on her recent Liaison Course. She reported that Tom Barker from Planning had been one of the speakers, who stated that there was a need to put through applications due to the targets. There are 5 potential developments at Thurston of around 800 houses.
- 2.5 Mr. Aket commented about the correspondence received from Westlyn concerning the car parked on the pavement. He reminded that he had called on the residents who had assured him this action would only be while the house was being renovated. Councillors noted that there could be a fine imposed by the Police for parking on and obstructing a footway. This will be conveyed to the resident.

3. PLANNING

- 3.1 Planning Applications received in respect of:
Land at Little Haugh Hall, Norton for erection of two dwellings (alternative scheme to 0603/16) Ref 1805/17. The Council felt the proposed alternative scheme dwellings were too big and should be conditioned for farm workers only
- 3.2 MSDC Review of planning pre-application service. As from 1st July the planning team will be introducing charges for pre-application advice service. All submitting planning enquiries will be required to pay a proportionate fee to receive planning advice prior to formal submission. Prices begin at £84 with the full charging schedule on the website.

4. FINANCE

- 4.1 Request received from St. Andrews Church for financial assistance towards upkeep of churchyard. The Councillors agreed a donation of £380.
- 4.2 Request received from Village Hall for financial assistance towards the upkeep and general repairs and running of the hall. The Councillors agreed to a donation of £1500.
- 4.3 The Chairman asked the Council to consider a donation to the Baptist Church for upkeep of their churchyard. Mr. Etchells-Butler proposed £250, Mrs. Croft seconded. Mr. Aket counter-proposed £150, Mrs. Blackmore seconded. On a vote, it was 4 to 3 for the counter-proposal donation of £150.
- 4.4 The following accounts were approved for payments:
Street Cleaner, £166.40 (cheque no 001155)
HMRC, £75.60 (cheque no 001156)
MSDC Bins emptying £354.00 (cheque no 001157)
SALC internal audit £252.00 (cheque no 001158)
Norton Village Hall, £1500 (cheque no 001159)
St. Andrews Church, £380.00 (cheque no 001160)
Clerk, £136.00 (cheque no 022000)
Tenhats, June and July Messenger, £384.00 (cheque no 022001)
Tenhats, Go Daddy website host, £85.97, (cheque no 022002)
Norton Baptist Church, donation for churchyard, £150.00 (cheque no 022003)
- 4.5 The Clerk presented the current bank statements showing current account balance of £20485.13.
- 4.6 Locality Budget - Mrs. Mansell commented that applications close September/October. Community Groups may apply. Mrs. Mansell stated she would prepare a paragraph for submission to the Messenger.

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

(cont 3)

Mr. Levantis confirmed that each MS Councillor has a £6250 pot to award to projects or organisations. Mrs. Fullam commented about a footpath along Ashfield Road as this road can be dangerous.

5. ASSETS REGISTER.

5.1 The Clerk presented the updated Assets Register for year 2017-18. The Council approved the Register.

6. PLAY AREA

- 6.1 Monthly playground inspection. Mrs Fullam stated the broken play area sign cannot be claimed for.
- 6.2 Youth Shelter repair. This will be undertaken soon.
- 6.3 Play area equipment. The Cricket Wicket will commence on 17th July and take around 1 1/2 weeks to install. The area will need to be cordoned off during the work and will hopefully be ready for use during the school holidays.

7. VILLAGE HALL DEVELOPMENT

7.1 Mr. Skerry stated there is no update on any further hall improvement. He stated Mrs. Mathieson has resigned from the Hall Committee.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- 8.1 School Close congestion – Mrs. Fullam stated that cars are parking on the junction, there have been several near misses with children, and recently the bus could not get down the Close. Comment made as to whether the coach could use the village hall car park, or there could be staggered drop off times. It was stated that Pre-school are changing their times in September, i.e. 15minutes earlier to drop off and 15 mins earlier to pick up.
- 8.2 Phase 2 Boundary Review consultation. The review will draw new council ward boundaries across Mid Suffolk. Consultation closes on 14th August.
- 8.3 Correspondence from Chris Lucas concerning Better Broadband. The Councillors asked that he is invited to the next Council meeting to give an update on progress.
- 8.4 Copy of correspondence received from Prof. Jaggard informing Highways of a poorly fitting inspection cover, HGVs breaking the weight restriction and continual diversion of traffic at night when repairs or maintenance is carried out on the A14. Mrs. Storey was also copied in and a reply awaited.
- 8.5 Hedges and verges in village. A reminder to all residents to keep these cut back from the road will be put in the messenger.
- 8.6 SCC Network Assurance Team. SCC informed that www.roads.org is a national web portal hosting a complete and up to date copy of Street Works Register data, enabling anyone to see what is going on in any area in the UK. As from 1st July legal notices or orders will no longer be emailed to Clerks or Councillors
- 8.7 Community Action Suffolk Awards 2017. Nominations close on 21st July 2017.

9. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS – none.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING –

10.1 7th August 2017.