

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NORTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 7TH AUGUST 2017

PRESENT: Mr. A. Burt, Mr. B. Aket, Mrs. P. Blackmore, Mrs. P. Croft, Mrs. K. Fullam, Mrs. P. Mathieson, Ms. L. Paris, Mr. R. Skerry, Mrs. J. Rowland (Clerk)
Mrs. S. Mansell and Mr. J. Levantis – District Councillors.
Public - Mr. C. Lucas

APOLOGIES – Mr. D. Etchells-Butler.

At the Council's request, Mr. Lucas addressed the meeting to update on the situation regarding broadband in the village. As a village resident, he has been lobbying BT about the areas of the village still not receiving faster broadband through fibre optic. He has been informed that BT plan a 2 phase work of installation – September for part of the village and December for the rest. The first phase in September will be to build a new cabinet between Prospect Road and Norton Little Green. Fibre to premises at Norton Little Green could then possibly be connected in December. Councillors thanked Mr. Lucas for the work he has put in and he agreed to keep the Council updated on events.

REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS – Appendix A & B

In the joint local plan, Norton is listed as a core village. The ward boundary review will be discussed at a forthcoming Council meeting and a draft version will be out soon. Mr. Aket asked why the conservatives are trying to influence the Boundary Review if the Boundary Commission is non political. Mr. Levantis stated they are trying to obtain the best outcome for the areas. Mrs. Mansell commented that the current ward is no longer big enough for 2 Councillors. School Close application has currently been withdrawn as Mrs. Mansell spoke at the meeting about parking and traffic issues in this area. However, Mid Suffolk could not support more parking spaces. The Chairman questioned about having permit parking for this area.

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR – Appendix C

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS – none.

1. MINUTES

1.1 The minutes of meetings held on 3rd and 11th July 2017 were approved and signed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

2.1 Update from Concertus and use of playing field for access to school grounds. Work has started and it is understood that School Close access is being used. There has been no reply from Concertus about Mr. Aket's email on the Council's conditions for use of the playing field..

2.2 War Memorial – work has started.

2.3 Locality budget – Any village group or organization can apply to the District Councillors for grant aid from the Locality Budget. Mrs. Mansell agreed to put an item in the Messenger. Mrs. Blackmore enquired whether funding of replacement noticeboards could be requested by the Council.

2.4 Boundary Review – draft from MSDC will be expected soon.

3. PLANNING

3.1 Planning Applications received in respect of:

The Cottage, The Street, Norton for Notification for prior approval for a Proposed Larger Home Extension under Part 2 Class A of the Town and Country Planning (general permitted development) Order 2015 – erection of single storey rear extension and dormer window (applic DC/17/03716). The Council had no objection or comment to make on this application.

Land at Stanton Street, Norton for erection of three detached dwellings and garages (one dwelling being an alternative to that approved under planning permission 4742/16) - applic DC/17/03364). The Council had the following comments to make:

1. There is concern at the number of vehicles that will be egressing and accessing the properties when constructed.

2. During construction there will be large number of lorries accessing the site causing disruption for

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adjacent properties.

3. The lane usage by vehicles accessing the pumping station can be bad, and it has been known for lorries to queue and wait on the A1088.
- 3.2 Planning permission granted in respect of Hayfield House (opposite Rookery Farm), Ashfield Road, Norton for erection of 2 bay cartlodge – applic.1826/17
- 3.3 Withdrawn application in respect of 1-8 School Close, Norton for planning application for a change of use from former sheltered accommodation common room to local authority office use. (DC/17/02636)
- 3.4 Mrs. Mansell informed of planning application for a large petrol station and 2 drive through restaurants/cafes at the A1088 roundabout. She felt it was against the village strategic cohesion with a threat to the existing petrol stations and eating places, with concern at the amount of generated traffic. Mr. Levantis stated there is currently one application at the new Rougham development, and Tesco in Stowmarket have submitted an application for a drive-through. Mrs. Mansell has requested that this application to go to Committee.

4. FINANCE

- 4.1 The following accounts were approved for payments:
 - Street Cleaner, £166.40 (cheque no 022004)
 - Clerk, £136.00 (cheque no 022005)
 - HMRC, £75.60 (cheque no 022006)
 - Tenhats, £165.75 (cheque no 022007)
 - Vertas, £7898.76 (cheque no 022009)
- 4.2 Information from Aon Insurance to cease involvement with Local Councils and they have made arrangements for provision with a renewal invitation from BHIB Ltd, another insurance broker, at next renewal.
- 4.3 The Council considered projects for application to Locality Budget, which included noticeboards, another VAS, play equipment at Prospect Road, or painting of various items. There is £12,000 available between the two Councillors. This item will be place on the agenda for the next meeting.

5. PLAY AREA

- 5.1 Monthly playground inspection – The cone has been tightened up and the mound is recovering. The see-saw may need repairs.
- 5.2 The Clerk stated that she had received comment that a child had cut their hand while using the playground equipment. The Chair will inspect and the play area inspection report is awaited.

6. VILLAGE HALL DEVELOPMENT

- 6.1 Mr. Skerry had no update. Mr. Burt felt the charges for hiring should be advertised.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- 7.1 MSDC new Local Plan – Norton is listed as a core village meaning there is likely to be some development. The settlement boundary has been moved to accommodate the exiting village envelope without much scope for more housing land. The Council will be asked to comment on the draft local plan.
 - 7.2 Locality Award form – closing date 16 Feb 2018.
 - 7.3 SCC informed of temporary traffic order for road closure The Street, Norton for 22 August 2017 to 23rd August 2017.
- Correspondence for information
- 7.4 Clerks and Councils Direct
 - 7.5 Suffolk View

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

8.1 The Chairman stated there had been several breakins in the village.

8.2 Mr. Burt had received correspondence from Mrs. Goldsmith concerned at parking issues at the Halfboys

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

9.1 4th September 2017.