

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NORTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 5TH FEBRUARY 2018

PRESENT: Mr. A Burt, Mr. B. Aket, Mrs. P.Mathieson, Ms. L. Paris, Mrs. K. Fullam (arrived 19.50),
Mrs. J Rowland (Clerk)
Mrs. S. Mansell – District Councillor.
Public: Mr. G. Walton, Mr. R. Allen

PUBLIC FORUM – No comments from the public

REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS – Appendix A

Mrs. Mansell stated the cabinet have agreed a draft budget, likely a 0.5% increase. She also stated the Boundary Commission report will be shortly published.

Mrs. Mansell reminded that the locality funding application deadline is 16th February.

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR- Appendix B

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST - none

APOLOGIES: Mrs. P. Blackmore, Mrs. P. Croft, Mr. D. Etchells-Butler, Mr. J. Levantis.

1. MINUTES

1.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2018 were approved and signed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

2.1 Future format for Remembrance Day - still being discussed.

2.2 Review of Village Walk – 29 people attended even though the weather was bad. The walk was 5.1 miles.
Mr. Burt felt it would be good to arrange another walk at some point.

3. PLANNING

3.1 Planning Applications received in respect of:

3.1.1 Little Green Cottage, Ashfield Road, Norton for erection of 1 two storey dwelling (DC/18/00091)
The Council stated they had considered the application and listened to the neighbour's comments and shared the concerns. They asked for these to be taken into consideration by the MSDC.

3.1.2 9 Ixworth Road, Norton for erection of rear single and two storey extension and front porch, following demolition of rear conservatory. (DC18/00159). The Council had no comments to make on this application.

3.2 Planning Permission granted in respect of:

3.2.1 Norton Pre-School Honeywood Corner for continued use of land for the siting of unit for pre-school for 7 years – DC/17/04655

3.2.2 Applebury, The Street, Norton for erection of cart lodge – DC/17/05957

3.3 Mr. Aket commented on the lack of TPOs in the village. He felt the Council needed to identified trees within the village they would not wish to lose. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

4. FINANCE

4.1 Request received for financial assistance from SARS and Suffolk Age UK. The Councillors declined the request from Suffolk Age UK. Mr. Aket proposed a donation of £150 to SARS, Mr. Burt seconded with all Councillors in agreement.

4.2 The following accounts were approved for payments:

Street Cleaner, £166.40 (cheque no 022041)

Clerk, £136.00 (cheque no 022042)

HMRC, £75.60 (cheque no 022043)

Tenhats, £195.73 (cheque no 022044)

Village Hall £21.00 (cheque no 022045)

Signed

40

5th March 2018

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NORTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 5TH FEBRUARY 2018

Cont 2

Vertas, £237.74 (cheque no 022046)
SARS £150.00 (cheque no 022047)

- 4.3 The Clerk asked the Council to approve the internal auditor for accounts year end 2017/2018. SALC had previously carried out this task. The Council agreed to ask SALC to again undertake this work at the appropriate time.
- 4.4 Request received from Chair of Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association for consideration of a one-off payment of £50 as a contribution to help support neighbourhood watch across the county. The Council declined at this time. Mr. Aket felt support for the local group when up and running would be more appropriate.

5. PRECEPT

- 5.1 The Clerk presented the Precept budget allocation for 2018/19, which the Councillors formally approved.
- 5.2 Mr. Walton questioned why at the previous meeting the Clerk had presented a proposed reduced precept. The Clerk reiterated that this was not the case and the papers presented at the January meeting were for a precept for the current amount of £20,000 with suggested budget headings of how the money could be allocated. She stated various figures had been explained, i.e. the grant from MSDC, the new play equipment cost and a virement of amount from one budget to another, but at no point had it been suggested that the Council reduce the precept.

6. PLAY AREA

- 6.1 Monthly inspection report. Mrs. Mathieson commented on the moles problem in the area. The Clerk stated Proludic had replied to the question of damage and faulty materials, by stating the photograph seemed to show vandalism.
- 6.2 Play Area Inspection report – Mrs. Mathieson commented that on the report the new equipment had been noted as missing inserts and having finger entrapments. Proludic will be asked for their comments. Mr. Burt is still chasing repairs to the Youth Shelter.
- 6.3 Mr. Aket felt that use of the cricket wicket should be encouraged this year and suggested the purchase of a cricket kit. His investigation had revealed bags for Junior, Senior and Youth costing around £500 altogether. He enquired whether the District Councillors' locality fund could be asked for a grant to purchase a starter cricket kit. Mrs. Mansell felt this could be a possibility and agreed to forward the application form to Mr Aket.

7. VILLAGE HALL

- 7.1 Report on upgrade improvement. Mr. Allen reported that some upgrades had now been completed and currently the committee was investigating heating and costs. He stated long term the asbestos roof and flat roof will require attention and a sub-committee is taking this forward, with possibilities to extend the hall. With regard to bookings he stated Monday to Thursday the hall is booked every evening and some days. The Committee is currently working with Pre-School for the hall refurbishment to include them.
- 7.2 Update on wi-fi. This is currently up and running and the code is available to hall users.
- 7.3 The Hall has a web site that is available with calendar use. This will be promoted through facebook.
- 7.4 Mr. Aket commented on the overuse of the car park, particularly by the workers on the houses opposite, local builders, next door neighbours. He felt it should be for parents and users of the hall and there should be a sign to this effect. Mr. Aket agreed to look into appropriate signage.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- 8.1 SALC report to area meetings Nov/Dec 17 – noted
- 8.2 SCC brief report on budget setting for 2018/19 – noted.
- 8.3 GDPR update from SALC. SALC stated that the Clerk nor the RFO could act as DPO. However, the Advisory Council training session stated this was not the case. The Information Commissioner are of the

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NORTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 5TH FEBRUARY 2018

Cont 3

view that a member of staff can carry out this role. Further information will be forwarded from the Advisory Council to enable the Council to comply to the new GDPR regulations.

8.4 Highways England update on carriageway repairs A14, J47-49 Haughley – noted.

8.5 Highways reported on question concerning request for pedestrian crossing of A1088. Highways confirmed that they had given informal advice to the agent of the Hawes Lane site suggesting a pedestrian crossing facility is introduced on the A1088 to create a better link with the east of the village.

8.6 Highways stated that the request for double white lines in Norton stated that solid white lining can only be considered if the carriageway is more than 6.1 meters wide and there is visibility of more than 75 meters at a height of 1.05 meters above the carriageway. As the carriageway width and visibility is not consistent through the village the requested markings would not be considered in line with national regulations.

8.7 In reply to yellow lines in School Close, Mr. Daws from Highways stated that parking restrictions did not appear to be the solution to the issues experienced by residents and the bus driver. The Police would be unable to provide adequate enforcement. Highways suggested that the Respect Zone is reinstated. Furthermore Highways felt residents would not appreciate restrictions bearing in mind visitors and tradesmen. He felt The Dog car park, village hall car park and legal parking in the area, provided adequate parking and he felt there was little need for School Close to be so congested.

CORRESPONDENCE for information

8.5 Clerks & Councils Direct.

8.6 Local Councillor

9. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING

9.1 Mr. Burt commented on a new fibreoptic box for faster broadband.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

10.1 5th March 2018.