

# **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NORTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2018.**

**PRESENT:** Mr. A. Burt, Mr. B. Aket, Mrs. P. Blackmore, Mrs. P. Croft, Mrs. K. Fullam, Mrs. P. Mathieson, Ms. L. Paris, Mrs. J. Rowland (Clerk)  
District Councillors – Mrs. S. Mansell, Mr. J. Levantis.  
Public: Mr. G. Walton, Mrs. A. Walton, Mr.....

**APOLOGIES:** Mr. D. Etchells-Butler.

Mr. Aket asked the Council to remember their former Councillor colleague Mr. Roger Skerry who passed away on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018. His funeral will be held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018. The Council held a minute's silence.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

Mr. Walton commented on the speed sign still missing from the Ixworth end of the Village, speed repeater signs missing and sign at The Dog damaged. The Clerk will enquire of Highways.

Mr. Walton enquired about the mobile VAS which he would like to use along the Ashfield Road. Mr. Burt will take this to him to use.

Mr. Walton felt the Council would benefit from having salt bins at various places in the village, i.e. Norton Hall lane and Church Lane. The Clerk will obtain costs.

Mr. Walton stated that on the VAS the batteries would last longer if the speed range was higher. The firm has stated that if activated at 25 the batteries would last longer.

## **REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS – Appendix A & B**

Mr. Levantis commented that the Council are looking at better use of their land and have identified 25 sites as potential building land. Mr. Aket stated the Council had requested affordable housing for the main road site, but this had been rejected for 3 large detached houses. Mr. Levantis said that the private sector led the building development. Mrs. Mansell stated the budget had been agreed with a 0.5% increase. She stated the locality fund has been allocated with £2650 to the village hall, £650 to the Twinning Association, and £350 to the Parish Council.

## **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST - none**

### **1. MINUTES**

1.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018 were approved and signed.

### **2. MATTERS**

2.1 Format for Remembrance Day - a meeting has been arranged for 15<sup>th</sup> March.

2.2 Tree Preservation Orders – identification of eligible trees. Mr. Aket commented that there are a number of trees in the Parish that would probably benefit from a TPO. It was felt that the villagers could be asked, through the Messenger, for identification of eligible trees. The Tree Officer at SCC would be asked for the criteria required for a TPO.

### **3. PLANNING**

3.1 Planning Applications received in respect of:

3.1.1 2 The post Mill, Norton for retention of four outbuildings and erection of a

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further outbuilding (DC/18/00502)

The Council recommends rejection of this proposal, with the following comments:

1. The proposed outbuildings are considered large developments for a back garden.
  2. The outbuildings will be outside the settlement boundary.
  3. By means of the large size the proposals would change the character of the area.
- 3.1.2 Dai Dor, The Street, Norton for erection of first floor and single storey rear extensions (DC/18/00538)
- 3.1.3 Vine Cottage, Ashfield Road, Norton for erection of single storey side extension and insertion of rear window (DC/18/00550)
- 3.1.4 Land at Stanton Street, Ixworth Road, Norton for erection of 4 dwellings and garages (amended design to that approved under DC/17/03364 and 4742/16) (DC/18/00684)

The Council has 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 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.
- 3.1.5 The Paddock, Heath Road, Norton, for erection of porch, erection of detached double garage and associated log store; Conversion of garage to habitable room; Change from flat roof to pitched roof over garage and creation of rooms in roof of previous garage to bedroom and insertion of new windows. Installation of replacement windows and doors and construction of decked area (retention of). DC/18/00083.

The Council had no objection to these proposals, but asked for the following observations be taken into account:

1. Work to take place during normal working hours, i.e. 8am - 5 pm.
  2. Due to the location being a small narrow road, all vehicles should be parked on site and not on the road verge.
- 3.1.6 Summer Barley Cottage, 4 Church Lane, Norton for erection of first floor rear extension over existing single storey extension. DC/18/00836. The Council approved the proposal.

3.2 Planning Permission granted in respect of:

- 3.2.1 Conifers, Ashfield Road, Norton for conversion and extension of single detached garage to provide annexed accommodation (DC/17/05784)
- 3.2.2 Land South Of Halfboys , Ixworth Road, Norton, IP31 3LE DC/17/06115 for erection of 3No. dwellings with vehicular access, parking and landscaping

## 4. FINANCE

4.1 The following accounts were approved for payments:

- Street Cleaner, £141.31, (cheque no 522050)
- Clerk, £136.00, (cheque no 022051)
- HMRC, £69.32 (cheque no 022052)
- G.E. Baker, Youth Shelter, £501.60 (cheque no 022053)

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Tenhats, Messenger, £195.73 (cheque no 022054)

Clerk's expenses 17-18 £169.56 (cheque no 022055)

- 4.2 Risk assessment for 2018-19 reviewed and signed. Mr. Aket felt the Council should formally ensure the village hall is insured. Mrs. Walton commented that the hall had undertaken a 5 year undertaking with the insurance company to keep the premium low, currently at £920.64
- 4.3 The Council reviewed the standing orders and noted the standing order for public speaking at Council meetings.

## 5. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

- 5.1 The date of the APM was confirmed as 16<sup>th</sup> April, 7pm at the Baptist Church.

## 6. PLAY AREA

- 6.1 Monthly inspection report. The moles continue to present a problem. Pest Control will be asked when it would be best to carry out any control. Mr. Walton commented that he could trial laying marshmallows as he has heard this could control the problem. The Councillors asked for this to be tried and Mr. Walton will report back at the next meeting.
- 6.2 Play Area Inspection report – will be reported on next meeting.
- 6.3 Proludic had forwarded a quote for the slide panel and bolts, but the Councillors decided to wait for their comments on the inspection report.

## 7. VILLAGE HALL

- 7.1 Report on upgrade improvement. The Village Hall committee asked for a Council representative on the buildings sub-committee. Mr. Fullam volunteered to be the representative. The Pre-School have a 7 year extension planning approval for the current building and have stated they prefer to have their own premises. With regard to proposed hall extension and encroaching onto the field, FIT will asked for their advice as this is a King George V playing field. This could include storage area and another meeting room.

- The Wifi is live and now funded to extend further.
- The web site has been updated with prices.
- Louvre panels have been purchased for the fan holes in the wall.
- Film has been purchased for the kitchen window.
- Crockery and cutler have been restocked up to 120 place settings.
- A projection screen above the new curtains is being investigated.
- Air source heating is being researched with a possible grant from Garfield Weston.
- Water usage has been high. Investigation has found no major leaks. It was believed the self flushing urinals were old and a problem and the ladies toilet leaked slightly. A proximity sensor for the urinals has helped using only 1 cu.m. in one month.
- The entrance to the village hall car park is showing serious wear.
- Another fundraising indoor car boot sale will be held on 15 April.

- 7.2 Car park signage. Mrs. Walton stated signage either side of the gateway informing who could use the car park would cost around £123. The Councillors agreed to this being ordered.

Mr. Allen has been approached by the Ramblers to use the car park. This was agreed.

Signed.....

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7.3 The next Village Hall meeting will be on 6<sup>th</sup> March. Mr. Burt agreed to attend.

**8. CORRESPONDENCE** for discussion - none

**CORRESPONDENCE** for information

8.1 Clerks & Councils Direct.

8.2 Hags play brochure.

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

9.1 Mr. Aket commented about the current time of around 2 weeks for oil deliveries to the village due to the bad weather.

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

10.1 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018, 7pm at Norton Baptist Church.