

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NORTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 6<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2018

**PRESENT:** Mr. A. Burt, Mrs. P. Blackmore, Mrs. P. Croft, Mrs. K. Fullam, Mrs. P. Mathieson,  
Mrs. J. Rowland (Clerk).  
Mrs. S. Mansell – District Councillor  
Public – Mr. H. Gibson, Mrs. E. Smart.

**APOLOGIES:** Mr. B. Aket, Ms. L. Paris

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

Mrs. Smart enquired about the speed gun use in the village as she felt vehicles were speeding along The Street. Mr. Burt explained that the gun could only be used in certain areas as approved by the Police. Mrs. Fullam commented on the portable speed sign, but stated that the responsibility to charge the unit and put it up falls on local residents. Mr. Burt warned that using the speed gun can cause drivers to become verbally aggressive as experienced on occasion when the team carried out speed checks. He stated that over 35mph drivers receive a warning letter, over 50 mph there will be a visit by the Police, but over 60mph cannot be registered with the gun. Mrs. Smart enquired about having a 20mph speed limit, but Mr. Burt stated this would be advisory and not enforceable. Mrs. Smart offered to become a volunteer to use the gun and Mr. Burt agreed to arrange training. However, he stated that 3 volunteers are required at a time when carrying out a check, there is a time of day restriction, and high vis jackets are required. He stated the Police speed check the A1088 but nowhere else. Both Mr. Gibson and Mrs. Smart offered to help with the fixed sign.

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

Mrs. Mansell confirmed that MSDC now have a 5-6 year housing supply so planning applications will be scrutinized and could be refused if outside the settlement boundary. She stated that pilot software can show Section 106 and CIL money for each parish and will go live to the public in due course. Mrs. Mansell commented on the MSDC and Babergh investments of which part information is available on the website. Mrs. Blackmore enquired who is accountable for these investments. Mrs. Mansell stated the whole Council is responsible. They aim for 5-6% return and currently this is on target.

## **REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR – Appendix C**

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

## **1. MINUTES**

1.1 The minutes of the meetings held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018 were agreed and signed.

## **2. MATTERS ARISING**

- 2.1 Trees at St Andrew's Church. Quote still awaited from Tall Trees. Mr. Bauer has contacted Ottley College inviting their students in tree surgery to train on the Church Trees.
- 2.2 A complaint had been made to MSDC concerning a bonfire at the Church which resulted in Dr. Mason receiving a warning letter. The Council felt this had been unnecessary and fully supported Dr. Mason who offered this valuable service to the Church and village. Any fire is well managed and in a good location out of the village. The Clerk will write to MSDC expressing dismay and supporting Dr. Mason.
- 2.3 Litter Pick – 22<sup>nd</sup> September.
- 2.4 Councillors' Allowance. Mr. Aket emailed MSDC questioned the increase in allowance. Reply received from MSDC explaining the procedure and reason for the Review Panel's decision.

## **3. PLANNING**

- 3.1 Planning Applications received in respect of:
  - 3.1.1 Martindale, Halls Lane, Norton, for erection of a new dwelling following demolition of extension to the host dwelling to facilitate vehicular access. (DC/18/03107). The Council had no objection and no comment to make on this application.
  - 3.1.2 Greenacre Cottage, Ixworth Road, Norton for erection of two storey dwelling (DC/18/03401). The Council had no objection and no comment to make.

Signed.....

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3.2 Planning permission granted in respect of:

3.2.1 Kingfisher House, Ixworth Road, Norton, for erection of side extensions to existing double garage including new roof structure, cladding to existing walls (DC/18/02278)

3.2.2 Warren Cottage, Ixworth Road, Norton for erection of single storey side/rear extension (DC/18/02021).

3.2.3 Kinver, Ixworth Road, Norton for erection of single storey front extension to existing garage (DC/18/02103)

3.2.4 Beech Stud, Elmswell Park, Tostock, Discharge of Conditions Application for 4451/16 - Condition 6 (Materials)

## 4. FINANCE

4.1 The following accounts were approved for payments:

Street Cleaner, £166.40 (cheque no.022081)

Clerk, £136.00 (cheque no.022082)

HMRC, £75.60 (cheque no.022083)

Command Pest Control £150.00 (cheque no.022084)

SALC, £264.00 (cheque no.022085)

Tenhats, £377.36 (cheque no.022086)

4.2 Internal audit report received. The Clerk stated several points relate to the Council's Standing Orders. The Clerk will obtain a model draft copy from SALC for review at another meeting.

4.3 Locality grant information and application date received. Mention was made of road signs. Mrs. Fullam agreed to contact Tostock Parish Council to enquire about costs etc. with a view to apply for funding.

## 5. PLAY AREA

5.1 Monthly inspection report. Mrs. Fullam commented that the area continues to be well used. High vis tape on the rubbish bins has peeled off, and as the bins are showing wear and tear replacements may be required. Mr. Burt has trimmed back some over-hanging branches, but more still need to be cut back. Mr. Burt has also fixed the signage. Mrs. Fullam stated 3 landscapers have been contacted concerning the slide mound. Proscap has replied to remove steps and replace with rail and sleeper steps, remove plate at top, and grass at a cost of £1590. Urban Forestry and Acorn Landscaping have been contacted but not replied yet. It was felt a decision on the work should be made at the next meeting.

5.2 Mr. Bavistock contacted the Council concerning the overgrown front hedge at Cotswolds to the left of the hall entrance that reduces the width of the footpath. The Clerk confirmed that she had written to the householder asking for the hedge to be cut back.

## 6. VILLAGE HALL

6.1 Report on upgrade improvement. Mr. Gibson stated there was no update. The Anniversary Fund application has been submitted and the Committee hope to hear the outcome in September. Phil has spoken with Mrs. Mansell about a CIL application. 15% of the CIL comes to Norton with the rest going to MSDC. Bids are now being taken.

6.2 Mrs. Fullam enquired how users could connect to the wifi at the hall. Mr. Burt suggested the code is placed at the door. Mr. Burt commented that the signs in the car park look good.

6.3 Communication. Mrs. Blackmore commented on Council matters being reported at the Village Hall meetings and enquired about the relevance. She enquired about the value of having a Council rep at the Village Hall Meeting and likewise the Hall rep at the Council meeting every month. She felt the hall should be left to run the hall, updating the Council when required. Mr. Gibson expressed concern about the previous insufficient communication between the Hall and Council. Mr. Burt suggested that quarterly a representative of the Hall attends the Council Meeting, with a view to a joint meeting if a particular item

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and views are required. Mr. Gibson suggested a “go to person” on the Council with an interest in the Hall, with the Hall providing a 6 monthly report concerning funding, difficulties and projects. The A.P.M. could be used as one report. Finally, Mr. Burt proposed a hall rep attends the next Council meeting in December.

## **7.CORRESPONDENCE** for discussion

- 7.1 Speed limit devices – report from Jane Storey. Received and noted.
- 7.2 Suffolk Constabulary proposals to reduce PSCO workforce. Received and noted.
- 7.3 Local Council Public Advisory Service, Rights of Way and Byways course – 18<sup>th</sup> August – noted
- 7.4 SPS landscape training – 16<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at Haughley Barn. Noted.
- 7.5 WW beacons of Light – information noted.
- 7.6 Valid CIL Bids - Bid Round 1 for Babergh and Mid Suffolk – noted.
- 7.7 Rights of Way officer – review of cutting schedules – noted.

## **CORRESPONDENCE** for information

- 7.8 Hags play brochure
- 7.9 Clerks & Councils Direct

## **8.QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING** - none

## **9.DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 9.1 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018, 7pm, Norton Baptist Church.