

**NORTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER 2019**

**IN THE CHAIR:** Mr. D. Etchells-Butler

**PRESENT:** Mr. A. Aket, Mr. R. Belham, Mr. R. Lenko, Mrs. T. Long, Mr. S. Sadler, Mr. M. Thorpe,  
 Mrs. J. Rowland (Clerk) LGA 1972 s12 para 40  
 2 members of the public.

**APOLOGIES:** Mr. C. Fakes, Ms. L. Paris,

The Council consented to accept the apologies and reasons received, which will be recorded in the attendance register.

- Mr. H. Richardson – District Councillor
- Mrs. W. Turner – District Councillor
- Mrs. S. Mansell – District Councillor
- Mrs. J. Storey – County Councillor

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Mr. Walton commented that the recent Village Hall AGM had brought in new committee members but they were still lacking in Youth members to help with the IT side of work. The next AGM has been rescheduled to April 2020 to be in line with the financial year. The current Chairman will continue until this time when he will be standing down.

**REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS** – Appendix A and B – contents noted.

**REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR** – Appendix C – content noted.

**DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST**

Mr. Sadler declared an interest in Item 6.1.

Mr. Lenko declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 3.2

1.	<b>MINUTES</b>	
	1. The minutes of the meeting held on 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2019 were presented as a true and accurate record, and the minutes signed as such by the Chairman of the meeting.	
2.	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>	
	2.1 Planters Mr. Walton stated he hoped to be back in his workshop next week to complete the task.	
	2.2 Meeting with Jo Churchill Due to the election chasing this meeting up has been put on hold. The Clerk was asked to contact SCC direct to try and arrange a meeting.	Clerk to contact SCC



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<p>2. To receive Budget statement.  Budget statement received and approved. The Clerk stated that as a provisional allocation she had created budget heading for the train project and allocated the CIL money to this. This was entirely for the Councillors to approve or change as they wish. This will be discussed further when the Precept is discussed at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Allocation of CIL</p>
<p>3. To confirm receipt of MSDC street cleaning grant.  The Clerk confirmed the receipt of £266.83 street cleaning grant</p>	
<p>4. Suggestions for Precept budget for January meeting  The Clerk asked for Councillors to consider projects and funding requirements as the Precept will need to be formally agreed at the next meeting and submitted to MSDC.</p>	
<p>5. Additional funding for Village Hall, Play Area and Street Lights.  Mr. Aket suggested the Council consider additional funding for the village hall when setting the precept. Mr. Belham suggested the street lighting is poor so consideration should be given to start upgrading the lights. The Clerk will seek quotes for upgrading lights from SCC. Mr. Aket further stated he had investigated safety surfacing for the play area as requested at the last meeting. Mulch rubber bonded would cost £55.60 sq.m and wet pour with groundwork would cost £90 sq.m (+VAT). The approximate area is 100 sq.m. He felt this should be considered in the precept perhaps as a phased project.</p>	<p>To consider items for Precept.</p>
<p>5. <b>PLAY AREA</b></p>	
<p>1. Monthly inspection report  Mr. Lenko stated Dan had been very helpful and repairs had been carried out. The padlock on the large gate is missing so he will speak to the grass cutter and if necessary purchase another one.</p>	<p>Mr.Lenko to liaise with grass cutter.</p>
<p>2. Monthly inspection report for Prospect Road  Mrs. Long has received plans from 2 companies for upgrade to include matting. Costings range from £5000, £4850, £8600 depending on the work undertaken. Mr. Walton commented that anchors are available for fixing equipment which can prove cheaper than using concrete. This will be considered further at the next meeting when the Precept is discussed.</p>	<p>To consider at next meeting with the Precept.</p>
<p>6. <b>ACTION PLAN</b></p>	

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<p>1. Model Railway  The high cost of fencing and the Council’s responsibility for the public money they hold was questioned by Mr. Aket and Mr. Belham. Mr. Belham felt a temporary low cost fence for Health and Safety reasons could be used in the first instance which could be upgraded when the train is up and running and viable. Mr. Etchells-Butler stated the fence had been chosen to match the play area fence and costing could be spread over 2 financial years. He felt the fenced area could be used by dog walkers and also for other aspects if necessary, and perhaps funding could be sought from other sources. Mr. Belham further stated that he would like to see the plan that has been submitted to make informed comments. He questioned landscaping and visual impact. Mr. Etchells-Butler stated the plans had been drawn up by a local architect so contained all information necessary for the planning submission. Mr. Aket felt each Councillor should have copies of all the paperwork, i.e. FIT comments, SALC comment, Planning application, Risk assessments, Insurance quotes, Mr. Sadler’s written undertaking, etc. Mr. Walton asked about the excavation of the area to install the line and was informed it would be 9” depth. Mr. Walton felt the tree roots could be a problem and the Council may need to obtain an arboricultural report. Mrs. Long enquired whether there could be funding through charges to use the train, but Mr. Etchells-Butler stated FIT had said that charges could not be imposed.</p>	<p>Documentation to be distributed to all Councillors.</p>
<p>7. <b>CORRESPONDENCE</b></p>	
<p>1. Mid Suffolk Area Forum, Tuesday 3 December 2019, 7 pm, Eye Town Hall - noted</p>	
<p>2. PC dates for 2020  The Clerk circulated the dates for next year which Councillors agreed. These will now be advertised on the web and in the Messenger.</p>	
<p>3. MSDC possible increase in charges for services in 2020/21.  MSDC informed of a possible 3% increase on all services for 2020/21 which will be confirmed after the Full Council Meeting in February 2020</p>	
<p>4. Clerks &amp; Council’s Direct – to Mr. Lenko</p>	
<p>8. <b>QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING</b></p>	
<p>8.1 Mr. Etchells-Butler stated that following fly tipping at the car park, the CCTV footage had been looked at, and the culprits identified. MSDC Environmental Agency had been informed and subsequently they had issued a fixed penalty notice of £200.</p>	
<p>8.2 The Council received a request for an additional VAS in the village. This will be placed on next month’s agenda.</p>	<p>Place on Agenda</p>

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	<p>8.3 Mrs. Long stated that the parking at the top of Prospect Road is again causing a problem and cars have started to park on the play area grass. She enquired if anything further had been received from MSDC about creating a hard standing additional car parking area. It was suggested Mrs. Mansell is contacted as she had taken this matter up with MSDC last year, plus a letter direct to MSDC.</p>	<p>Mrs. Long to follow up with Mrs. Mansell. Clerk to write to MSDC.</p>
	<p>8.4 Mr. Etchells-Butler stated he had recently been to the Pre-School and had been told of their financial needs for a new roof. He felt the Council should consider offering support.</p>	<p>Consider under precept</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p>	
	<p>9.1 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020</p>	