

NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4TH JANUARY 2021

MINUTES of the MEETING held on Monday 4th January 2021 at 7.30pm by ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE.

PRESENT (by video)

In the chair: Mr. D. Etchells-Butler,

Mr. B. Aket, Mr. C. Fakes, Mr. R. Lenko, Mrs. T. Long, Mr. J. Morgan,

Mr. S. Sadler, Mrs. J. Tottie, Mrs. J. Rowland (Clerk)

LGA 1972 s12 para 40

District Councillor H. Richardson

District Councillor Wendy Turner

Six members of the public.

APOLOGIES: County Councillor Jane Storey

1.	OPENING The Chairman opened the meeting reminding all of the Video Protocol and welcomed Mrs. Tottie to the Council.	
2.	Declarations of pecuniary and local non-pecuniary interests a) To receive declarations of pecuniary, local non-pecuniary interest(s) and personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature inc. gifts of hospitality exceeding £25 – none declared. b) To receive declarations of lobbying for planning matters on the agenda – none declared c) To receive requests for dispensations – none received.	

So approved at the meeting of 01.02.21 with agreement for minutes to be signed by the Chairman away from the meeting.

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<p>3. PUBLIC FORUM—to receive reports for information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mrs. Dove pointed out that, although Mr. Etchells-Butler had stated he had received no negative responses to his article on the train, her friend had expressed her objection to the train. Mr. Etchells-Butler replied by stating that she had asked how she should contact him about the train and was advised that she could telephone, write a letter or email her points. In reality, there had been no communication received from her. Mr. Sedgwick stated several people had expressed concerns, but Mr. Etchells-Butler stated the Council had made a decision to finance the fence and support the project.• Mr. Walton commented on the litter problem in the village. He had recently filled at least 2 carrier bags and another large bag from litter in Thurston Road, and there was also a large amount in the layby near the railway arch, of which a lot was recycling. He felt litter appears to attract more litter and felt there needs to be more awareness of the problem in the village.• Mr. Walton expressed concern about the Council’s mildly negative comments on line to the village hall planning application and felt it should have been discussed with the committee first. Plans had been presented to the Council prior to the application and he felt, therefore, it had not been discussed properly by the Council and felt any concerns should have been presented to the Management Committee, as this may be a problem when trying to access funding and he asked for the negative comment to be removed from the planning application. He stated the Architect felt the MSDC would require consideration for additional parking. Mr. Jefferson stated the idea was not to have hard standing near the entrance but to mesh-fill under the grass for support and this will be subject to the tree officer’s comments. Mr. Etchells-Butler felt that subject to the area being meshed as a compromise the Council would have no objection, agreed by Councillors present. The Clerk will inform Planning. Mr. Aket felt the Council needs to be careful about setting a precedent by amending a comment when requested by an applicant. <p>Members of the public – to receive comments submitted via email –none received.</p>	
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4.	REPORTS FOR INFORMATION <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Report from County Councillor Jane Storey - noted•Report from District Councillors Harry Richardson and Wendy Turner. Mr. Aket enquired about the difference in reporting by the two Councillors and wondered if it reflected the different views of the political parties. Councillor Richardson stated he reports on the simple facts as presented at the briefings. He stated he could present a more in depth quarterly update on the financial report but this is already available on line.	
5.	MINUTES	
	To note the minutes of the following meeting: (as previously circulated) and to agree that delegated authority be given to the Chair to sign the minutes outside of the meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Virtual Parish Council Monthly Meeting 7th December 2020 Agreed as a true and accurate record, and as such to be signed by the Chair outside of this meeting.	
6.	MATTERS ARISING	

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	<p>1. Cooption to the vacancy due to Mr. Belham’s resignation. The Clerk stated Mr. Sedgewick had expressed an interest in standing for cooption. Mr. Aket proposed cooption of Mr. Sedgwick, seconded by Mrs. Long. On a vote by show of hands, Mr. Sedgewick was unanimously coopted. The Clerk will forward the necessary paperwork.</p> <p>2. Quiet Lanes. Mr. Sedgwick enquired about the position on quiet lanes in the village. Mr. Aket confirmed all his suggested lanes had been validated and accepted. These were Hawes Lane, Church Lane, Heath Road and lane to Tostock, Hunston Road, Halls Lane. He stated the parish has to be notified, which can be done through the Messenger, with an open meeting and proposed this takes place at the March meeting. Quiet Lanes do not mean cars are not allowed or there are other restrictions, but for vehicles to be aware of horses, walkers, cyclists etc. using the lane.</p> <p>3. Platinum Jubilee. Mr. Aket stated the celebration will be in June 2022. He proposes to set up a meeting with organisations as soon as possible. He asked for the Village Hall to be penciled in as a booking, i.e Friday to Sunday, for the village for that weekend. <small>LGA 1972 s145b</small></p> <p>4. Additional Dog Bins. Mr. Williams had not yet replied with suggestions. Two sites were suggested at the meeting and the Clerk was asked to order bins. <small>Litter</small></p> <p>5. Water to the allotments. Mr. Etchells-Butler asked when the trial drill was going to take place. The Clerk stated she had telephoned the company that morning and they will do a test drill in two weeks. The Clerk also reminded the Council that the test drill was FOC. <small>Small holding & Allotments Act 1908 ss23,25</small></p> <p>6. Village Sign. Mr. Lenko confirmed the sign should be put in place next week. <small>Highways self-</small></p> <p><small>help scheme</small></p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Mr. Aket</p> <p>Mr. Aket</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Mr.Lenko.</p>
7.	PLANNING	

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	<p>PLANNING APPLICATION</p> <p>7.1 DC/20/05537 Norton Village Hall, Ixworth Road, Norton. Erection of single storey front, rear and side extensions. External alterations and raising of roof height of the main hall. Construction of additional parking spaces.</p> <p>The Council supported this application but felt the additional parking obstructed the play area entrance and would detract from the open entrance access. (NB see earlier discussion for a compromise to this proposal).</p> <p>7.2 PERMISSION GRANTED</p> <p>Little Haugh Hall, Ixworth Road, Norton - Erection of 2no. detached buildings (Re- submission of DC/20/01784) DC/20/04616</p> <p>7.3 APPEAL DISMISSED</p> <p>Manor Lodge, Ashfield Rd, Norton DC/19/05275 - New Dwelling</p> <p>7.4 PLANNING COMMITTEE</p> <p>MSDC Development Control B meeting on 06.01.2021 - Applications for consideration in your ward. Further email received from Development Control stating notice received from the Agent for applications DC/20/04256 & DC/20/04429 have been formally withdrawn from consideration and will not be considered at the meeting on 6th January 2021, further stating the applications had been withdrawn as a whole.</p> <p>7.5 CORRESPONDENCE ON PLANNING</p> <p>Help Shape Guidance for New Housing Developments in Suffolk with the consultation open until 10 February 2021. Any comments can be forwarded to the Clerk to submit or can be submitted by a Councillor, or member of the public.</p>	
8.	FINANCE	

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	<p>1. Train. Mr. Lenko again suggested a simpler version of the train to be considered, with £8000-£10000 being sought by sponsorship, with perhaps the Council only paying for the insurance. He felt the far end of the field could then become a green area, thereby pacifying villagers. Mr. Sedgwick said he had been asked to raise this point and felt that members of the public would be appeased with a minimal spend. Mr. Lenko proposed a vote on the simpler option as he will need to put together a Business Plan to apply for sponsorship. Mr. Aket questioned value for money for £8000-10000, for a simple track carrying 4 children at walking speed only running certain weekends during the summer months. Mrs. Tottie commented whether all aspects of the railway should be rethought. Mr. Sedgewick questioned whether the money could be better spent elsewhere, i.e. play equipment. Mr. Etchells-Butler felt this needed to be discussed in more detail and asked Mr. Lenko to draft a case and presentation for the next meeting, and a final decision then to be taken. Mrs. Long stated when the project was initially announced there was little awareness of the full implications.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s31</p>	Mr. Lenko
	<p>2. Mr. Lenkos stated the locality grant received will fund two speed activated devices, and he is awaiting discussion with the inspector for siting. Mr. Etchells-Butler proposed purchase of 4 SAD, Mr. Aket seconded, with all in favour. Mr. Sedgwick stated he is aware of these devices and can help if needed.</p>	Mr. Lenko
<p>11. PLAY AREAS</p>		
	<p>1. Play area adjacent to Village Hall – general and repairs. Mr. Lenko stated the concrete pad at the field entrance will be put down soon. All equipment seemed OK at the moment.</p>	Mr.Lenk o
	<p>2. Play area in Prospect Road – general and repairs. Mrs. Long stated the area is well used and appreciated by the children, but new chains are needed on the swings. She will investigate any additional equipment and report back to the Council.</p>	Mrs. Long
<p>12. CORRESPONDENCE</p>		
	<p>1. Tree Condition Survey from Urban Forestry. A detailed inspection survey received with recommendations. The Clerk will seek quotes for the priority work needing to be undertaken.</p>	Clerk

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	<p>2. Email received from David Burt. Points of information for Parish Council. Mr. Burt stated the field in Ashfield Road where the current development is taking place was historically known as Ashwarren. The Clerk will write to MSDC about changing to this name. He stated his and other peoples’s interest in receiving trees. The Clerk had replied to him that this was still in the planning stage with possible tree donations from MSDC. Interest will be noted ready for when things progress further. With regard to flooding in the ditch near pre-school. Mr. Walton stated a lot of the problem was the ditch to the rear of the properties being blocked or filled in. The Clerk will reply to Mr. Burt.</p>	Clerk.
13.	Questions and Comments from Members and suggestions for next Zoom meeting.	
	<p>13.1 Mr. Etchells-Butler asked for the Council to discuss a Wildlife Policy to encourage planting of trees, plants for bees etc. and for this to be advertised to residents, with organisations also being involved. Mr. Sedgwick felt the children could be encourage to give suggestions, ideas, etc. Mr. Etchells-Butler felt the Council could liaise with the school but firstly needed a policy.</p>	Agenda
	<p>13.2 Mrs. Tottie stated that the Old Forge would be knocked down in January with work commencing in the area.</p>	
14.	<p>To resolve that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed – none to be transacted.</p>	
15.	<p>To confirm the date of next meeting: 15.1 1st February 2021 –full Council Meeting –via zoom –commencing at 7.30pm</p>	
16.	<p>Close of the Meeting - there being no other business the meeting was closed at 20.38</p>	

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