

# NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021

**PRESENT :**

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

Mr. B. Aket, Mr. R. Lenko, Mrs. T. Long, Mr. J. Morgan, Mr. A. Sedgwick,

Mrs. J. Rowland (Clerk)

LGA 1972 s12 para 40

County Councillor Andy Mellen

Three members of the public.

**APOLOGIES:** Mrs. J. Tottie

The Council consented to accept the apology and reason given, which will be recorded in the attendance register.

District Councillor H. Richardson

District Councillor Wendy Turner

1.	<p><b>WELCOME</b> The chairman welcomed Councillors and public back to face-to-face meetings and reminded of the protocol for speaking at the meeting</p>	
2.	<p>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</p>	
3.	<p><b>PUBLIC FORUM</b> – to receive reports for information                      3.1 Members of the public - to receive questions and matters of concern from those in attendance.                      Mr. Catchpole commented on the speeding on the A1088, particularly the lorries. He felt the flashing speed signs do not work, but an average speed camera would slow the traffic. Mr. Sedgwick stated speed checks are carried out in the village, and the speedwatch group will soon be back in action and there are cameras that can be applied for to be used. He also urged writing to the Policing Unit to take action. The Clerk confirmed she had written to the Roads Policing Inspector in Bury. Mr. Catchpole further commented on the lack of pavement at the far end of the village. He felt planning should take this into account and build in safety rather than it being an afterthought. It was commented this is mentioned whenever a planning application comes to the Council for consideration, and was a particular issue when the various planning applications were put in for the Ixworth end of the village. Mr. Sedgwick commented that due to the COVID restrictions the speed checks are reduced. Mr. Burt commented that the speeding signs do not display a speed over 15 miles of the speed limit so car drivers cannot attempt to get a high-speed display. Mr. Catchpole stated 200 permits have been issued to lorry drivers. Mr. Burt said the Council previously asked for the Stowlangtoft 30mph to be joined up to Norton’s 30mph, but were informed this could not be done. Mr. Walton stated some land along Ashfield Road had been compulsory purchased for a pavement, but enquiries find this has been dropped and there are no new pavements being considered for Norton.                      2. Members of the public – to receive comments submitted via email - none</p>	

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4.	<p><b>REPORTS FOR INFORMATION</b> –to receive written reports for information only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Report from County Councillor Andy Mellen. Mr. Etchells-Butler commented on the number of potholes in School Close caused, in particular, by the large vehicles accessing the school, ie school bus, delivery lorries, dustcart. Mr. Mellen agreed to take this matter up. He stated a recent CIL meeting mentioned a crossing across the A1088 but this is an expensive undertaking. Currently most of his enquiries have been about speed reduction, signs etc. He reminded about his locality budget. Mr. Sedgwick commented on the village boundary and on planning applications outside the boundary and asked for Mr. Mellen’s thoughts on this. Mr. Mellen stated the Joint Local Plan is coming but is not likely to be an accepted document until the end of the year, but he felt the Council can now rely on the document more and more as it begins to near acceptance.</li> <li>•Report from District Councillors Harry Richardson and Wendy Turner – noted. Mrs. Long commented that Cllr. Richardson’s report mentioned consideration and feasibility to widen Prospect Road. It further stated that Hawes Lane has been put forward for appeal.</li> </ul>	
5.	<b>MINUTES</b>	
	To note and approve the minutes of the following meeting: (as previously circulated) Virtual Meetings held on 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2021 The Minutes were agreed and approved for signature by the Chairman	
6.	<b>VACANCY</b>	
	The Clerk reminded that the Council still has two current vacancies to fill by cooption. There has been no submission of interest. Two people approached have declined.	
7.	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b> from virtual meeting held on 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2021	
	7.1 Resiting of litter bins from Play area. The Clerk confirmed she had written to Gadd Bros with the request to resite bins and is awaiting a reply.	Clerk
	7.2 Planters at Garage. Mr. Etchells-Buter stated Mrs. Marshall had agreed to get the plants and replant the 3 tubs but would like help to maintain and water. Mr. Lenko felt he knew of someone in The Street who may help. Mr. Walton confirmed he had sprayed around the planters to clear the weeds. A letter will be sent to Mrs. Marshall to thank her for her help.	Mr.Lenko Clerk
	7.3 MSDC – Trees, hedges and wildflower planting for Parishes. Details about the areas of land to be planted, and list of interested parties. The Clerk confirmed she had written to landowners and now has a suggested list of requirements which will be collated and submitted to Mid Suffolk.	Clerk
	7.4 Platinum Jubilee update. Mr. Aket outlined the discussed celebrations for the village with some items now being moved due to the release of the national day celebrations. The concert on Friday still requires a coordinator, the open gardens may be changed to Friday, with Sunday for street parties in line with the national celebrations. He is hoping to have a jubilee choir but this is still being discussed. He asked the Council to consider setting aside some funding as a guarantee against loss.	
	4. A1088 speed initiative/speedwatch – see comments in Public Forum.	

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	7.5 Reply from Anglian Water concerning gate on track leading to sewage works, stating the gate had been put in by the landowner as a safety measure. The Clerk had forwarded the reply to Mrs. Jaggard.	
	7.6 Village Hall entrance. Anglian Water state they have completed the repairs to the area caused by the water leak. The Clerk questioned whether the full repair to the entrance was still required. Mr. Walton agreed to check and report back.	Clerk
	7.8 Pavement front of Petrol Station. No reply from Highways.	Clerk
8.	<b>PLANNING</b>	
	<b>PLANNING APPLICATION</b> 8.1 Rosery, The Street, Norton, DC/21/02816 For erection of home office and decking (following demolition of garage and car port). <b>The Council approved this application.</b>	
	8.2 Land South East of Southleigh, Ashfield Road, Norton - DC/21/02811 Application for Outline Planning Permission (some matters reserved, access to be considered) Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - Erection of 2No detached dwellings. <b>The Council objected to this application on the following grounds:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The application is outside the settlement boundary. Norton is considered a Hamlet and classified as countryside and therefore not believed to be a sustainable location for further development.</b></li> <li>• <b>It is further erosion of countryside and open land with loss of established hedgerow which will have a negative impact on wildlife.</b></li> <li>• <b>Lack of infrastructure and amenities in this area. It will be over 1.5 miles away from the facilities in the village, ie school, playing field, village hall, shop, meaning increased vehicle use to access these or to access facilities in the next village of Elmswell over 3 miles away. This will have a detrimental effect on the environment at a time when reduction in carbon emissions and pollution is at the forefront of Government initiatives. There is no public transport access in Norton Little Green.</b></li> <li>• <b>Ashfield Road already has increased housing development. More development would have a further detrimental effect on the environment. There is a problem with congestion in The Street particularly at school times. There are places along this road where two vehicles cannot easily pass and there have been near misses with farm vehicles and lorries to the nearby farm meeting other vehicles on these narrow stretches.</b></li> <li>• <b>This would be a further impact on water and sewerage infrastructure which has caused problems in the past.</b></li> <li>• <b>This proposal would set a clear precedent for further applications in this area.</b></li> </ul>	

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<p>8.3 Land West of, Ixworth Road, Norton, DC/21/02789  Application for Outline Planning Permission (all matters reserved) Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Erection of 2No detached dwellings.  <b>The Council objected to this application for the following reasons:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The application is outside the settlement boundary.</b></li> <li>• <b>It is further erosion of countryside and open land</b></li> <li>• <b>There is already a number of approved planning applications in this area that have yet to be commenced and another additional application would be detrimental to the area.</b></li> <li>• <b>Lack of infrastructure and amenities in this area. It will be further away from the facilities in the village, ie school, playing field, village hall, shop, meaning increased use of vehicle to access these. There is no pavement in this area meaning any walkers are required to walk in the road, which can be busy at times, with a number of lorries and cars speeding up as they exit the village limit.</b></li> <li>• <b>Access and egress to the plot are close to the brow of a hill which is a concern for visibility.</b></li> <li>• <b>The site is just where the 30mph limit commences meaning vehicles are likely to be travelling a faster speed.</b></li> </ul>	
<b>PLANNING APPROVED</b>	
<p>8.4 Copper Coin Cottage, Ixworth Road, Norton DC/21/02110  Proposal: Householder Planning Application - Erection of single storey lean-to extension and addition of cladding to dormer roof (following demolition of existing rear extension)</p>	
<p>8.5 Fieldfare, (Land East Of Moss Chase), Ashfield Road, Norton DC/21/01390  Application under Section 73 of The Town and Country Planning Act relating to Outline Permission DC/18/02508 and Reserved Matters DC/20/05229 for variation of Condition 2 (Approved plans and documents) of the reserved matters.</p>	
<p>8.6 Durban Cottage, The Street, Norton - DC/21/02431  Erection of oak framed two bay cart lodge</p>	
<p>8.7 Martindale, Halls Lane, Norton DC/21/02254  Application under Section 73a for the removal or variation of condition following grant of planning permission DC/18/03107 - Erection of a new dwelling following demolition of extension to the host dwelling to facilitate vehicular access, and demolition of existing curtilage buildings. Town and Country Planning Act 1990. (Condition 2 - Approved Plans and Documents) Amended scheme for design and layout.</p>	
<p>8.8 Little Green Cottage, Ashfield Road, Norton DC/21/02257  Full Planning Application - Severance of garden and erection of 1No. two storey dwelling including new vehicular access.</p>	
<b>Prior Approval Not required</b>	

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	8.8 Marley House, Ixworth Road, Norton LARGER HOUSEHOLDER EXTENSION - DC/21/02101 Notification under Schedule 2 Part 1 Class A of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015. Application to determine if Prior Approval is required for a proposed Larger Home, Erection of a rear extension.	
9.	<b>FINANCE</b>	
	<p>9.1 To approve the accounts awaiting payment:</p> <p>Clerk's salary, £147.26 cheque no 022336 LGA1972 s112</p> <p>HMRC £36.60 cheque no 022337 LGA1972 s112</p> <p>Tenhats, May and June, £484.00 cheque no 022338 LGA1972 s142</p> <p>Communicorp, Clerks &amp; Councils subs, £12.00 cheque no 022339 LGA1972 s112</p> <p>Legend Services, allotment items, £134.06 cheque no 022340 Public Health Act 1936 s125</p> <p>Mr Etchells-Butler, allotment items, £89.00 cheque no 022341 Public Health Act 1936 s125</p> <p>Mr. Aket commented on the low level of advertisements in the Messenger thereby decreasing income. He wondered why this was the case. The Clerk will enquire about the advertising in the Messenger.</p>	
	9.2 To receive and approve CIL report 20/21 The Clerk presented the CIL report showing the income for the year, the amount spent and the earmarked amounts yet to be spent and the unallocated amount. Councillors agreed and approved for submission to MSDC and web site.	
	9.3 To confirm appointment of Clerk as RFO. The Council approved the Clerk to continue as RFO for the coming year.	
	9.4 To receive Budget Statement. The Clerk presented the current budget statement which was noted and approved by Councillors.	
	9.5 Clerk requested authority to transfer money from the current account to the deposit account, even though interest is still low. She suggested £50,000 due to the recent CIL receipt. Councillors agreed to this plan of action.	
10.	<b>ACTION PLAN</b>	
	10.1 SID'S and Poles. Mr. Lenko stated the poles are up. Regarding the recent complaint about siting of a pole, the land in question appears to be Highways land. He will purchase jubilee clips for the poles and ask for help to put SIDs in place.	Mr. R. Lenko
	10.2 Neighbourhood Watch. Mr. Sedgwick stated the large signs have been put up and many of the bin stickers are in use. There are still some bin signs available.	
11.	<b>PLAY AREAS</b>	

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	11.1 Play area adjacent to Village Hall. Mr. Lenko stated the bark under the swings has hollowed out so Gadd Bros will rake and top up if required. The Clerk confirmed she had written outlining the work required, i.e. gate realignment and resiting of litter bins. Mr. Lenko will confirm these items with Dan from Gadd. Mr. Lenko will also investigate equipment for younger children. Mr. Etchells-Butler suggested looking at adult play equipment, similar to that at Tostock or Elmswell.	Clerk  Mr. Lenko
	11.2 Play area in Prospect Road. The Clerk confirmed she had emailed Gadd Bros with the items that need to be seen to, i.e. basketball back board and hoop, ground fixing of picnic table. Mrs. Long commented on an additional picnic table and a trampoline for the area, and will investigate these items and pricing for a future meeting.	Mrs. Long
	11.3 To confirm yearly Playground Inspection. The Clerk stated that, after consultation with Mr. Lenko and Mrs. Long, she has requested the play areas are added to the Inspection list organized by Mid Suffolk.	
12.	<b>VILLAGE HALL UPDATE</b>	
	13.1 Mr. Sedgwick stated a difficulty in getting funding. Mr. Walton commented the project is being split into 2: part 1, new roof, storeroom and porch, part 2 extension. National lottery stated that another application could be looked at favourably with CIL discussion. Garfield Weston has agreed to fund 5% of the project. Tenders are awaited.	
13.	<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>	
	13.1 UK Power Networks joins ‘Safe Spaces’ initiative. Councillors felt it to be a good idea to promote safe space for domestic violence and felt contact details and link should be on the web site.	Clerk
	13.2 To receive information from MSDC that the Paper Banks to be removed. Mid Suffolk informed that Bolton paper banks are to be removed as they are no longer viable for them to continue with this service. Meanwhile MSDC are exploring alternative schemes.	
	13.3 Active Travel Public Consultation. Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council public consultation around cycling and walking Infrastructure. - Noted	
	13.4 Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan 2018 – 2037 Notice of Commencement of Examination Hearing (Regulation 24) Monday 21st June 2021 at Ipswich Town Football Club - Noted	
	13.5 Suffolk Preservation Society Neighbourhood Planning Event 5 <sup>th</sup> July. Mrs. Long expressed an interest in attending. The Clerk will register her with SPS	Clerk
	13.6 Clerks & Councils magazine and Sizewell C Community Newsletter – noted.	
14.	<b>QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS AND SUGGESTION FOR NEXT MEETING.</b>	
	14.1 Mr. Morgan commented that he had reported the full bottle banks. The Clerk stated she had also reported them the week before.	

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	14.2 Mrs. Long commented on the grass cutting at Prospect Road and how often it is carried out. The Clerk will enquire of Vertas or District Councillors	Clerk
	14.3 Mr. Aket asked for a Council decision following the public consultation on Quiet Lanes. Members of the public and emails to the Council had indicated a rejection of this proposal. The Council, therefore, decided not to join the scheme and Mr. Aket will inform SCC of this decision.	Mr. Aket
15.	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	
16.	<b>Close of the Meeting</b> - there being no other business the meeting was closed at 20.36	