

NORTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 2nd AUGUST 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
 District Councillor Harry Richardson
 County Councillor A. Mellen
 Three members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Mrs. J. Tottie

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

District Councillor Wendy Turner

1.	<p>WELCOME The Chairman welcomed Councillors and public and reminded of the protocol for speaking at the meeting.</p>	
2.	<p>Declarations of pecuniary and local non-pecuniary interests</p> <p>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.</p> <p>b) To receive declarations of lobbying for planning matters on the agenda – none declared- none</p> <p>c) To receive requests for dispensations – none received</p>	

NORTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 2nd AUGUST 2021

3.	<p>PUBLIC FORUM</p> <p>3.1 Members of the public—to receive questions and matters of concern from those in attendance.</p> <p>Comment was made on the hedge of the house adjacent to the village hall which is encroaching over the pavement. The Clerk will write to the home owners in the first instance before approaching MSDC.</p> <p>2. Members of the public – to receive comments submitted via email.</p> <p>Mr. Bauer had emailed asking for an additional SID at the Ixworth end of the village. Mr. Lenko stated that as the devices are classed as moveable there needs to be a spare post, otherwise they cannot be turned on. He stated the one near the Village Hall could be moved to the Ixworth End of the village at some point in the future. At the current time it was considered important to “protect” the middle of the village with play area, hall, pub, garage etc. Mr. Sedgwick stated speedwatch, when up and running, will spend some time at this end of the village. Mr. Bauer also enquired about gating positioned at the 30mph signs. Mr. Lenko stated this had been investigated but would be expensive, possibly around £12000.</p> <p>Mr. Jefferson had emailed requesting greater liaison between Village Hall and Council. Mr. Etchells-Butler commented there is an item on the agenda each month for an update on the village hall. As Mr. Sedgwick has resigned from the Hall Management Committee, he felt either another Councillor could attend or Mr. Walton can be invited to comment on that agenda item at each meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Jefferson further commented on the Village Hall website and offered to send the details of the firm to help set up the Council web site.</p>	Clerk
4.	<p>REPORTS FOR INFORMATION –to receive written reports for information only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Report from County Councillor Andy Mellen. <p>Councillor Mellen stated work is to start on the Woolpit Surgery car park shortly. He informed of a pilot trial of an electric taxibus, and the process has commenced for a new highways contract as Kier’s contract ends in September 2023. Also the woman’s cycle race will be in Suffolk on 9th October. He confirmed agreement of £750 from his locality budget for the new play equipment. He stated the Highways Officer will visit later this month to investigate a road crossing on the A1088.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Report from District Councillors Harry Richardson and Wendy Turner <p>Councillor Richardson stated waste collections delays were due to lack of lorry drivers. The Local Energy Showcase will promote and champion greener energy use. The Leisure Sport and Physical Activity Strategy includes the upgrade of the Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre. He commented on the local walking/cycling structure plan. Mr. Aket enquired why SCC and MSDC miss out meeting in August. Councillor Richardson stated items for Full Council were deemed non-urgent, and with rising COVID case they are unable to distance, but Cabinet can make decisions and can delegate powers to individuals. The next full council meeting is on 23rd September. Mr. Lenko thanked both District Councillors for £1000 each from their locality grant towards the new play equipment.</p>	
5.	<p>MINUTES</p>	

NORTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 2nd AUGUST 2021

	To note and approve the minutes of the following meeting: (as previously circulated). Meetings held on 5 th July 2021 The Minutes were agreed and approved for signature by the Chairman	
6.	COOPTION	
	To consider cooption for the two vacancies on the Council. Mr. Lenko proposed that Mr. Walton be coopted onto the Council, Mr. Etchells-Butler seconded, with all Councillors in agreement. Mr. Walton accepted cooption and the Clerk will send him the necessary forms for completion.	
7.	MATTERS ARISING	
	7.1 Meeting with Highways and Christine Thurlow re crossing – info from Wendy Turner and Andy Mellen. Councillor Mellen stated there are limits to where a crossing could be placed and could cost up to £100,000.	
	7.2 Sewer works in Ixworth Road – The Clerk confirmed she is still awaiting a reply.	Clerk
	7.3 Resiting of litter bins from Play area – on going.	Mr. Lenko
	7.4 Planters at Garage. Mr. Lenko stated another person would be willing to join the team to manage the planters, so the Clerk will put him in touch with the other volunteers.	Clerk
	7.5 MSDC – Trees, hedges and wildflower planting for Parishes. Information submitted to MSDC, and reply awaited.	Clerk
	7.6 Platinum Jubilee update. Mr. Aket reported the events are being tied in with the national events. He is looking for a pianist for the concert on the Friday and has the idea of a platinum jubilee choir, but he is looking for a choirmaster to put this together. He felt that the proceeds from the events could go the village hall – quiz, concert, dance and Saturday afternoon event. The Parish Council has agreed a guarantee against loss assurance, but it is hopeful events will be self-financing. He asked if the village hall booking clerk might act as point of contact to sell tickets. Mr. Sedgwick confirmed his band would be available for the Saturday evening dance.	
8.	PLANNING	
	8.1 PLANNING APPLICATION Manor Lodge, Ashfield Road, Norton - DC/21/03741 Erection of a two-bedroomed annex/ cartlodge ancillary to the host dwelling. The Council had no objection to this application.	

NORTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 2nd AUGUST 2021

	<p>8.2 Land To North Of, Ashfield Road, Norton - DC/21/03909 Application for Outline Planning Permission (Access to be considered) for the erection of 2no detached dwellings with detached garages - The Council objected to this application for the following reasons.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This is felt to be yet more planning encroaching on the countryside and changing the nature and outlook of the village. 2. It does appear to set a precedent for more development to take place in this area. 3. There is already concern about the sustainability of infrastructure and pressure on the facilities, i.e. water, electric, sewerage. 4. There is no outline of where the dwellings and garages would be sited, or where the access will be. 											
	<p>8.3 APPLICATION FOR LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE (EXISTING) - DC/21/04089</p> <p>8.3.1 Little Haugh Hall, Ixworth Road, Norton Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for an Existing use or operation or activity including those in breach of a planning condition. Town and Country Planning Act 1990: Section 191 as amended by section 10 of the Planning and Compensation Act 1991. Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Use of land as runways and taxiways for light aircraft (general aviation), construction of two hangers and a windsock. The Council had no objection or comment to make on this application.</p>											
	<p>8.4 REFUSED</p> <p>8.4.1 Land West Of, Ixworth Road, Norton, DC/21/02789 Erection of 2No detached dwellings.</p> <p>8.4.2 Land South Of Little Owl Lodge, Ashfield Road, Norton DC/21/00522 Erection of 1No 3-bed dwelling with parking and access</p> <p>MSDC DEVELOPMENT CONTROL A MSDC Development Control A. Applications for consideration in parish Little Owl Lodge land south of.</p>											
9.	FINANCE											
	<p>9.1 To approve the accounts awaiting payment:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Clerk's salary £147.29 Cheque no 022349</td> <td style="text-align: right;">LGA1972 s112</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Playdale, 50% deposit, £5614.20 cheque no 522350</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Local Government (Misc. Provision) Act 1976 s19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SALC, internal Audit. £343.20 cheque no 522351</td> <td style="text-align: right;">LGA1972 s112</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC £36.60 cheque no 522352</td> <td style="text-align: right;">LGA1972 s112</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tenhats, August, £207.00 cheque no 522353</td> <td style="text-align: right;">LGA1972 s142</td> </tr> </table>	Clerk's salary £147.29 Cheque no 022349	LGA1972 s112	Playdale, 50% deposit, £5614.20 cheque no 522350	Local Government (Misc. Provision) Act 1976 s19	SALC, internal Audit. £343.20 cheque no 522351	LGA1972 s112	HMRC £36.60 cheque no 522352	LGA1972 s112	Tenhats, August, £207.00 cheque no 522353	LGA1972 s142	
Clerk's salary £147.29 Cheque no 022349	LGA1972 s112											
Playdale, 50% deposit, £5614.20 cheque no 522350	Local Government (Misc. Provision) Act 1976 s19											
SALC, internal Audit. £343.20 cheque no 522351	LGA1972 s112											
HMRC £36.60 cheque no 522352	LGA1972 s112											
Tenhats, August, £207.00 cheque no 522353	LGA1972 s142											
	9.2 To receive budget statement and Receipts and payments with reconciliation. The Council accepted and approved these.											
	9.3 To receive internal audit report – noted by Councillors. Mr. Aket expressed thanks to the Clerk for the work involved with the accounts.											

NORTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 2nd AUGUST 2021

	9.4 The Clerk informed that the Council needs to have a nominated Councillor to monitor and report on Internal Control, following Mr. Fakes resignation. She had forwarded a copy of the report form for information. Mr. Lenko agreed to take on this task.	
10	ACTION PLAN	
	10.1 Neighbourhood Watch/speedwatch Mr. Sedgwick stated he is investigating locations and has asked on Facebook for suggested problem areas. He has 12 volunteers willing to assist. Mr. Aket commented that there had been restriction on locations that could be used, but Mr. Sedgwick stated he would be liaising with the Police.	Mr. Sedgwick
11.	PLAY AREAS	
	1. Play area adjacent to Village Hall – general, repairs and new equipment Mr. Lenko informed that Playdale require a 50% deposit on the new equipment. It is anticipated work would take place mid-end of September. He has spoken to Mr. Walton about storage of the equipment when it arrives prior to work commencing.	
	2. Play area in Prospect Road – general and repairs Mrs. Long provided a quote from Proludic for the trampoline of £5412.71. Councillors approved this. She felt a further picnic table was not required, but asked instead for a small roundabout for the area. Councillors asked for quotes to be obtained.	
12	VILLAGE HALL UPDATE	
	12.1 Mr. Jefferson stated it had taken time to engage with professionals in the project but quotes are now awaited. Mr. Lenko commented that Elmswell PC took out a Public Works Loan over 50 years which he felt Norton PC should consider, commenting to raise £500,000 by fundraising would be time consuming. Mr. Jefferson will have more information on PWL at the next meeting. Mr. Aket asked whether the parish had been asked about their vision and the demand for the Hall which is usually required from funders. Mr. Jefferson stated demand and need have been assessed from a large number of contacts who use the hall.	
	12.2 Mr.Lenko asked that the donation to the Village Hall be increased from £1500 to £2000 for this year. This was agreed by Councillors.	
13	CORRESPONDENCE	
	13.1 Update on waste collections from Wendy Turner - Noted	
	13.2 Welcome Back Fund from Mid Suffolk. - Noted Councillors agreed to ask for bins and pickers if they are still available.	Clerk
	13.3 Suffolk Highways - Upcoming works - C427 Beyton/Hessett/Bradfield St George - 2 August 2021 - Noted	
	13.4 Email from MSDC with information about the areas they look after and maintain across the district maps.midsuffolk.gov.uk - Noted	

NORTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 2nd AUGUST 2021

	13.5 MSDC Compost Giveaway Events in September. – Noted.	
	13.6 Poor condition of Church Lane Mr. Lenko had spoken with the Vicar and residents about this area which in parts is in very poor condition. It will cost around £10,000 for the road to be sorted, and £1000 for drainage improvement. He asked if the Council would consider funding this work if nothing is carried out. He has reported it on the Highways portal but felt this might take awhile to receive attention. Mr. Aket questioned whether ditches had been neglected thereby stopping the drainage. Mr. Lenko commented that the fencing has changed so the original drainage is no longer working. Councillors felt Highways should be approached first with involvement of County Councillor Mellen.	Clerk
	13.7 Additional VAS at the Horseshoes Mrs. Long stated she had received a request for an additional VAS sign at the Horseshoes as there is currently a post there and there are now a number of new houses in the area. The Clerk commented that a local resident will need to be willing to recharge any unit. Mr. Walton stated with more traffic the units need regular charging. Mr. Lenko stated he has this area under consideration for future units. Mr. Sedgwick also commented on the repeater sign regulations, and that it is usually residents that speed. However, Highways could be asked about additional repeaters.	Clerk
14.	Questions and Comments from Members and suggestions for next meeting.	
	14.1 Mr. Aket commented that the Petrol station and shop are closed for about 3 weeks. The shop is being enlarged to become a Budgens and the garage will become a BP garage, which could have implications for increased usage and traffic.	
	14.2 The Clerk commented that following inspection of the trees, the urgent work had been carried out but there was recommendation for medium works to be done. She stated she would obtain quotes for this work.	Clerk
	14.3 Following problems with the Web site, the Clerk stated it had been set up by Dave Jones and paid for by Tenhats. However, payment stopped and the site was closed down. Mr. Jefferson gave details of the Village Hall web site designer and will get these passed on to the Clerk.	Clerk
15	To confirm the date of next meeting: a) 6 th September meeting 7pm for village hall presentation, 7.30 PC meeting.	
16	Close of the Meeting - there being no further business the meeting closed at 20.40	