

23rd MARCH 2021

This was a virtual meeting using Zoom.

This meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday 23rd MARCH 2021 at 7.30pm.

Councillors present : Mr R Leighton (RL) Chair, Mr A Ketteringham (AK) Vice-Chair, Mrs J Lusher (JL), Mrs A Shephard (AS), Mr J Leggett (JLg), Mr L Ready (LR), Mr A Thomas (AT), the Clerk Jean Sangster & Mr Fabian Eagle County/District Councillor & three members of Public.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr K Collins (KC) due to illness.

Mrs J Lusher declared an interest in the Planning Item re the amendment to Site in Hale Road.

The minutes of the meeting held on 23.02.21 had been circulated, read and passed and will be signed when normal meetings recommence.

REPORT FROM DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCLLOR

Mr Eagle reported that each County Councillor had been allocated money in Budget for sharing between parishes and it had been suggested by some that part of this is put towards the planting of trees as a focal point, perhaps along verges entering villages and it had also been suggested that this is called Breckland in Blossom. To be discussed by Parish and landowners.

He reminded that there are Elections for Norfolk County Councillors and the Police & Crime Commissioner on 6th May 2021 and that anyone not wishing to attend the Polling Station should register for a Postal Vote as soon as possible.

He advised that Breckland are taking a firm hand in prosecuting fly-tipping.

The Chairman asked if Breckland were being represented at the seminar being presented re Retirement Home Villages - Keeping up with the Ageing Population but he had not heard of this.

MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

A request was made for further litter picking sticks and it was agreed that 4 more be purchased and JLg will register these when ordered and received. Discuss payment with Trustees.

MATTERS ARISING

Highways – Still no visit from the new Highways Engineer to discuss the many problems in the village.

Matters to report :- Pothole just past the Recycling Centre had been filled but following rain this had been washed out leaving a very dangerous hole.

TROD in Swaffham Road still has not been dug out to allow room for pushchairs and people are walking in road.

Potholes in Hale Road one very deep hole outside new bungalows opposite West View.

SAM2 sign – Moved to the first position in Hale Road. Problem with Battery life. It appears to only last 2 -3 weeks so Chairman may move this more often. Figures are being collected and sent to Speedwatch co-ordinator.

Play Equipment – All checked. The goal posts are to be re-erected over Easter. Request for new reporting forms. Clerk to draw these up.

Playing Field – No quote received for driveway so this will be looked into further and decide how to fund.

Police – PC Oliver Button has now been appointed New Beat Officer and hopefully we will soon meet him.

Speedwatch – Mr Street advises this will recommence shortly.

Litter Bin – Insurance checked and excess is £400-00 so no claim to be made but agreed to replace and site behind the posts.

Community Centre – BOWLS. RL has applied for grants and met with professional people to discuss the Green. Councillors to meet at some point on site to discuss where this should be placed giving consideration to the existing swings and roundabout but hoped that these will remain in same area.

Footpaths – Warden asked if the marker posts and discs could be purchased and put in place and this was agreed. AS is dealing with map and asked if different colours should be used for footpaths and permissive paths and this will be done and paths numbered on maps.

Car Scheme – The administrator will contact local Doctors as all drivers will need to have medicals and new DBS checks before Scheme can recommence.

Future Meetings – Annual Parish Meeting will be held in April via video link.

Government has still not confirmed that virtual meetings will be allowed to continue after beginning of May so Council will liaise with Community Centre to hold AGM at end of May in hall.

Notice Board – Clerk to obtain more quotes.

Any Other Matters

Dog Bins – Request for further bins and prices obtained. One to be placed at top of Fairholme and another opposite Church Farmhouse Sw.Rd. but permission has to be obtained from Highways and Breckland before these could be put in place. However it was agreed to replace the dog bin in Church Street with plastic one.

Casual Vacancy – This has now been advertised in accordance with instructions from Breckland and a decision will be made at meeting on 27th April 2021.

CORRESPONDENCE

NorfolkALC - Weekly briefings circulated along with the weekly briefings from Breckland.

Request from Ashill & Holme Hale Garden Club for donation towards the village planters was granted.

Further information from Wayland Partnership regarding the proposals for the HUB at Wayland House.

Insurance update will be investigated.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Applications Granted - 3PL/2020/1393/F Agric Access to Woodlands Fruit Farm

3PL/2020/1394/F Residential access to Woodlands Fruit Farm

Discussed - 3PL/2021/0310/F – Glebe House Church Street. To convert & extend agric. Workshop to single storey dwelling. Concerns expressed regarding access onto Sw. Rd and request that footway be extended on opposite side of road to join with existing, also drainage problem at access. There appears to be no ecology study carried out and concerns expressed re bats and newts as placement is in open ground.

3PL/2021/0322/D – Land adjacent Reeves Farm Hale Road. Reserved Matters re access and landscaping – changed from 3 bungalows to 2 houses. No Objections.

3AG/2021/0008/AG – Romandy House Common Road. Erection of new steel frame building. No objections.

ACCOUNTS

The following accounts were passed for payment for MARCH proposed by AK seconded by AT :-

Direct Debit - SWALEC payment for Power supply Jan. £272-42

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1058.

K & M Lighting Services Maint St Lights Mar.

127-19

Mrs J Pickard Play field Warden Mar.)	Undisclosed
Jean Sangster Clerks SalaryMar.+ 13hrs)	
Expenses Mar.		153-20
HMRC PAYE Jan.Feb.Mar.		501-06
Mr G Blackbourne Removal of Trees		450-00
M P Dennis & Sons Hedge cutting Comm. Centre		121-80
Cutting of Allotments		87-00

Details of Accounts and Bank Statement circulated.

Appraisals for Clerk and Playing Field Warden – Chairman agreed to carry these out.

Any Other Business

Query raised re emptying of litter bins that have dog poo bags left in them and it was confirmed that it is permitted to put dog poo bags in these bins.

The Clerk asked if the Beacon was going to be replaced as there are several commemorative days ahead and the Pageant Master is already sending through proposals for these. It was confirmed that the Trustees are dealing with this.

DATE OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING IS 13th APRIL 2021 at 7.30pm.

DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING IS 27th APRIL 2021 AT 7.30PM both via Zoom

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed.....Date.....