

25th AUGUST 2020

This was a virtual meeting using Zoom.

The monthly meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday 25th AUGUST 2020 at 7.30pm.

Councillors present : Mr R Leighton (RL) Chair, Mr A Ketteringham (AK) Vice-Chair, Mrs A Shephard(AS), Mr K Collins (KC), Mr J Leggett (JLg), Mr A Thomas(AT). Also in attendance Jean Sangster Clerk & Mrs J Lusher (JL) via phone link.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs M Forsyth (MF), Mr L Ready(LR). AS left meeting at 7.29pm due to personal commitments.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

The minutes of the meeting held on 28.07.20 had been circulated, read and passed and will be signed when normal meetings recommence.

REPORT FROM DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCLLOR

As FE unable to attend there were no reports.

MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC – no public in attendance.

MATTERS ARISING

Highways – Clerk had been advised that TROD has now been cut but Councillors felt that this needs to be dug back to give room for a pushchair or wheelchair.

Re Dunnetts Close sign – Clerk to ensure that 'leading to Common Road, Greenacre Close and Old Allotment Close' is included. Also request for the Old Allotment Close sign at present in place to rear of 18 DC be moved to give better visibility near wall of first bungalow on OAC.

Request from new resident of Hale Road bungalows for repeater signs to be informed that Highways cannot allow these as we have street lights.

SAM2 sign – New padlocks fitted and RL & JLg will move to other end of village at end of August.

Play Equipment – Mr A Hyde has agreed to move the newer set of swings and following discussion it was agreed that the Multipondo be scrapped rather the resited. Mr Barnes will inspect the rest of equipment to see what repairs he can make.

Weekly inspection of all equipment is being carried out.

Adult Fitness Equipment – This is being well used. Clerk to order notice board for sponsor notice.

Playing Field – The equipment and seats and surrounds are becoming very overgrown and the Clerk has made several requests to Mr Marshall for invoices for the work he carried out in April, May, June and July but has had no response. Chairman agreed to contact him and ask if he still wishes to continue this work. If not it was proposed by KC seconded by AT that JLg could take over this work. This was agreed.

AK to arrange with Dennis & Sons to cut hedge alongside entrance. It was also felt that the speed bump is too close to entrance and is causing vehicles to back up on road. Mr Hyde to be asked if this can be removed.

AT agreed to get the heap of soil removed from near new Gym equipment.

Wayland Partnership – Letter received of their proposals for future.

Police – No news of date for SNAP meeting. Newsletter advises that there is an extra person at the Swaffham Police Station.

Footpath Maps –In hand. AS is awaiting some drawings. Footpath opposite Green now cut back.

Litter Bin for Green – Litter bin installed. Suggested that one like this be installed at Comm. Centre. AK will look at the one he has to see if this would be suitable.

Community Centre – Key safe to hold gate keys and notice of contacts to be fitted and Members will be notified of code. RL asked if the C.C. had any plans for getting a bar installed following closure of McTaggarts. Nothing at moment.

The Bowls Club are to apply for grants.

Allotments – Clerk will send letters to all holders to request rents are paid direct into bank.

Alternative Site – Meeting to discuss the way forward. The following resolution was proposed by AK seconded by AT and passed by all Members :-

“That under Section 100(A) (4) of Local Government Act 1972, the Press & Public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on Grounds that it includes the likely disclosure of confidential information”. Meeting to be arranged with Bidwells.

Telephone Kiosk – JLg has shelves but is concerned that power could still be connected and for safety reasons this needs to be checked with BT.

Parking Church Street – This needs to be monitored.

Former Garage Site Dunnetts Close - Clerk has contacted Flagship and is being investigated.

CORRESPONDENCE

All notifications from the Norfolk ALC had been forwarded to Members.

Norfolk Wellbeing – Various circulated.

Request for support following recent flooding of ditch between OAC and Green. Resident to be advised that this should be taken up with Bennetts and is not a Parish Council matter. Bennetts were made well aware of situation before building.

NCC – Clerk expressed concern re the closure of DBS department dealing with applications by post. These are all to be made online and Clerk would have to obtain information from drivers via link. It was felt that this could deter drivers from volunteering in future. Clerk to contact FE.

Konect Bus – Update on safety measures.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

3PL/2020/0897/F - Precision House Swaffham Road for change of use to retail to replace 1 window with double doors. Discussed and return with No Objections.

Applications granted

3PL/2019/1343/O – Site adjacent Seaview, Hale Road.

3PL/2020/0648/HOU – Single storey side and rear extension and new detached garage at Milton Lodge Fir Park.

FINANCE

ACCOUNTS

SSE SWALEC Direct Debit paid 20.08.20 £316-94

Clerk concerned that this is quite an increase from last month and will be monitored.

The following Accounts Due for Payment for AUGUST were passed for payment proposed
by KC seconded by JLg :-

K & M Lighting Services Ltd Maint Street Lights Aug.	£127-19
Jean Sangster & Mrs J Pickard Wages Aug.	Undisclosed
Jean Sangster Expenses Aug	£129-82
(Includes key safe & Display Board £72-00)	
CGM Group Maintenance Playing Field & CC	£268-72
Maintenance Limes & Acacia	£72-00
WAVE Water supply to Allots	£141-69
BROXAP New Litter Bin for Green	£369-54
Andrew Hyde Repairs to Tennis Court	£432-00

It was agreed that no charge would be made for hire of containers at this time.
Details of Current A/C & Bank Balance circulated.
Notification of reduction in Interest Rates on Investment Accounts. Review to be carried out.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

JLg – Request from resident for PC to purchase litter pick sticks so that Parishioners could collect rubbish as they walked around village. Discussion re number required and Insurance implications and disposal of rubbish followed. JLg felt that 10 would be needed at possible cost of up to £20-00 each. Clerk informed that no funds in Budget for this so it was suggested to contact Breckland to find who they obtain theirs from and limit to 6. This was agreed.

KC – Reported that pavement outside 18 Dunnetts Close has again become raised and is a trip hazard. Clerk to inform Highways.

Clerk requested that Street Lights be checked on a regular basis now evenings are getting darker & that the weekly and monthly checks of Play Equipment are carried out.

The Clerk advised that as MF had been unable to attend the meetings now for 6 months it was a condition of Local Government for the PC to record approval of her absence for the future. This was proposed by KC seconded by JLg.

AT expressed concern that the public do not seem to be attending our meetings via video link and asked if there is any way we could hold face to face meeting in a suitable venue. This will be investigated but at present time it is no envisaged that Comm. Centre able to open. It was suggested that as Church is now open maybe this could be used or the Chancel Room and enquiries will be made. Also suggested that Old Hall Leisure Centre be asked if the bar area could be used as this has been closed since lock-down and RL will approach Mr Hastings.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 22nd SEPTEMBER 2020 at 7.30pm via video link.

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