

27th OCTOBER 2020

This was a virtual meeting using Zoom.

The monthly meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday 27th OCTOBER 2020 at 7.30pm.

Councillors present : Mr R Leighton (RL) Chair, Mrs J Lusher (JL), Mrs A Shephard(AS), Mr K Collins (KC), Mr J Leggett (JLg), Mr A Thomas(AT). Also in attendance Jean Sangster Clerk & Mr F Eagle (FE) District/County Councillor.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs M Forsyth (MF), Mr A Ketteringham (AK). There were no apologies from Mr L Ready(LR).

There were no Declarations of Interest.

The minutes of the meeting held on 22.09.20 had been circulated, read and passed and will be signed when normal meetings recommence.

REPORT FROM DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCLLOR

FE informed that the consultation for the NCC Budget is now in progress. It is proposed to increase CT by 1.99% and Social Care by 2.00%. Although Government have provided funds to assist with COVID-19 this is shared according to the level of infection across the country.

He stated that meetings are getting back to some normality via video links.

Breckland have replied to the consultation white paper on Planning Reform but they felt that it was really designed for urban areas.

FE requested that people continue to use the shops in Watton as they desperately need support following the large outbreak of COVID at the local factory. He stressed that people take personal care.

The Clerk asked if he had spoken with resident of Old Allotment Close and he confirmed that he had and checked when we had the last downpour, He intends to approach MP for support in contacting Bennetts to rectify this problem.

The Chairman thanked FE for his attendance and he left the meeting.

MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC – no public in attendance.

MATTERS ARISING

Highways – The TROD and The Limes reported last month will be checked to see if work carried out. The Clerk asked if Members wished her to approach Highways with regard to 30mph road markings to see if Council could apply to the Partnership Scheme for funding. This was agreed. Problem with ditch along Cressingham Road and Ash tree at junction to be investigated with Highways and ask Mr Jacklin to visit.

SAM2 sign – RL and JLg to move this to Dunnetts Close this week. No data available for September as yet.

Play Equipment – Checks carried out. MULTIPONDO now removed and swings resited. New chains to be ordered by Mr Hyde.

Playing Field – If strimming has not been carried out by Mr Marshall it was agreed to ask for a final invoice and find someone else to do this work.

Seat has still not been placed between tennis court and MUGA. Chase up.

Mr Hyde suggested that we ask TRELLE for a quote for replacing driveway. RL to deal with this.

Wayland Partnership – No further news.

Police – No news of date for SNAP meeting. No village news. Vandalism in Dunnetts Close.

Footpath Maps –In hand. Way-markers have been costed at £160-00 plus work and agreed to put this in Budget. Agreed 20 at £8-00.

Permissive Path - This is still in negotiation which will need to be budgeted for as well and suggested that signs be purchased for these. Mr Broke will need a contribution for upkeep of these paths so agreed to Budget £1000-00.

Litter Bin – Ordered. Should arrive first week Dec. and fixings are for it to be placed on concrete pad.

Community Centre – BOWLS. This seems to be getting out of reach as only way to have this is to have local people do the work to get this laid.

Allotments – All Rents now collected.

Parking Church Street – Seems to be better.

Speedwatch – Mr Graham Street, the administrator had sent in report and had found the times of the 20mph signs so that he knows when he can hold his sessions. 2 new members, 2 more interested and new site allocated.

Former Garage Site Dunnetts Close - Meeting arranged for Thurs. 5th November 12.00 to 13.00.

Marl Pit – This has now been leased and all papers signed for next 3 years. There was one other person who showed an interest but they were too late. Remember for next time.

Cardboard Recycling – Breckland will not agree to this.

Tree Inspection – Mr Blackburn has carried this out on trees on playing field, Acacia and Limes. One on each site needs to be removed. Awaiting quote.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

RL agreed to continue as the Parish Council representative on the newly formed co-operative. Good contact point.

Allotment Courses – It was agreed that RL and Clerk to attend if possible.

The Clerk requested permission to order the 12th edition of Charles Arnold Baker although very expensive. Most Members were in agreement for this to be purchased but AT asked if this would be better online and Clerk to check this out as this would save money. After much discussions it was proposed by KC seconded by JL that this be purchased.

Local Electricity Bill has been presented to Parliament which would mean cheaper electricity.

The Mobile Library is now back visiting the Parishes.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No applications at the moment.

ACCOUNTS

SSE SWALEC Direct Debit for September Power £288-19

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

| | |
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| K & M Lighting Services Ltd Maint Street Lights Oct. | £127-19 |
| Jean Sangster & Mrs J Pickard Wages Oct. | Undisclosed |
| Jean Sangster Expenses Oct. | £57-64 |
| CGM Group Maintenance Playing Field & CC | £268-72 |
| Maintenance Limes & Acacia | £72-00 |
| Norfolk County Council Rent Ashill Estate | £850-00 |
| Ashill PCC Donation Section 137 for Maint. Chyard | £517-15 |
| Mr P Hares Repayment of rent as overpaid | £15-00 |

BUDGET

Discuss next month.

Maintenance of Playing Field, Limes and Acacia

Agreed to ask for quotes from CGM, Will Smith and Mr Kerridge to include strimming.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Recycling Centre. Rumours that this may close 2 days but not sure if this is correct but may be just a change in hours. Clerk to check with FE. Problem with Flytipping.

Litter Pickers – These are now all allocated and the village is much cleaner. Monitor use as may need to purchase more. Put £100-00 in Budget. Thanks expressed to all concerned.

Feed-In Tariff – The Clerk asked if this last payment should be kept by PC as Community Centre not in use. It was agreed to keep this in our account.

DECEMBER MEETING

We do not usually have a meeting in December but sometimes hold one the beginning of January. It was agreed to hold a meeting on Tuesday 22nd December 2020 and then next one end of January 2021.

AT asked if there were ever any requests from Public to attend but Clerk said there had only been one earlier on. Concerns that they are missing out but they do have details so that they could join in.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 24th NOVEMBER 2020 at 7.30pm via video link.

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