

25th JUNE 2024

The monthly meeting was held on Tuesday 25th JUNE 2024 in the Community Centre at 7.00pm

In attendance: Mr A Ketteringham (AK) Chair, Mr R Leighton (RL) Vice-Chair, Mr A Howell (AH), Mr J Leggett(JLg), Mrs J Lusher (JL), Mr J Pearson (JP), Mrs A Shepherd (AS), Mr A Thomas (AT), 8 members of the Public and the Clerk Jean Sangster..

Apologies were received from Mrs A Binns (AB) due to family commitments, & Mr F Eagle

REPORT FROM DISTRICT/ COUNTY COUNCILLOR

As Mr Eagle was not in attendance there were no reports.

OPEN TO PUBLIC

There were no questions raised.

MEETING CONTINUED

Matters arising from last meeting

Highways – To report drains still blocked in Sw.Rd and Watton Rd. No action taken regarding pothole o/s 5 Dunnetts Cl.

The request for kerb to be lowered whilst workmen in village was refused.

Still no sign of village gates.

Request for grass area in Ch. St. near seat to be included in NCC Grass cutting schedule.

Potholes in Womack Lane and surface at Cress. Rd. junction to be reported again.

Also hazard of pots and bins in road in Ch.St. o/s No. 12.

Part of footway in Hale Road for the new development has been installed but concerns raised that there is still no sign of parking area for vehicles from cottages. Also JLg informed that first bungalow is now sold. Agreed to contact Enforcement again with this information.

Play Equipment – Monthly Inspection was carried out. Also Annual Inspection has been carried out. No items were considered to be of high risk but the minor problems have already been dealt with or are in hand. Thanks to volunteers.

The bench has now been repaired and JLg will get this reinstated. Thanks expressed to Mr Thetford for repairs.

There was much discussion regarding the installation of a Zip Wire regarding Insurance and maintenance. Also there seems to be no grants available at the present time and concerns were raised about funding. There were no definite quotes available to Members but proposed by JP seconded by AH that this should be paid for from capital funds.

An amendment was proposed by JL seconded by JLg that should wait until 3 quotes are available And still look into grants. The amendment was voted on and after due consideration was agreed and passed by all.

Playing Field – Maintenance company had reported large number of moles on field making cutting difficult. Clerk to get quotes. JLg will provide contact with Mark Edwards.

The matter of football teams was again raised. AK stating that he had been advised (as Mr Pearce had said) and passed this info to RL for the following meeting as AK would be on holiday. This provoked much further discussion which became very heated with JP questioning votes taken at various meetings and at this point the Clerk advised him that having declared publically that he was going to sponsor these teams, he should have declared a vested interest.

He was not happy about this and accused the Clerk of interfering and as she is not a Councillor has no say and is only the RFO. It was pointed out that she was quite correct and Clerk is there to advise the Council of procedures. However this comment provoked an outburst from her stating that if this is how she is perceived then perhaps they should find a new Clerk and she requested that all this be recorded for the future.

The meeting then moved on with still friction between the Community Centre and PC over the use of the changing rooms. RL adamant that these should be left empty so if any sports teams come forward they are ready for use The Chairman of Comm Centre stated that obviously this was a loss of revenue to the Centre and it was therefore proposed by AK seconded by AH that PC take money from Feed-In tariff to donate to cover the charge of £6-00 per week. This was agreed by all.

Further discussion followed with the stipulation that no one team has sole occupancy of changing rooms and any team coming forward should provide details to both PC and Comm. Centre Committee. Better communication required between the two organisations.

ACFC will still be holding their Presentation Day at Ashill on 14th July and will make arrangements for clearing changing rooms in August. Note that Line Marker belongs to Parish.

It was suggested that PC join with Comm. Centre to provide CCTV and quotes will be obtained for further discussion.

Police – Report received from PC Justin Johnson advising that no crimes reported in Ashill for June. Next SNAP meeting is Mon. 29th July 7- 8 Swaffham. Request that priorities are decided by those attending not beforehand by Officers.

Speedwatch – Mr Street advised that 7 sessions had resulted in 35 vehicles being recorded with 4 measured in 40s and one at 52. Mrs Mahatme has now left the team. Letter of thanks sent from PC. Still no response for additional helpers. He has asked for table at Fete with hope that Police will join him to promote the scheme. He also advised that he had attended the Annual Speedwatch meeting for Norfolk and Suffolk Teams. From this he has requested permission to hold sessions in the 20mph zone when they are active as previously this was not possible. Also to take part in future trials re placement of signage for sessions.

Footpaths – Warden reported that resident had confirmed that sign in Sandy Lane, although advice received that it is to be installed, is not yet in place.

Ashill Estate – No further information has been received.

Wayland Partnership – Bronwen and David should have attended this meeting but due to ill health this has been out on hold to be re-arranged.

Allotments – Posts and numbers will be sited.

Ashlink – Treasurer appointed and Clerk is awaiting further details of bank account and signatories to account.

Phone box Church Street – Work now completed and thanks expressed to Mr Barrett.

Emergency Plan Box – Arrangements to be made for installation in porch of Comm. Centre.

Litter Bin Church Street – Clerk has requested visit by Highways to establish siting of bin.

Defibrillator – Advised that needs repairing but cost not viable and quote for new one with guarantee is £834.00. It was proposed by AH seconded by AS that this be purchased.

Website/Facebook – Information received from Grant Long that JL and AH are named and He has control but Gareth and Nadine are still named and should be requested to relinquish their interest. This is to be followed up with them.

Website is being reconstructed for Norfolk Parishes and Grant will look into handing the administration over once this is completed.

Clerk to deal with updating the Village directory.

CORRESPONDENCE

NorfolkALC and Healthwatch Norfolk - Newsletters circulated.

Ashill Community Gardens – Request for donation for planters. It was proposed by AH seconded by AS that £100-00 be donated under SECTION 137. This was agreed by all and stated that this has to be applied for each year.

K & M Lighting Services – New Contract received for signature and as quote has been reduced due to more economic lighting sign for next 3 years. All agreed.

Request from resident of Dunnetts Close for permission to place her planter on verge to frontage of her property No 54. JP advised that she would need to apply to Highways for Licence.

Local Government Boundary Commission advised that Breckland Consultation extended to 1st August.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

3PL/2024/0447/F - Edward Close The Green. Reinstatement of 5 No Fire damaged dwellings and associated landscaping for Flagship Group. Returned between meetings with no objections.

3SR/2024/0003/SCR – Notification of potential application for a screening option.

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1175.

New Local Plan – The Chair and Clerk had attended the meeting at Watton and JL had joined the on line presentation. All felt that this was rather a waste of time as things would probably change following general Election. However they are still requesting comments from Council and Public and AH will place contact details on facebook. It was proposed by RL seconded by JLg that Clerk complete the consultation on behalf of Council that there are concerns regarding the number of dwellings that are proposed in particular to east of Dunnetts Close which would increase traffic and necessitate widening of the road.. Also concerns regarding the sewer capacity, School capacity and the removal of development boundaries. Public requested to respond.

FINANCE

A) Accounts

PAID Direct Debit - SWALEC payment for Power supply MAY

£253-09

The following accounts due for payment for JUN.2024 were passed for payment proposed by JL seconded by AT:-

K & M Lighting Services Maint St Lights Jun.	£150-03
Mrs J Pickard Play field Warden Jun.)	Undisclosed
Jean Sangster Clerks Salary Jun. + 18hrs)	
Expenses Jun.	£151-96
HMRC PAYE Apr. May Jun.	£749.66
Mr D Barber Internal Audit	£75-00
Mr R Barrett Repairs to Telephone box	£300-00
Ashill Comm. Centre Hire of hall Apr.x2 May Jun.	£78-00
Mr A Howell Parts for swings	£15.60
The Play Inspection Company Ltd Annual Inspection	£270-00

B) Current A/C details circulated & Agreed,

AUDIT

Part 1 of the Annual Government Statement for 2023/2024 was completed, agreed by ALL Councillors and signed by Chair and Clerk.

Part 2 of the Annual Government Statement for 2023/2024 completed by RFO was approved by ALL Councillors and signed by Chair.

Notice of Period of Inspection is displayed on Notice boards and Website.

THE MEETING WAS AGAIN OPEN TO PUBLIC

The Clerk was requested to include in report to Highways that the new path in Dunnetts Close has not been installed in a satisfactory state.

Question raised as to the number of planters that the Community Gardens are responsible for and this will be looked into for future reference.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

AH asked if possible to have warning sign in Hale Road of. 'Horses in Road' and this will be looked into

RL informed that he had resident of The Oaks complain to him regarding the state of one dwelling where there are rats running about and front garden is full of rubbish. Report to Enforcement and Environmental Health.

JLg requested to record thanks to Mr Shepherd for his work on playing field.

Procedures for running of Council were discussed in particular the matter of emails not being sent to all Councillors and then Clerk not receiving any response.

It was proposed by RL seconded by JP that all Councillors are included in all emails sent out by Clerk.

Date of next monthly Meeting is TUESDAY 23rd JULY 2024 AT 7.00PM IN COMMUNITY CENTRE.

This Meeting closed at 9.35pm

Signed

Date