

Southrepps Parish Council

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting

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Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting

Held on Wednesday 8th March 2017 - 7.30pm

@ Southrepps Village Hall

Present: Lesley Sparrow (Chair), Vic Purdy (Vice Chair),
Louis de Soissons, Roger Swift, Graham McCabe and Mick Waudby
Apologies: Paul Briggs and Louise Marriner
Others: 1 member of the public,
Hilary Cox - NCC and PC Barry Cresswell

- 1. To consider apologies for absence**
Paul Briggs and Louise Marriner accepted by the Council.
- 2. To receive declarations of interest and Pecuniary interest authority**
No interests were declared.
- 3. To approve Minutes**
Ordinary Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 25th January 2017
Resolved that these be approved.
- 4. Resolution to adjourn the meeting for public participation, Police and District and County Councillor Reports (15 minutes maximum)**
Resolved to open the meeting to the public.

PC Barry Cresswell - outlined the changes which have taken place at Norfolk Police and that Southrepps now falls within the Cromer boundary. SNAP Meetings were highlighted and the 3 priorities discussed which involved members from the community participating with the next meeting being the 24th April 2017.

Hilary Cox, NCC - spoke about the budget proposals for 17/18 and the medium-long term financial strategy for the next 3 years. NCC will spend a total of £1.4 billion in 17/18. An approximate split was given between services. There would be an increase of 4.8% in Council Tax which would contribute 3% towards social care and 1.8% to general running. For a band D council tax payer the increase amounts to £1.10 per week. NCC are focussed on getting their finances into a strong and sustainable footing and are reluctant to increase the Precept however, there is no alternative.

Facts were given outlining that Norfolk currently has 885,000 residents. 7,000 pot holes were repaired in 2016 and Highways are responsible for 6,000 miles of roads. There are 800 bridges to maintain and buses are subsidised by £3 million. There are 1,200 miles of cycle and bridle routes. Customer Services received 296,237 phone calls last year with 96% being happy with the service they received. 75,000 people a week use the library. Fire and Rescue attended 7,100 incidents last year. 20,205 people received care packages and 67,926 people were supported to remain independent through the Early Help Services. 87% of Norfolk Schools are now rated good or outstanding.

Sue Arnold's report is attached to the Minutes.

Faith Davies - Victory Housing, informed of the proposals to develop SOU02 with a 50/50 split for affordable housing and renting. These would be for people on the housing register not for local residents. Members discussed the options and were dissatisfied with the over densification of the area and the volume of houses to be built.

A public meeting would be held to discuss the development of SOU02 with the community and dates would be set in due course. Members requested a further meeting with Faith Davies/Victory housing prior to the public consultation. The Clerk would arrange this. EP

Resolved to close the meeting to the public.

5. To report on matters arising (updates and information only)

5.1 Website - Vic Purdy

More information was needed and a new webmaster needed to be found from either the council or community to run the site. Information was still being sought from the Football Club.

5.2 Norse playing field update - work in progress - the Clerk had chased this on numerous occasions and had been informed that the work was due to be done in the next 2 weeks depending on weather conditions. Members were dismayed at the poor service and lack of progress by Norse and were disappointed that they were not performing well on this project.

5.3 Car park - The Clerk had again chased the contractor for a start date and this was delayed due to the weather conditions. It was hoped that this would commence in April 2017. Clerk would try and finalise a date as the car park would need to be closed and all cars removed from the location.

5.4 Community speedwatch - New members were needed and it is extremely difficult to attract volunteers. Recruitment forms had been distributed to three potential recruits and it was hoped that these would come to fruition.

5.5 Multiplay equipment - this had now been completed.

5.6 SCT and replacement Deeds - in hand with Hansells who were applying on the basis of "misplaced deeds". A cheque was needed in the amount of £250 on account.

5.7 Draft standing orders for Planning - these were circulated and amendments would be made and re-circulated to Members. EP

5.8 External Gym Equipment at the Playing Field

The Clerk had investigated the Sport England Fund and the Council would need to come up with a concept and consult the community in order to gain access to the fund. The Clerk would investigate various options and report back to the Council prior to further consultation with the public. EP

6. To consider and review Planning if received prior to meeting

17/0123	Garden House Farm, Pit St	Replacement cartshed following fire damage to existing barn	No objections
16/1757	Cintra, Thorpe Rd, Southrepps	Single storey ext to side and rear (revised design)	Permitted
16/1706	The Orchards, Pit St	Single storey ext to provide annexe accommodation	Permitted
16/1687	9 Long Lane, Southrepps	Erection of 2 storey extensions to side elevation	Permitted

7. To review and consider correspondence

Malcolm Hilson - Defibrillator Training 3rd March - circulated
 Cromer - SNT update
 Hornsea Project (Dong) update
 NCC - Better Broadband
 Kevin Richards - grass cutting
 The Rangers Visit - work required within the village small jobs
 Norfolk Police update on re Clusters
 East Anglian Air Ambulance - feedback on CPR Training at Aldborough School
 Sport England Fund
 NNDC - Public Space Protection Order Consultation - noted
 Communication from Norman Lamb regarding resident concerns with speeding in the Village
 Vanguard - Vattenfall wind farm update - noted
 Letter from Vic Purdy - noted
 Resident enquiry regarding SAM II unit within the village - noted
 Resident regarding the footpath access to the Bowls Club - noted and Clerk to respond
 Resident regarding condition of the car park - noted and Clerk to respond

8. Financial Matters

8.1 To appoint additional Councillors as bank signatories

It was resolved that Roger Swift and Louis de Soissons be added to the Councils signatories and that Vic Purdy be removed.

The Clerk would arrange this.

EP

8.2 To approve payments

PAYEE	AMOUNT	CHEQUE NO
David Archer repair of play equipment and gate	£350.00	967
HMRC	£42.00	968
Elaine Pugh	£471.88	969
Jimmy Middleton (hedge cutting)	£96.00	500
Hansells (Commons Deeds)	£250.00	970
EON - electricity - February 2017	£14.51	d/debit
EON - electricity - March 2017	£13.10	d/debit

FUNDS RECEIVED

Interest	£0.03p
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Resolved to pay enbloc.

9. To Receive Reports from Councillor, Clerk and items for April 2017 Agenda

SOU03 - Victory Housing development Agenda

Review of Bottlebank locations Agenda

Footpaths within the Village Agenda

Review quotation for the work along the footpath down to the Bowls Club Agenda

The Clerk circulated a draft of the Mardler for amendment.

Date for the public meeting re SCT and NWT

10. To Confirm the Date of the next meetings

Southrepps Ordinary Meeting 19th April 2017 at 7.30pm

Lower Southrepps Social Club

There being no further business the meeting was concluded at 8.55pm

Lesley Sparrow - Chair

19th April 2017

I am pleased to report that NN council tax has been pegged for the seventh year in a row. We have truly exceptional treasury management and thus good reserves. Many of these are earmarked for various activities but being in such a healthy position does mean we can react immediately to emergencies such as the Surge and not have to wait for insurance or government funding, although of course these are also progressed.

The two directors who recently took over the Chief Exec role after the departure of Sheila Oxtoby to Gt Yarmouth are doing an excellent job as are other members of staff who have taken on added responsibilities. The savings we made were able to be used to increase the salaries of many staff members. We are very lucky in NN in having a dedicated and very hardworking staff complement. Recently the Council was awarded the gold standard in IIP, something not easily achieved and certainly not without good staff satisfaction levels.

Press – we have received some adverse publicity recently with reporting giving misleading statements. A case in point is the recently quoted sickness figures. Generally these are very good but a certain period was skewed by one member of staff being on Long term sick absence because of cancer treatment. She was so incensed by the report she wrote to the EDP giving her name and the reasons for her absence. We applaud her actions but it should not have been necessary. A little in depth research would have revealed the truth. I could quote others but I just ask that you treat newspaper reporting with caution. I should add that complaints have been made to the Editor in chief and taken on board. It remains to be seen if the standard of journalism we have been used to in NN becomes the norm again.

Planning – as you are aware as from 1st April only plans for major applications (normally ten plus dwellings) will be presented to parishes in paper form. Elaine is well up to speed on new processes and is helping other clerks. Thank you Elaine, your cooperation has been most appreciated.

Housing Community Fund. The District has been awarded over £2m from central government to help address the problems that some communities experience on the affordable housing stock as a result of second/holiday homes. Elaine will have received correspondence re this – any thoughts you as a parish have will be welcomed.

Big society Fund. Due to a new funding formula negotiated by our leader return of second homes council tax we are in a good position to continue this Fund for this year and hopefully beyond.