

# Southrepps

## Ordinary Parish Council Meeting

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Raynham House, 10 New Road, North Walsham, Norfolk, nr28 9df

### Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017 @ 7.30pm

**Present:** Lesley Sparrow (Chair), Roger Smith (Vice Chair),  
Louise Marriner, Grahame McCabe and Tish Peale  
**Apologies:** Louis de Soissons and Paul Briggs  
**Others:** Tim Adams - NCC  
3 members of the public attended

1. **To consider apologies for absence**  
Louis de Soissons and Paul Briggs - accepted by the Council.
2. **To receive declarations of interest and Pecuniary interest authority**  
Graham McCabe declared a personal interest in the donation to the Royal British Legion as the area co-ordinator for the S137 contribution.
3. **To approve Minutes**  
**Ordinary Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2017**  
Resolved that these be signed.
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  
Tim Adams, NCC - read out his report which is contained at Appendix 1 and offered to progress 30mph roundels which could be placed in designated areas. He would also look into the possibility of a 20mph zone through the High Street. The Council accepted this help and thought it was a good idea. The gritting routes are being reviewed and he urged Councillors to participate in the consultation and the possible reduction in bus services.

The Clerk read out the report from Sue Arnold which is attached at Appendix 2

A resident outlined their interest in becoming a Councillor and informed members of their interest to be co-opted. Agenda  
Resolved to close the meeting to the public.

5. **To report on matters arising (updates and information only)**
  - 5.1 **To review upgrade of recreation ground project** - a further letter of complaint had been forwarded to Norse. The Clerk and Chair met with senior Norse Directors and an offer had been made on the suggested way forward which was read out and handed to members. The Council were disappointed with their proposal as it was not the total outcome necessary to fulfil the specifications of the original contract. The contract stated the “whole” recreation ground be addressed not just the area where football would be played. Members discussed various options and it was agreed that the Clerk decline the proposal as the reason for the detailed specification was that it gave a complete solution to the mole infestation by removing their tunnels from the whole recreation ground; not just part of it. The Clerk was asked to seek further guidance on this. The reason for the delay was due to Norse’s inadequacies and failure to understand and get to grips with the project in the beginning despite written reminders and numerous telephone calls to Norse. The Council considered that they had been totally fair and reasonable in this matter and all wanted this project concluded to a high standard after

the effort and funds which have been allocated out of the community Precept together with the donations received from various sources.

The Clerk would write a letter to confirm this decision and circulate it to members prior to it being sent to Norse. EP

**5.2 Community speedwatch**

Louise Marriner had circulated a document to members for their consideration after her attendance at the Community Speed Watch Summit.

**5.3 SCT and replacement Deeds and date for community public meeting -**

Land registry to complete a survey of area and residents abutting the commons had been written to inform them of the registration. It was hoped that this would now progress.

**5.4 Allotments - funds banked**

**5.5 Response to SOU02 24 houses at Land at Long Lane -** this application had now been withdrawn however, members were aware that this would appear again. Members discussed this at length and requested that the Clerk forward a letter to NNDC. It needed to outline that the number of houses needed to be significantly reduced, the conservation and design to be taken into account and the Highways need to engage fully with the process. It may be prudent for the Parish Council to appointment an independent Highways representative to assess the impact. EP

**5.6 Trimming of trees around the car park -** quotation received

**5.7 Replacement trees at Clipped Hedge Lane/Beechlands -** requested North Walsham Garden Centre to supply. The Clerk would chase them again. EP

**5.8 SAM 2 - application -** completed and forwarded to NCC

**5.9 Christmas Trees -** agreed with NCC and risk assessment to be completed by Lesley Sparrow and it must be complied with by the volunteers to ensure that the Council's insurance covers them. This is mandatory.

**5.10 Play equipment repairs -** work in progress

**5.11 2018 Meeting dates -** schedule to be supplied

**6. To consider change to schedule of meetings to bi-monthly from 6 weekly and amend Standing Orders to reflect this change.**

Item 5.11 and 6 were amalgamated and Members discussed the option of bi-monthly and the availability of extra-ordinary meetings to be called if necessary. It was considered that the majority of information is now available via email or on the website it was resolved that the Council adopt bi-monthly meetings. The Clerk circulated the dates and would book the hall. EP

**7. To consider and review Planning**

17/1884	Land off Chapel Rd	Erection of 3 detached dwellings (2 x two storey & 1 x single storey)	OBJECTED to by PC
17/1623	Keys Barn, Chapel Rd	Erection of garage/store with first floor accommodation	No objections from PC

**8. To review correspondence**

NCC - resident re speeding through the village  
 BTS - re trimming of trees underneath the power lines (UK Power Networks)  
 Email re cleaning of speed signs and cutting back of foliage - informed resident that this is Highways Clerks & Councils Direct and Norfolk Police newsletter  
 Email from Norse offering their solution  
 Resident interested in co-option  
 NNDC - Community Safety Group and fly tipping  
 External auditor information for 17/18 and Report by Louise Marriner re visit to Norfolk Police

## 9. Financial Matters

### 9.1 To approve payments

DATE	AMOUNT inc VAT	PAYEE	CHQ NO
29.11.17	29.63	Hadfields-J Swift (planters)	1003
29.11.17	51.20	Builders Equipment (S Lane)	1004
29.11.17	150.00	Kevin Richardson	1005
29.11.17	349.00	Elaine Pugh	1006
11.11.17	15.88	EON	d/d
29.11.17	100.00	Royal British Legion S137	1007
29.11.17	75.00	Norfolk CAB	1008

Resolved to pay enbloc.

### Funds received

Allotment rents £165.00

Interest £0.03p

### 9.2 To consider donation to Norfolk CAB

The Clerk informed that in 15- 16 - £100 was allocated and in 16-17 nil given. It was resolved that £100 be donated to Norfolk CAB.

### 9.3 To consider donation to Royal British Legion

Resolved that £75 be allocated under S137.

### 9.4 To accept quotation to trim trees by the village hall car park

A quotation had been received of £295 from Evergreen - this was accepted by the Council. However they were to be informed that they could not cut the trees on a Monday or Friday and would need to put the necessary notices up to prevent cars being parked prior to commencement of the work. EP

### 9.5 To consider and review budget and agree Precept for 2018/2019

The Clerk had circulated the budget for members to consider. All were acutely aware that they had raised the Precept the previous year but were mindful that smaller increments were advisable in light of the future loss of the Government's grant. It was resolved to increase the Precept from £14,000 to £14,250 per annum. The Clerk would forward the paperwork to NNDC. EP

## 10. To consider and review mole control

Members discussed the current arrangements for the services received to date and were of the opinion that a more vigorous approach was needed. A new contractor had been sourced and it was resolved to appoint D Overton for a year to assess if there was a better outcome. Clerk to inform both parties. EP

## 11. To adopt volunteer roadside nature team, notify insurance company/risk assessment and agree allocation of funding towards costs (£100 - per annum)

The Clerk outlined the role of the team and the work they undertook managing the flora and fauna along designated hedgerows. The Clerk would need to undertake a risk assessment in order for the group to be covered under the Council's insurance which was mandatory. It was resolved that the Council adopt the volunteers and allocate £100 per annum to this community led project. EP

## 12. To Receive Reports from Councillors and items for the next meeting 2018 Agenda

Listing of the post box at Lower Southrepps

EP

Find out how many holiday homes in Southrepps

EP

## 13. To Confirm the Date of the next meeting

Southrepps Ordinary Meeting Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 7.30pm - Southrepps Village Hall

**There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.00pm.**

Local plan. Various reports now coming together and hope first draft will be available mid-2018. The policy Working party will be visiting the larger proposed sites shortly. Dwellings in the Countryside i.e. the smaller communities, being drafted. Not an easy one. Many communities would like to see some growth but it's controlling the scale and location which causes headaches.

Recent government consultation suggests our growth needs to go up from 411 pa (a carefully worked out figure based on need) to 509. Very worrying. Many implications. If becomes the target, not least the need to identify more land for potential development than currently planned and having sufficient development companies with the necessary workforce to build out.

Community housing fund. We were awarded £2.4m to help address the effect second/ holiday homes have on some of our communities. Three officers have been appointed in conjunction with West Norfolk and are making good progress working with housing providers. We hope to attract similar funding next year

Big society fund. This has to continue to provide grants enabling communities to make many improvements to their facilities. As you will be aware this is a refund of second homes Council tax and totally dependent on County being prepared to give us this funding. This year our leader Tom Fitzpatrick negotiated the deal. We wait to see what will happen next year. We are very committed to the Big society fund.

You will be aware the Council have bought the community shop and adjoining house in Itteringham. This will enable this historic shop to continue to be run and the adjoining large house let for income to the Council. A win win.

Splash - the 25 life of Splash is now nearing its sell by date and large sums will be needed to bring it up to date and fit for purpose. It is considered that this is not good use of money and work is being done to find alternative solutions. Currently it is planned for a new pool with an adjacent hotel.

Cromer sports hub. Cromer tennis facilities are considered nationally to be second to Queens and the Lawn Tennis Association is working with us to build a Tennis/sports hub on the site. There will also be improvements to other facilities across the District.

Boundary commission -

District councillors will be reduced from 48 to 40 - Roughton Ward will include Gimingham Parliamentary boundary - MP reduced from 650 to 600. NN will include Aylsham and lose some area in the west

Problems in Cromer at Carnival. Police acknowledge they got it wrong and have stringent plans for next year to ensure the problems do not reoccur. Use of technology will help track the travelling community. Forewarned is forearmed. From the DC point of view we were frustrated as we were not able to enforce move on, in spite of having the two temporary stopping sites, without a Court Order. We have written to the government minister asking our powers be strengthened.

**Norfolk County Council budget Consultation** - <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/our-budget-and-council-tax/our-budget/setting-next-years-budget>  
Norfolk County Council will need to make savings of at least £125m by 2021, unless additional funding is identified. This is largely led by the government cut of the Revenue Support Grant to first and second tier Local Authorities, which is expected to completely disappear by 2022. However, inflation and legislative changes are also increasing costs to a lesser extent. The Government really cannot demonstrate any progress that it has made in replacing the Revenue Support Grant with any other funding. Therefore, it looks likely that we will continue to regress towards huge funding gaps between need and spend, particularly in Social Care and Children's Services where the needs are greatest. Norfolk County Council has chosen to consult on 7 individual areas, and I would encourage you to reply individually, alongside any response you may choose to make as an organisation, here or elsewhere. Please also encourage your contacts to reply to this consultation, available in the above link. I will outline some of themes and potential impacts below.

**Non-Residential Care Services** – removal of £7.50 per person/per week standard disability related expenditure, taking into account actual expenditure only. The immediate impact of this proposal will be that some will be paying more for non-residential care (outlined in brief in the consultation document).

My main concerns are that some people may not understand the assessments and could be affected disproportionately, and others may already be dealing with problems related to Universal Credit. (I have already voted against these proposals at Adult Social Care Committee once, and won't be voting for them at Full Council).

**Children's Centre service remodelling** – The proposal is to increase the sharing of facilities and buildings, such as libraries, to provide savings to this budget, and the targeting of services to the most vulnerable families. We've found it hard to investigate the real impact and feasibility of these proposals, given no study has yet been done. I would personally be hopeful that the services provided locally in Cromer/ Mundesley wouldn't be impacted by any rationalisation due to high footfalls present, but as the document says – 'it is too early to say'... It is possible that some families will receive less service or advice, or receive it in a different way if services are prioritised to more vulnerable families.

**Highways** – Removal of additional £300k from highways budget. It may be that more than £300k of savings is now sought, following the decision to continue filling grit bins for parish councils, which I welcome. I personally don't feel this proposal will have a significant impact and won't change the intervention criteria for highways repairs very much at all. We will see less spent on aesthetic repairs like damaged verges, dirty signs and non-safety critical repairs. It won't change the intervention criteria for potholes, edge deterioration, and Lining. These issues can still be dealt with if reported. Reduction of gritting routes by a further 4% to 30% of roads- I'm hopeful that this won't impact directly upon Thorpe Market. If you view the gritting route map, you may come to the same conclusion as me that Roughton Road, Canada and Beach Road, Cromer and Pit Street in Southrepps are the most at risk in this Division. Recycling centres - charging for all DIY Waste. My main concern here is the potential for more rural fly-tipping. Bus Services – changes to subsidised services. Some impact may fall on the connectivity of other services from Cromer, North Walsham and Holt. I'm also concerned at the impact on North Norfolk Community Transport, which has been a valuable resource in this Division. Increase in Council tax by 4.9% - This is an

assumption. There is was very little for local government in the budget and really nothing for social care.

Further to the above, I expect that we will know more about the administrations intentions for services such as Mobile Libraries and Norfolk Community Learning Service soon.

**Police issues** – I will be joining PCSOs and Constables on shifts as an observer shortly and will give you my impressions in future. I believe the proposals that will result in the complete loss of PCSOs will disproportionately impact our communities, where the majority of the Safer Neighbourhood Teams are often made up of PCSOs.

I recognise that more needs to be done to tackle serious crime, which is the intention of the Constabulary. However, I'm yet to be convinced they have a real strategy to deal with anti-social behaviour, maintain community engagement or build relations with local teenagers and vulnerable residents. I will be pleased to see any proposals for locally dedicated Special Constables, as I think that such a thing does have potential in communities like our own. I'm also led to believe there is the intention to recruit an additional mental health nurse to work at the Command Centre at Wymondham, where they deal with the 999 calls.

The Office of Police and Crime Commissioner will soon begin consultation on taking over the governance of the Fire and Rescue Service, alongside the annual budget consultation. I will be at the Police and Crime Panel on the 28th November, as a Substitute member/observer, as required. Fire and Rescue Service – You may be aware that we now have an additional Firefighter at the Cromer Station, who finished their initial training last week.

**Friends Against Scams** – Cromer has been targeted by a doorstep charity collection scam on at least two occasions over the last month, but less overt scams are taking place all of the time elsewhere, by phone, post and email. I will be looking to become a 'Friend Against Scams', or 'Scam Champion' in the near future, as I believe there is more we can do to tackle this crime locally.

These are a Norfolk County Council Trading Standards initiative, and they had a successful drop-in session at Cromer Library this month also raising awareness.

**Benjamin Court** – The 'Reablement' beds will become operational between now and January. I will continue to push for bed based Palliative Care in North Norfolk and for adequate monitoring of the new 'Supported Care Model', which means that more patients now receive rehabilitation care following hospital admission in their own homes.

**Highways** – I would like Thorpe Markets Parish Council's opinion on the potential for 30mph Roundels on the A149 in Thorpe Market, at the start of both the North and South speed limit changes. The only project I have currently selected is a pedestrian safety barrier along the A149 in Cromer by the Schools at a cost of £200.

I'm minded to prioritise the use of the budget along the B1436 in Roughton, between Old Mill Road and Back Lane, where the majority of serious accidents have occurred in this Division. However, I'm keeping my mind open for other potential schemes. 2 Highways issues reported last week in Thorpe Market – Both potholes I will continue to carry out my own quarterly check of all roads.

No traffic orders for future works currently. Other casework – Since your last meeting, I have dealt with just 3 issues of casework specific to Thorpe Market, out of 318 issues across the Division.

I would be glad to help with more! Please don't hesitate to get in touch. Planned workload between now and next Full Council Meeting:

- Attendance at Police and Crime Panel (x2 meetings) as Sub/observer.
- Attendance at Norfolk Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee as observer/sub (x3 meetings)
- Adult Social Care Committee (15th January) – significant items around transport and budgets.
- Teachers Joint Consultative Committee (11th January).
- Town & Parish Council Meetings.
- Supporting Cromer Town Council with Christmas and New Year's events.
- Further training on Restorative Approaches and Scams, and attendance at Fitness and Wellbeing Show in January.
- Joining Police/PSCOs on shifts as observer.
- Further Highways and Streetlight defect reports (quarterly pan-parish wander...) and discretionary budget schemes.
- Final visit to Benjamin Court before service change.