

LITTLE DUNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HUT ON TUESDAY 6TH MARCH 2018 AT 7.30PM.

Present: Councillor Simon Fowler (Chair)
Councillor Jane Harding (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Ian Harding
Councillor Paul Stebbings
Councillor Steve Treavett
Councillor Henry Kilvert

Mr Malcolm Parker
District Councillor Elizabeth Gould
County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris
Sheryl Irving – Clerk to the Council

Two Members of the Public

1. Welcome and apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed those present and apologised for the postponement of the meeting due to take place on the 1st March, which had been due to the heavy snow. There were no apologies.

2. To declare any declarations of interest.

There were no interests declared.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th January 2018.

The Council approved the minutes as correct, the Chairman duly signed the minutes.

4. To discuss any matters from the January 2018 minutes (not on the agenda).

The Chairman thanked Cllr Kilvert for tidying up Charles Way which now looked much better.

Cllr J Harding confirmed she had placed an entry in the village newsletter regarding the abundance of dog mess in the village.

The Chairman confirmed that the hedge alongside the play area had been cut and was now looking much better.

5. County/District Councillor reports.

Cllr Kiddle-Morris gave the following update:

- The Council tax increase has been confirmed at 4.99%.
- A meeting had taken place with George Freeman MP regarding Vattenfall contributions to the community – no conclusions were reached.
- Traffic improvements are to be made at Necton with a planned refuge island – no roundabout or dualling is planned. Necton Parish Council continue to push for a roundabout. The Council agreed to contact Necton PC and offer support for a roundabout.
- The AGM is being held on Friday 9th March 2018.

In response to a query from Cllr Stebbings, C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris confirmed there were no funds available for additional traffic restrictions and the criteria was not met at the location near to the Goods Shed.

- An Accident Reduction working party has been established and, as part of its remit, will be looking at how locations are assessed for traffic restrictions etc.

In response to a matter raised by the Chairman, C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris confirmed that he had made the drainage problems in Barrow Holes Lane a top priority and will be chasing Highways for a resolution to the problem. The Chairman thanked the C/Cllr for his assistance in this matter.

D/Cllr Elizabeth Gould gave the following update:

- Breckland have approved a budget increase of £4.95 for Band D properties.
- An additional £1.4 M is now available for use and is likely to be awarded to community projects.
- A SHOP APP phone app has been launched which is aimed at small shops – they can join and shoppers can then make purchases which can be delivered to one location.
- Apologies were made in respect of the bins not being collected due to the bad weather.
- There will be a change in policy orders for parking at Attleborough.

In respect to a query from the Chairman, D/Cllr Gould informed the council that there had been many changes recently in the planning department – she will email an update on the Local Plan in due course.

The Chairman thanked both councillors for their inputs and in particular D/Cllr Gould for all her previous efforts on behalf of Little Dunham as she may not be able to attend as frequently in the future.

6. Open Forum for Public Participation.

There were no comments from members of the public.

7. To discuss any correspondence for circulation.

There was no correspondence for circulation.

8. To discuss planning issues:

8.1 Applications for consideration.

- Cakemore, Barrows Hole Lane – rear extension – the council had no objections.
- Holly Acre House, Necton Road – extension – the council had no objections.
- Great Dunham Hall – storage extension – Cllr I Harding had previously circulated a prepared objection which was agreed by the council for submission.

8.2 Decisions to note.

- Land south of 43 Necton Road – decision due 29.12.17 – this application has now been referred to the Planning Committee who are likely to approve it.
- 30 Necton Road – extension – no objections submitted – permission granted.
- The Old Forge, Barrows Hole Lane – extension – no objections submitted – permission granted.
- Westcliffe House, Barrows Hole Lane – four dwellings – no objections – decision due 27.3.18.

8.3 Any other planning issues.

- Black Swan – following a meeting with the Planning Enforcement Officer it was agreed to keep this matter under review.
- 9 Necton Road – planning issue – this issue is now in the hands of Breckland Planning Department.

8.4 To receive an update in respect of the Breckland Local Plan.

There were no comments regarding the local plan.

C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris and D/Cllr Gould both left the meeting.

8.5 To reconsider the Planning Decision Making Policy.

Following further advice on the matter, it was agreed to delegate authority to the clerk in cases where there are no objections, all other applications will be discussed at full council meetings. Standing orders will be updated.

9. To receive an update in respect of the Proposed Vattenfall Offshore Wind Farm.

The Council had now been informed that a decision to use DC had been made which means there will be four extremely large buildings on the site. However, there are good planning objections to be made regarding industrial units. Vanguard II and Boreas are yet to come and could result in a total of twelve buildings on site. However, the council were in agreement to take no action at the present time. Objections to DC will be lodged at the appropriate time.

10. To discuss any Highways matters.

There were no further highway issues to discuss (see previous item 5).

11. To discuss the Playing Field.

Mr Parker raised concerns regarding an overgrown hedge – he will speak to the resident concerned.

12. To discuss the Amenities area.

There were no issues raised.

13. To discuss the Footpaths.

There were no issues raised.

14. To receive an update on the Community Speed Watch Scheme.

Cllr Stebbings reported that there had not been many checks carried out recently due to the weather. However, the Police & Crime Commissioner, Lorne Greene, had attended one check and had found it a very useful and informative session. Janet Overton from Community Speedwatch control in Norwich also attended the same session.

A police constable had not yet been able to attend a session to assist with enforcement, as planned, but it was hoped would do so in the near future.

15. To receive an update re the installation of a defibrillator in the BT Box.

Cllr Stebbings reported that the door was now unlocked and he was asked to ascertain whether the electricity was connected.

16. To receive an update in respect of Data Protection Regulations.

The Clerk reported that work was ongoing in respect of this issue.

17. To receive an update in respect of the Pensions Act 2008.

The Clerk reported that a staging date had been reached and a declaration of compliance submitted.

18. To receive a financial update in respect of budget/accounts for year ending 31st March 2018.

The Council noted the financial update. Cllr Stebbings informed the meeting that he will be making a check of the accounts following receipt of the March bank statement.

19. To authorise financial payments as detailed below.

The council authorised the following payments:

- Clerk's pay (March - includes office allowance, expenses and monthly holiday pay) - £111.14.
- HMRC – PAYE - £20.60.
- Brisley PC - Councillor Training Course (M Parker) - £25.00.
- MP Dennis – Hedge cutting - £132.00.
- Fransham PC (Practitioners Guide - shared cost) - £6.20.
- RS Malin – Memorial Maintenance - £50.00 (paid on 23.1.18 under SO 15.1ii).
- Donation to Church in respect of Grass Cutting - £200.00.

At this point in the meeting Cllr J Harding asked for thanks to be noted to the Chairman, Cllr Kilvert, Mr Parker and Richard Caley for their hard work clearing driveways in the recent heavy snow.

20. To receive items for the next agenda.

There were no new items raised for the next agenda.

21. To note the date of the next meeting which will be held on Thursday 3rd May 2018 at 7.30pm, following the Annual Parish Meeting being held at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Signed:

Date:
