

## LITTLE DUNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Little Dunham Parish Council held at 7.30pm in the Village Hut on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

**Present:** Cllr Simon Fowler (Chair)  
Cllr Jane Harding (Vice-Chair)  
Cllr Ian Harding  
Cllr Malcolm Parker  
Cllr Paul Stebbings

County Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris  
Sheryl Irving (Clerk)

There were no members of the public present.

### **1. Welcome and apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr Henry Kilvert and District Cllr Elizabeth Gould.

### **2. To receive any declarations of interest.**

Cllr Henry Kilvert had declared an interest in item 8a).

### **3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019.**

Cllr Ian Harding proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr Jane Harding and agreed by Council. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

### **4. County/District Councillor reports.**

In the absence of D/Cllr Elizabeth Gould, a written report had been received with updates on the Market Town initiative, Environmental Services, the Silver Social and the Budget etc.

County Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris gave the following report:

The County Council has set the £409M budget for 2019/20 and there will be a 2.99% increase in the County Council element with a Band D property seeing an annual increase of £39.51. There is increase in the Adult Social Care element which will be shown separately on future council tax bills. The current annual amount for a Band D property is £96.05.

The Council is investing a further £29M into Adult Social Care with more care beds and sheltered accommodation places being made available. Alarming, it is calculated that by 2030 all monies raised by the precept will have to go into Adult Social Care, this is a national problem, however the County Council lobby Government on a regular basis.

The Children's Services budget is £186M, with ever increasing demands on the service. There are currently 1200 children in care in Norfolk, a figure which is much higher than ever before.

In respect of Vattenfall, George Freeman M.P, has secured an adjournment debate on the siting of sub-stations. He has also secured an agreement by Highways England to widen the junction at Necton Road with the A47.

In respect of the Breckland Local Plan, sections Gen 01 and HOU 5 relate to Little Dunham.

#### **5. Open Forum for Public Participation.**

There were no members of the public present.

#### **6. To discuss any Highways matters.**

Cllr Ian Harding reported some roadside degradation opposite the Anglian Water station and Highways will be informed.

C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris reported that the white lines in Little Dunham are scheduled for repainting.

The Chairman thanked C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris for his input and the C/Cllr then left the meeting.

The ditch along Barrows Hole Lane remains uncleared, despite assurances made by Highways for improvements; Highways will be contacted to carry out the works.

Cllr Parker confirmed there will be a litter pick in the village on the 11<sup>th</sup> April, from 10.00am to 12 noon, and the volunteers were thanked for their efforts. The rubbish nearer to the A47 could be cleared by the Highway Rangers at their next visit.

#### **7. To receive an update on the Community Speed Watch Scheme.**

Cllr Stebbings reported there had been ten checks carried out during February, many more than the previous February and consequently the offence rate was much higher. The Sam II sign will be moved to Sporle Road.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Stebbings and his team for their commitment to the scheme, they are one of the most active teams in the county.

#### **8. To discuss planning issues:**

##### **a) Applications for considerations**

- 3PL/2019/0114/F – Five dwellings adjacent to Westcliffe House, Barrows Hole Lane. The Chairman proposed the Council submit comments in respect of the change of use of agricultural land, village over-development and traffic and drainage issues in Barrows Hole Lane, this was seconded by Cllr Parker and agreed by Council.

- Any new applications received since the publication of the agenda. There were no further applications to discuss.

##### **b) Decisions to note.**

There were no decisions to note.

##### **c) To receive an update re ongoing enforcement issues.**

It was agreed to request an update from Breckland in respect of the ongoing enforcement issue.

**d) To consider any response to the Breckland Local Plan Consultation.**

This item had been discussed earlier at item 4.

**9. To receive an update in respect of the proposed Vattenfall Offshore Wind Farms.**

It was agreed that the Chairman and Cllr Ian Harding will attend the meeting in Dereham on the 24<sup>th</sup> April and make comment re landscaping issues.

**10. To discuss issues relating to the Playing Field.**

Cllr Parker reported that he will be replacing the bird fowling device shortly and a working party to tidy up will be arranged when the weather improves. Council agreed the Playing Field was looking very good thanks to the efforts of Cllr Parker and other volunteers.

It was agreed to establish if there could be a variation of the S106 monies as funds were required for the water project at the Village Hut rather than Play Area facilities.

**11. To discuss issues relating to the Amenities area.**

The Chairman proposed the works required to some trees in the amenities area be carried out, at a cost of £475, this was seconded by Cllr Ian Harding and agreed by Council.

**12. To discuss issues relating to the Footpaths.**

No problems were reported.

**13. To consider the provision of dog bins.**

Cllr Parker reported that there was a lot of dog mess in the village and it was agreed to investigate the possibility of additional dog bins.

**14. To discuss issues relating to the Village Hut.**

Cllr Parker reported the addition of a new microwave and another bookcase. It was agreed to renew the electricity contract with EON.

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

It was agreed not to go ahead at the present time with the installation of a defibrillator, due to the high costs.

The BT Box broken glass is awaiting repair and the Box will be cleaned in the summer.

Cllr Parker suggested the Council investigate training a resident to become a Community First Responder and it was agreed to advertise for a volunteer by the village email system and in the local magazine.

**16. To discuss any correspondence for circulation.**

- Carers Matter Norfolk Information – this was noted.
- Hermitage & Launditch Newsletter (Police) – February 2019 – this was noted.

- Great British Spring Clean – a litter pick is taking place on the 24<sup>th</sup> April.
- Visit Breckland Website – it was agreed not to subscribe to this website.
- Western Link Update – this was noted.

**17. To receive a financial report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.**

The Financial Report was approved by Council.

**18. To consider membership of either Norfolk ALC or Norfolk Parish Training & Support.**

Cllr Jane Harding proposed membership of Norfolk Parish Training & Support, at an annual cost of £30.00, this was seconded by Cllr Ian Harding and agreed by Council.

**19. To consider a donation request from Norfolk Accident Rescue Service and any other donations.**

Council agreed to make no further donations.

**20. To authorise financial payments as detailed below.**

Cllr Ian Harding proposed approval of the following payments, this was seconded by Cllr Jane Harding and agreed by Council.

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|--|---------|
| • Clerk Pay & Expenses (Feb/Mar/CiLCA) | £258.64 |
| • HMRC                                 | £31.00  |
| • Donation to Church (Grass Cutting)   | £200.00 |
| • Contractor (Hedge Cutting)           | £132.00 |
| • Contractor (Grass Cutting)           | £500.00 |

**21. To receive any new items for the next agenda.**

There were no new items received.

**22. To note the date of the next meeting which will be held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 7.30pm.**

The date of the next meeting was noted, which will be preceded by the Annual Parish meeting commencing at 7.00pm.

As this was the last meeting in the current election period, the Chairman thanked all Councillors for their much valued input into village matters.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_