

MULBARTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at

7.30pm on Monday 2nd October 2017

Councillors present:-

Beverley Leek Richard Tucker Steve Sewell Adam Banham Derek Aldous

First Public Session.**1.1 District and County Councillors' Report**

Cllr Legg reported that the government are looking at revising the national planning policy framework which could mean that the Norwich policy area may disappear and SNC would be able to determine on its own. Cllr Legg reported that there were still problems with bins not being emptied in parts of the village; this is ongoing from when the emptying schedule was changed and has not been helped by several personnel changes within the department responsible at SNC. Highways have still not formally adopted Wheatfield so there continues to be no means to control traffic/parking resulting in the bin lorries having problems accessing the road.

In response to a question regarding the planning application in Bracon Ash being refused, Cllr Legg reported that the developer can appeal or make a fresh application for fewer dwellings or for the 20 that was originally allocated. Cllr Legg reported that Highways were not happy with houses being built on the main road.

County Cllr Foulger was not in attendance.

1.2 Public Session

A member of the public thanked the Cllrs for forwarding a copy of the Norfolk Strategic Framework consultation document that was discussed at the last meeting and reported that having read it they were concerned that SNC was getting twice the number of homes than other areas and how could this information be got out to others.

A member of the public raised that the cutting of the Common this year was not very tidy; Cllr Leek reported that this was to be discussed later in the meeting.

A representative from the ParkRun asked if it was ok for them to stay on the Common at present or should they move onto the winter course. Following discussions the Cllrs concluded that the ParkRun should change courses when they were ready to do so after taking into consideration the weather over the next few weeks and the condition of the route on the Common.

A member of the public asked if it was feasible for MPC to site a litter bin by the bench on the Common, Norwich Road end. Cllr Leek reported that costings would be looked at for the next meeting, she also reported that she was planning to organise a litter pick during October as there was a noticeable increase in litter recently, particularly around the school.

A member of the public raised that there were no village signs at the south and west of the village. Cllr Leek noted that this was something that could be looked at in consultation with Highways.

A member of public noted that although they were aware that MPC were not responsible for it, there were a number of potholes in front of the chemists and front carpark. It was confirmed that these areas are part of the Common and so are the responsibility of SNC.

2.0 To close the meeting to public participation.

Cllr Leek closed the meeting to public participation and formally started the Parish Council meeting.

3.0 To receive and consider apologies for absence.

Apologies received from Cllrs Leigh and Reeve.

4.0 To receive declaration of interest on items on the agenda.

Cllr Banham declared an interest in any matters relating to planning.

5.0 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4th September 2017.

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 4th September 2017 were unanimously agreed as a true record of the meeting and duly signed after proposal by Cllr Sewell and seconding by Cllr Tucker.

6.0 Finance -To receive financial report and approve invoices for payment as per schedule.

A proposed schedule of payments was handed out for approval, in addition to copies of the latest financial summary. Following proposal by Cllr Sewell and seconding by Cllr Tucker all payments were duly passed. A copy of payments is attached to these minutes.

6.1 Notification of completion of the audit return for the year ended 31.03.17.

The Clerk confirmed that the audit had been concluded and all Cllrs had received a copy of the returned report and that obligations relating to the publication of this conclusion had been met with the relevant notices on the website and also noticeboards. There were no questions relating to the audit from Cllrs.

6.2 Update on current account opening and N&P closure.

The Clerk explained that there had been delays with opening a new current account with RBS due to the Bank wanting to conduct a business review. Cllr Leek reported that she would be visiting N&P on Wednesday to finalise the closing of the N&P current account and transferring the remaining funds to the Santander account.

7.0 To review hay cutting on the Common.

Following discussion it was unanimously agreed that the contract would be written to, to ascertain if there were any reasons why this year's cutting was not up to previous years standards and depending on the response MPC may wish to review arrangements going forward.

8.0 Review and update on booking and payment system for MUGA.

Following discussion during which it was confirmed that there were two block bookings for the winter and that the floodlight electric meter would be installed in the next couple of weeks, it was agreed to carry on with the current interim block booking system and that Cllr Tucker would contact Norwich Parks Tennis again as this may be the solution in the long term for the booking of the court. It was agreed that the Play Area Committee would review and update the interim booking arrangements in the meantime to take into account the floodlights/electric meter installation and access to the storage shed when it is installed.

9.0 Request to place a memorial bench on the Common.

Cllr Leek reported that a request had been received to place a memorial bench on the Common. Full details are not available at the moment though there is a possibility of using this bench to replace one of the damaged ones of the Common. Cllr Leek proposed and was seconded by Cllr Banham to have delegated authority to facilitate this request to conclusion and would keep the council informed and also the Common owner, this was unanimously agreed.

10.0 Request from Puddleducks to use part of the car park to site food van for their Christmas fair

Following discussion and proposal by Cllr Banham and seconding by Cllr Leek it was unanimously agreed to approve this request on the condition that Puddleducks has appropriate risk assessment and insurance in place to indemnify MPC .

11.0 To consider planning applications.

2017/2161: 2 Kestrel Close – single storey side extension. Cllr Sewell reported that he would look at the details of this application prior to the consultation end date.

2017/2131: land west of Long Lane Bracon Ash – phased outline proposal for 15 self/custom build dwellings and access. During discussion it was noted that the development would affect Mulbarton more than Bracon Ash in respect of increased vehicle traffic and demand on services; that there was possibility of Long Lane being dug again to connect utility services and further modernisation of the road, which has already been widened with hedges taken out, may be needed. Concerns were raised about access to the development with a suggestion of vehicle access being via Meadows Drive/Hopkins Homes site rather than Long Lane and the conservation area being mooted. It was also noted that development would in effect be an extension to Mulbarton and in contradiction to the Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr Leek announced that she would adjourn the meeting to allow Cllr Legg to speak.

Meeting adjourned.

Cllr Legg reported that Bracon Ash had brought forward their Parish Council meeting to next Monday, 9th October, to allow them to discuss.

Meeting resumed.

It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk would compose a consultation reply based on tonight's discussions and send this out to all Councillors on Saturday (07.10.17) for editing/approval, with a final response being sent to SNC on Tuesday (10.10.17) evening.

12.0 Correspondence requiring consideration.

Cllr Aldous gave an update regarding the reinstatement of the green space on Cuckoofield Lane and listed the work that is still to be completed: fencing repairs to be completed; three road signs to be put back; line of temporary fencing to be levelled; damaged gate to be put back on its hinges; temporary fencing units and scaffolding to be removed; lumps of concrete from fencing repairs and sandbags to be removed. It was unanimously agreed that this information together with photographs would be sent by MPC to Anglian Water and SNC.

- Email from Norfolk Constabulary: Community SOS – details of new project being launched by their Engagement Officers in a bid to build stronger links with local communities. Applications for consideration should be submitted by 31.10.17.
- Email from SNC: sent on behalf of Cllr John Fuller, Leader of SNC - SNC and Broadland District Council are investigating the potential of creating a closer, collaborative working relationship between the two councils, while at the same time maintaining individual council sovereignty.
- Letter from Anglian Water: frequent flooding of ditches adjacent Long Lane & Birchfield Gardens – reply from Anglian Water who confirm that they are not responsible for any watercourses or ditches and they would not discharge into a ditch due to the possible risk of pollution. Cllr Leek reported that SNC used to trim the ditches on Long Lane, prior to the houses adjacent going onto Saffron Housing's lists after which they were not maintained. It was noted that some of the ditches have been identified as being part of the river and the Environment Agency are responsible for keeping any water flowing but not where the ditch is encroaching onto the footpath.
- Email: potholes in front car park – concern raised about front car park pot holes. Clerk to provide SNC's community asset officer details to the sender.
- Email from Football Club: enquiry regarding cost of hiring MUGA for five a side. Cllrs confirmed the cost as £10 per hour plus electric for the floodlights. It was agreed to review the pricing structure in March 2018.

13.0 Sub-committee/liaison officer reports.

Cllr Leek reported that she had met with a local play area company recently to discuss works needed on the play areas and she was still waiting for a quote from them, which she would chase up.

13.1 Review of outstanding works list

Cllr Leek reported that she was hoping that the static horse would shortly be sold and removed from site.

14.0 To receive any items for inclusion on the next agenda.

- Request from the Football Club re. extending facilities
- Costings for a bin by bench on the Common
- Hay cutting contract
- MUGA bookings and response from Norwich Parks Tennis
- Budget planning for 2018/19

15.0 To adjourn the meeting for the 2nd public session.

A representative from the ParkRun reported that the founder of ParkRun was due at one of their runs in March and they are expecting a large turnout on that day. In response to a question from MPC about asking for permission to use the church car park, they reported that they hadn't but they would follow up on this suggestion.

A representative from MALGA clarified that to produce hay the Common needed to be cut by a certain time, usually by the end of July and that they had noticed that a large area consisting mainly of thistles had been left uncut this year.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

The next meeting will take place on Monday 6th November 2017

Payments for September 2017

Cheque Number	Recipient	Details	Net total	Vat	Amount £'s
022025	DJ Ireland	Various groundworks: Common, slide, fencing and shed base	1810.66	362.13	2172.79
022026	Came & Co	Annual Insurance	2319.15		2319.15
022027	Total Tech Support	PC Service	50.00		50.00
022028	P Leigh	Expenses: shelving	41.65	8.33	49.98
022029	HMRC	PAYE	214.73		214.73
022030	A Phillips	September salary	660.81		660.81
022031	A Phillips	Expenses: stamps & storage boxes	50.52	7.42	57.94
022032	MVHMC	Room Hire: Community First Responders Training afternoon	50.00		50.00
022033	Ribbonsdale Nurseries	Monthly Grounds maintenance	1043.57	208.71	1252.28
		Total for month:	6241.09	586.59	6827.68