

MULBARTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at

7.30pm on Monday 7th October 2019

Councillors present:-

Derek Aldous Adam Banham Gerald Peachy Richard Tucker Steve Sewell

The Clerk, as the Proper Officer of the Parish Council, announced that as the Chairman and Vice-Chairman are both absent from the meeting, under Standing Orders Section 3, Paragraph p, this evening's meeting will be presided over by a councillor chosen by the councillors present at the meeting.

It was unanimously decided by the councillors present that Cllr Aldous would preside over the meeting.

1.1 District and County Councillors' Report

District Councillor Nigel Legg reported that the local development plan (GNLP) that should have been published by SNC two weeks ago had been postponed for some time as the plan drawn up by officers was not to the liking of the members. For example, as NCC policy discourages car use, the plan recommended that new housing should be scattered around the suburbs of Norwich; Cllr Legg pointed out that if you wanted to go to a neighbouring surgery it would involve getting a bus into the city and then another back to your desired location. Cllr Legg thought that the consultation report may be published later in the year and if the wishes of the members were taken into consideration then villages like Mulbarton should be spared with development being scattered in villages further to the south of the district.

Cllr Legg further reported that the land owner who had dug out the ditches around the fields bordering on Bluebell Road and Rectory Lane had identified a large volume of fly tipping that he has arranged to dispose of at his own expense. Since the ditches were done more fly tipping has occurred and Cllr Legg has asked SNC officers to investigate.

Cllr Legg reported that the District Cllrs still had funds available in the form of ward member grants; he reported that he had spoken to the police at their recent street surgery and raised several concerns including problems with HGV's using Rectory Lane. Finally, Cllr Legg reported that Bracon Ash Village Hall have recently installed a defibrillator and are in the process of organising some training. If anyone is interested in this training then they should contact him so he can pass their details on.

There were no questions for Cllr Legg from the public or MPC Cllrs.

Cllr Aldous reported that District Councillor Vivienne Clifford – Jackson had sent her apologies for being unable to attend.

County Councillor Colin Foulger was not in attendance.

District Councillor Gerry Francis was not in attendance.

1.2 Public Session

A resident asked if the missing bench on the Common was going to be replaced. Cllr Aldous replied that the bench was going to be replaced and plans were being drawn up to replace it with a design that while being fireproof was also comfortable.

2.0 To close the meeting to public participation

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

3.0 To receive and consider apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Leek and Leigh.

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 2nd September 2019

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 2nd September 2019 were unanimously agreed as a true record of the meeting and duly signed after being proposed by Cllr Peachey and seconded by Cllr Sewell.

5.1 To confirm and sign the minutes of the extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 24th September 2019

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 24th September 2019 were unanimously agreed as a true record of the meeting and duly signed after being proposed by Cllr Banham and seconded 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. Copies of the latest financial summary were also handed out. Following proposal by Cllr Sewell and seconding by Cllr Tucker all payments were duly passed. A copy of the payments is attached to these minutes.

6.1 Approval of costings to repair car park entrance potholes

Cllr Aldous reported that the background information, work scope and costing were with Cllr Leigh and suggested this matter be deferred to the next meeting. Following proposal by Cllr Peachey and seconding by Cllr Sewell this was unanimously agreed.

6.2 Review of costs and work scope for work on ponds 4 & 7

Cllr Aldous reported that the background information, work scope and costing were with Cllr Leigh and suggested this matter be deferred to the next meeting. Following proposal by Cllr Tucker and seconding by Cllr Sewell this was unanimously agreed.

6.3 Approvals of cost to purchase roof bars

Cllr Aldous reported that Cllr Leigh has obtained a costing of £105.45 including VAT and postage (£83.29 minus VAT) for roof bars that would allow ladders to be moved around the village to do jobs on the outstanding works list. During discussion it was agreed that the roof bars would be MPC property and added to the asset register. Following proposal by Cllr Tucker and seconding by Cllr Banham the cost of purchasing roof bars was unanimously agreed.

6.4 Awarding of grounds maintenance contract commencing April 2020

A cost comparison summary was handed out for review. Three out of the four contractors approached had responded with quotes. Cllr Aldous informed the Cllrs they were required to make a decision on the quotes received or to raise any clarification questions that would then be submitted to the contractors ready for a decision at the next meeting.

During discussion it was noted that two of the contractors had previously held the contract in the last four years and the other several years ago. It was also noted that one contractor had only given an hourly rate for flail cutting round the ponds, with no indication of how many hours would be needed to complete the work and there was a large discrepancy between two of the contractors of Section 4 of the work scope.

Following proposal by Cllr Peachey and seconding by Cllr Banham it was unanimously agreed to defer a decision on awarding the contract until clarification had been received from the contractors regarding the points discussed.

7.0 War Memorial – update since last meeting

Cllr Tucker reported that the project was moving slowly forward and that he and Cllr Aldous had recently met; a summary of this meeting was handed round for review. Cllr Tucker noted that as the Common had previously been suggested as a possible location for a new memorial, it may be prudent to contact the landowner for their opinions at this early planning stage in case it is necessary to take this option out of any plans.

Following discussion Cllr Tucker proposed that the Common landowner be written to, setting out MPC's ideas and asking if they would be happy for a war memorial to be placed on their land; there would be no commitment to agree and a final decision could be made at a later date based on the final design and location proposal. This was seconded by Cllr Sewell and unanimously agreed.

8.0 Men's Shed – update since last meeting

Cllr Tucker reported that a meeting to introduce the idea of a Mulbarton Men's Shed had been arranged for Tuesday 22nd (October) at Harvest House. The event has been advertised on social media and within neighbouring parishes; the guest speaker will be Mr Harry Gowman who is the ambassador for the Norfolk association, also in attendance will be two employees of NCC adult social services department who have experience of working with Men's Shed and the setting up of

them. Cllr Tucker noted that 90% of Men's Shed operating in Norfolk opened during the day on weekdays for those that were socially isolated but should a group be set up in Mulbarton it will be up to the members to decide what days or times they operate.

Cllr Aldous checked with Cllr Tucker that no decision or action was required from MPC this evening. Cllr Tucker confirmed the above was for information and a budget to support the event had previously been approved.

9.0 Planning Application:

2019/1844: 11 Nightingale Close. Following discussion it was unanimously agreed that MPC had no objections to this application and that neighbouring properties had a right to submit their own comments if necessary.

2019/1916: The Willows, the Rosery. Following discussion it was unanimously agreed that MPC had no objections to this application and that neighbouring properties had a right to submit their own comments if necessary.

9.1 To consider any other planning applications

No further applications have been received.

10.0 Correspondence requiring consideration

There were no correspondences requiring consideration.

11.0 Sub-committee/liaison officer reports

Cllr Aldous handed out an updated summary on the current position with regards to the wind farm: the decision that should have been published early October has been deferred for a further six months for further enquiries into the effect on offshore wildlife. Cllr Aldous reported that several groups are planning on using this additional six months to further the idea of an Offshore Ring Main.

It was unanimously agreed that at this stage MPC needs to make no further representation.

11.1 Review of outstanding works list

A revised list was handed out. Following discussion it was agreed to add checking and tightening of the bolts on the tower unit at the Meadows and to cost/order bark for the play areas at the back of the village hall and the Common.

12.0 To receive any items for inclusion on the next agenda

- Approval of costs to repair car park entrance potholes
- Approval of costs and work scope for work on ponds 4 & 7

- Awarding of the grounds maintenance contract commencing April 2020
- 2020/21 budget planning – provisional review

13.0 To adjourn the meeting for the 2nd public session

Cllr Legg reported that Swardeston's Cavell Festival was being held this coming weekend (12 & 13th October).

A member of the public was given a copy of the Men's Shed event flyer in response to a question about the times.

A resident asked if any further progress had been made regarding the tree planting by the surgery and school car park and made a recommendation that the area be cordoned off following planting to give the plants some protection for the first few months. It was noted that current thinking was to move some of the saplings from the Common to the area but no date for any work had been confirmed. A member of the public reported that bare root plants would be more likely to take than transplanted saplings.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.07pm

The next meeting will take place on Monday 4th November 2019 at 7.30pm.

Payments for September 2019

Cheque Number	Recipient	Details	Net total	Vat	Amount £'s
102595	Came & Company	Annual Insurance	2508.40		2508.40
102596	Glasdon UK Ltd	Meadows bin & refuse sacks	216.13	43.23	259.36
102597	Harvest House	Room Hire: Mens Shed	16.50		16.50
102598	Ribbonsdale Nurseries	Monthly Grounds Maintenance	1017.49	203.49	1220.98
102599	P Leigh	Expenses	128.13	21.98	150.11
102600	A Phillips	Expenses	33.76	3.33	37.09
102601	A Phillips	Salary	619.66		619.66
102602	HMRC	PAYE	173.65		173.65
102603	Mulbarton Church	New churchyard maintenance contribution	1354.00		1354.00
		Total for month:	6067.72	272.03	6339.75