

## MULBARTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at

7.30pm on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Councillors present:-

Peter Leigh Derek Aldous Adam Banham Gerald Peachy Richard Tucker

### **1.1 District and County Councillors' Report**

District Cllr Legg stated that he didn't have a lot to report due to the upcoming election. He did inform the meeting that he had reported an occurrence of fly-tipping at 8am today and by mid-day it had been cleared away; this was the fifth occasion in the last week that he has reported fly-tipping to SNC.

Cllr Leigh reported that the application for 14 houses on Cuckoofield Lane had been withdrawn partly due to concerns raised about the proximity of Bracon Ash to Mulbarton and then asked Cllr Legg why a similar approach hadn't been applied to the Flordon Long Lane development and were SNC being inconsistent in their approach. Cllr Legg reported that SNC planning officers claim that every case is treated on its merits and they do not set precedents with regards to applications.

Cllr Leigh reported that Brooke Parish Council had recently been awarded £15000 towards play equipment. Cllr Legg reported that this money had been award from the CAF Fund which any organisation was able to apply to.

District Councillor Vivienne Clifford-Jackson sent her apologies for her absence.

District Councillor Gerry Francis was also in attendance.

County Councillor Colin Foulger was not in attendance.

### **1.2 Public Session**

A resident wished to raise the matter of the pot holes in the car park as he had fallen over in the car park due to them and felt they made the place look shabby. Cllr Leigh reported that the item was being discussed later in the meeting. The resident acknowledged that the responsibility for the car park was SNC.

A resident reported that the missing Common bench was on this evening's agenda and looked forward to it being replaced.

A resident raised that whilst he is not involved in the Park Run, it had been mentioned to him that contrary to previous comments made that 10-20 runners do support the Bus Café after each run so do indirectly support the village. Cllr Leigh stated that whilst he believed that the Bus Café owners didn't originally want the runners on the Bus on a Saturday and there had been reports of runners unsociable behaviour such as urinating in the surrounding area, he believed the situation had mellowed and that runners were using the outside area of the Bus after their run.

A resident wished to raise concerns about a potential drug issue in the village; she reported that her son had found some drugs on the Common when attending football training. She reported that she had received no feedback from the Police, Social Club, Village Hall or Football Club and asked if the Parish Council would make a comment to the EDP if asked. Cllr Leigh reported that he had raised the issue in his latest Chairman's report that will be published in the next Parish News. He reported that MPC had been liaising and supporting the Police and would continue with these meetings and support. It was raised during discussion that all in the community have a role to play in preventing crime and reporting incidents to the Police.

## **2.0 To close the meeting to public participation**

Cllr Leigh 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 Sewell.

## **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 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019 were unanimously agreed by those Cllrs that had been in attendance at said meeting (Cllr Leigh abstained) as a true record of the meeting and duly signed after being proposed by Cllr Aldous 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 Leigh and seconding by Cllr Peachey 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**

Following discussion Cllr Leigh proposed that the quote of £95 to repair the pot holes was accepted and the worked planned as soon as possible. This was seconded by Cllr Banham and unanimously agreed.

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

Cllr Leigh handed out a proposed work scope and preliminary costings for work on two of the ponds during winter 19/20.

Cllr Leigh reported that he had written to SNC several weeks ago, in response to a request for dates for the next Common Management Steering Committee meeting, asking them to bring details of

their budget to the next meeting. He acknowledged that SNC should be paying for the work and that the village are in effect paying twice for the work through the precept to SNC and MPC.

It was discussed that the 50 Ponds project may be able to support MPC next year with further work on the remaining ponds. It was noted that this organisation cleared a lot of undergrowth from around their project ponds, something that SNC have previously been reluctant to do. It was noted that if water is unable to run off the Common into the ponds then the water table stays high.

Cllr Leigh proposed that delegated authority to go out to tender, award contract and project manage this work be given to the MPC Cllrs that sit on the Common Management Steering Committee. This was seconded by Cllr Peachy and unanimously agreed.

### **6.3 Approvals of costs for play bark**

Cllr Leigh reported that three contractors had been approached for quotes. Following discussion, Cllr Banham proposed that contractor 3 be approved to supply and spread the play bark; this was seconded by Cllr Leigh and unanimously approved.

### **6.4 Approval of design and costings for replacement bench on the Common**

Cllr Leigh reported that this would be the third time that the bench had been replaced; the new design would incorporate a concrete base with the wooden slats being replaced with metal ones topped with treated wood to improve fire proofing of the bench. Following proposal from Cllr Leigh for a budget of £1100 for the project and seconding by Cllr Banham it was unanimously agreed to proceed with this design. Cllr Leigh reported that the project is anticipated to start in the New Year.

### **6.5 Awarding of grounds maintenance contract commencing April 2020**

Cllr Leigh reported that revised figures have been received from two of the contractors following clarification notification sent to the three contractors. Following discussion, Cllr Leigh proposed that contractor 3 be awarded the contract for 2020 and subject to a satisfactory mid-term performance review then be awarded the contract for the a further two years. This was seconded by Cllr Tucker and unanimously agreed.

### **6.6 Approval of costs for lowering water tanks at the Meadows allotment site**

Cllr Leigh reported that the quote to lower the water tanks at the Meadows allotments was £120 per tank plus £25.00 for fittings, this price includes labour. He reported that there are two tanks at the site and he would consult with MALGA as to whether to lower one or all three. Following proposal by Cllr Leigh and seconding by Cllr Banham it was unanimously agreed to budget £300 expenditure to lower one or both water troughs.

### **6.7 Approval of costs for surface water drainage**

Cllr Leigh reported that the MVHMC had recently had the drains cleared; as well as drinks bottles, that were found to be causing a blockage, it was noted that there was a lot of gravel in the drains. Cllr Leigh reported that he had contacted three local companies for quotes to remove the loose gravel from the main car park and then place it on the front car park to help fill the pot holes and also to empty the gully pots of loose gravel. Following proposal by Cllr Peachey and seconding by Cllr Tucker it was unanimously agreed to get contractor 3 to complete the work.

### **6.8 2020/21 budget planning**

It was reported that precept figure needs to be returned to SNC by 19 January 2020. Cllr Leigh asked all councillors to look at the current projected budget for next year and suggest figures/ideas for the next meeting. The Clerk will update the budget figures based on expenditure approved at this evening's meeting.

### **7.0 War Memorial – update since last meeting**

Cllr Tucker reported that the owner of the Common had been written to requesting her views on siting a new war memorial on the Common, as this would impact on suggested locations and potential designs if this option could no longer be considered; at present no response has been received.

Cllr Tucker noted that it would be nice to tie in the conclusion of this project with item 9 on this evening's agenda.

### **8.0 Men's Shed – update since last meeting**

Cllr Tucker reported that the introductory Men's Shed meeting had been a success with over 20 in attendance and that those present would like to meet again and had suggested agenda items for the next meeting. Cllr Tucker also reported that two NCC adult social services employees, who have previously help set up Men's Shed's, had also offered their support.

Cllr Tucker proposed that MPC fund the next two meetings (hiring of Harvest House) and provide some refreshment supplies to maintain the moment of enthusiasm from the initial meeting, from the initial budget that MPC had allocated for advertising/facilitating the first meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Banham and unanimously agreed. Cllr Tucker reported that he was happy to convene the next two meetings.

### **9.0 VE Day 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations: 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

Cllr Leigh reported that the Early May Bank Holiday has been moved in 2020 to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May; celebration events over the weekend of 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> May next year are being planned nationally to celebrate VE Day 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Following discussion it was unanimously agreed that MPC would like to host an event. Cllr Leigh reported that he would like to move this idea forward and then report back at the next meeting so that ideas and a budget could be approved.

### **10.0 To agree date for community tree planting**

Cllr Leigh reported that 30<sup>th</sup> November is national tree planting day. It was unanimously agreed that this was good date for MPC to plant the trees by the school/surgery car park. Cllr Leigh will liaise with the contractor and put a planting plan together.

### **11.0 To consider any other planning applications**

No applications have been received.

### **11.1 Planning application 2018/0872**

Cllr Leigh reported that he had received an email from SNC regarding this application: *“We have not received any notification of any appeal. We contacted the Planning Inspectorate last week who advised that hadn’t any record of an appeal received before the deadline. There is still apparently a small chance that if they had hadn’t emailed it and only posted the appeal that it could be somewhere in the Planning Inspectorate’s internal mail system so we can’t yet be certain that they haven’t appealed. The six month date was 25<sup>th</sup> October. “* Cllr Leigh reported that he would continue to liaise with SNC and would advise all Cllrs if there was any update.

### **12.0 Correspondence requiring consideration**

- Email from Pickleball coach, thanking MPC for their support and allowing them to play on the MUGA. It was noted that at times there have been 7 English Open medallists playing on a Thursday evening.
- Email from Football Club requesting permission to host a Festival in 2020. It was unanimously agreed to add this matter to the next agenda.
- Letter from NCC – Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service has published its draft Integrated Risk Management Plan for 2020-2023. Consultation closes at midnight on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- Cllr Leigh reported that Smiths of Derby (the company that maintain the church clock) had been in contact enquiring if MPC wish to carry out any refurbishment work on the clock face. No costings are currently available.

### **13.0 Sub-committee/liaison officer reports**

Cllr Leigh reported that the Common Management Steering Group would be meeting soon.

Cllr Leigh stated that he was disappointed to report that following the working party at the Meadows play area the new bird spikes had already been damaged and there was further damage to the arbour at the entrance to Jubilee Garden.

Cllr Leigh reported that he was in the process of obtaining quotes for a major tidy up of the Jubilee Garden and working on a proposal for a maintenance programme for the garden.

Cllr Leigh reported that the last section of ditch clearing around the Common would be completed when the contractor was on site for the community tree planting day.

Cllr Leigh reported that planned bramble cutting on the Common would be in the region of £250.00.

Cllr Aldous reported that the Hornsea Three wind farm inquiry had been extended by six months, as reported last month. He further reported that there are two existing wind farms that are looking at being extended: Dudgeon and Sheringham Shoal. Both these extensions would connect to the grid at Dunston and would require a new substation to be built. Following discussion it was unanimously agreed that MPC would register as an interested party.

Cllr Aldous reported that discussions and lobbying for an Offshore Ring Main, which would mean that there would be no cable route or new substation for either Hornsea or the two extensions, was ongoing.

### **13.1 Review of outstanding works list**

A revised list was handed out.

Cllr Leigh reported that he had a meeting with the solicitor regarding the transfer on the allotment land to MPC. A number of outstanding issues for phase 2 are outstanding: no water meters, no bike racks, no shed and the fencing and carpark still to be finished. Hopkins Homes have agreed to complete this work but are unable to give a completion date. The solicitor will continue to liaise with Birketts (Hopkins Homes solicitors) and agreed costs will be capped at £1500.00. The target date for completion is the end of November 2019.

Cllr Leigh reported that the branches that had been cut at the Long Lane allotment site will be removed from site by the contractor.

Cllr Leigh reported that the new bin had been installed at the Meadows and the task of swapping the gates at the Meadows needs to be added to the outstanding works list.

### **14.0 To receive any items for inclusion on the next agenda**

- Request from Football Club to host Mulbarton Festival on the weekend of 23/24<sup>th</sup> May 2020
- Review of costings and plans for climbing frame at the Meadow's play area
- War memorial
- Men's Shed
- Refurbishment of the church clock face

### **15.0 To adjourn the meeting for the 2<sup>nd</sup> public session**

Cllr Leigh adjourned the meeting for the second public session.

Cllr Francis reported that the District Councillor still have members grant funds available that needs to be spent by the end of December.

Cllr Legg reported that in regards to council tax, the government financial report has been delayed due to the elections which may result in local (district) councils not knowing what money they would be getting from central government until later than normal.

Cllr Legg reported that the Police were aware of drugs use in the village. During discussion it was asked what the community response should be, as it was acknowledged someone knows those that are involved and also how youngsters in the village could be engaged with projects that appealed to them.

A representative from the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) reported that Mr Mick Sutcliffe had recently been selected as their new chairman and they are looking for a vice-chair as well as more representatives/committee members. It was reported that the VHMC would be interested in being involved with the VE Day celebration previously discussed.

In response to a question about highlighting the cost of replacement benches and other fixtures replaced due to vandalism to other villagers, Cllr Leigh reported that he has raised this issue and of drugs being found on the Common in his Chairman's report for the Parish News, which is delivered to every household in the village.

In response to a question about the date for the next Men's Shed meeting, Cllr Tucker reported that once a date was agreed it would be circulated as previously.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm

The next meeting will take place on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 at 7.30pm.

## Payments for October 2019

Cheque Number	Recipient	Details	Net total	Vat	Amount £'s
102604	MVHMC	Room hire: Jul, Aug & Sep	45.00		45.00
102605	Printerland	Colour toners	278.67	55.73	334.40
102606	D Aldous	Expenses	22.50		22.50
102607	A Phillips	Expenses	117.19	20.35	137.54
102608	A Phillips	Salary	621.85		621.85
102609	HMRC	PAYE	175.06		175.06
102610	Ribbonsdale Nurseries	Grounds Maintenance	1017.49	203.49	1220.98
102611	APC Pest Control Ltd	Pest control	120.00	24.00	144.00
		<b>Total for month:</b>	<b>2397.76</b>	<b>303.57</b>	<b>2701.33</b>