

MULBARTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held remotely at

7.30pm on Monday 7 December 2020

Councillors present via remote videoing platform:-

Adam Banham Gerald Peachey Beverley Leek Steve Sewell
Richard Tucker Derek Aldous Emma Reeve

Also in attendance were three District Councillors and two members of the public.

1.0 District and County Councillors' Report

Following an explanation that the meeting was being held remotely as permitted under The Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings) (England) Regulations 2020 which came into force on 4th April 2020 and allows local authorities to conduct meetings remotely, Cllr Leek welcomed Cllr Reeve, who having signed her requisite paperwork in the presence of the Clerk within the timescale set by the Parish Council at their last meeting, was joining tonight's meeting as Parish Councillor.

District Cllr Legg stated that he had little to add to his report that had already been received by MPC, except that a planned meeting scheduled for this week with the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital had been cancelled so that they could prepare for the launch of the Covid vaccinations.

District Cllr Clifford-Jackson, whose written report had been received by MPC, reported that the Bloy's Grove project team had advised her that they would be willing to give a ten minute presentation to MPC at their next meeting if this was wanted. Cllr Clifford-Jackson reported: that a decision on SNC's community grants was still to be decided and it is likely that they will be rolled over into next year; SNC members have been consulted on next year's development plan and she welcomed any suggestions for submission; SNC are still waiting to hear what their government allocation will be for next year and this is making planning difficult; SNC have saved £21,000 in members expenses in the financial year to date; the next census will be March 2021 and was keen for everyone to get involved to assist future planning and policy making. Cllr Clifford-Jackson finished by stating that SNC's help hub was available for those needing support over the Christmas period.

District Cllr Gerry Francis stated that he had little to add to his submitted report and most current activities relating to vaccines are being broadcast by the media and that Cllr Legg had already commented on local updates.

1.1 Public Session

No members of the public wished to speak at this time.

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

All Councillors were in attendance.

4.0 To receive declaration of interest on items on the agenda

Cllr Banham declared an interest in any matters relating to planning (item 13) and the GNLP (item 12)

5.0 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2nd November 2020

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 2nd November 2020 were unanimously agreed as a true record of the meeting after being proposed by Cllr Sewell and seconded by Cllr Banham; Cllr Reeve abstained from the vote as she was not present as a councillor at the meeting. As this is a virtual meeting arrangements would be made for the Chairman to sign the minutes at a later date.

6.0 To receive financial report and approve invoices for payments as per schedule for November

A proposed schedule of payments and the latest financial summary were reviewed. Following proposal by Cllr Tucker and seconding by Cllr Peachey all payments were duly passed. A copy of the payments is attached to these minutes.

6.1 To approve new signatory for bank accounts and removal of signatory

Following discussions relating to the RBS account, Cllr Leek proposed that Mr Peter Leigh be removed as an authorised signatory for the RBS account and Cllr Peachey is added as a new signatory; this was seconded by Cllr Tucker and unanimously agreed.

Cllr Leek then confirmed: It is therefore resolved that the Authorised Signatories in the current mandate, for the accounts detailed in section 1.3, be changed in accordance with section Authorised Signatories. And the current mandate will continue as amended.

Following discussions relating to the Santander accounts, Cllr Leek proposed that Mr Peter Leigh be removed as an authorised signatory for the Santander account and Cllr Peachey is added as a new signatory; this was seconded by Cllr Reeve and unanimously agreed.

Cllr Leek then confirmed: It is therefore resolved that the Authorised Signatories in the current mandate, for the accounts detailed in section 1, be changed in accordance with sections 2 and 3a on the Santander change of mandate details form and the current mandate will continue as amended.

6.2 Budget planning for 2021/2022 & background information for precept setting

Following discussions it was unanimously agreed that the working group would continue with budget planning for 2021/2022 and would meet again on 15th December at 7pm and produce a proposed budget for approval at January's meeting.

7.0 Working group report on completing items on the outstanding works list

Cllr Banham reported that good progress continues to be made on completion of items on the outstanding works list and highlighted the recent completion of the repairs to the car park. The next meeting of the working group will be on Tuesday 15th December at 7pm.

7.1 To review quotes for replacement bench on the Common

Following discussions, Cllr Sewell proposed that bench option 1 be purchased by MPC for the Common; this was seconded by Cllr Leek and unanimously agreed.

Cllr Sewell will arrange a site visit with the contractor to ensure that their delivery vehicle can access the site before the order is placed. Siting of the bench will be weather dependant and the concrete base that held the old bench will be used as a foot pad in front of part of the new bench.

7.2 To review quote for PAT Testing of Parish Office

Cllr Leek reported that one quote had been received to cover both the PAT testing and replacement external security light (item 7.3). Following discussions Cllr Leek proposed that the contractor be booked to complete the PAT testing and to replace the light; this was seconded by Cllr Banham and unanimously agreed.

7.3 To review quote for replacement external light

This item was discussed under item 7.2 for the reasons outlined by the meeting Chair.

8.0 Update on discussions with Ian Holdsworth Chartered Surveyors and their request for Cadent Gas to install a gas governor on MPC's land

During discussions it was noted that the proposed site for the gas governor on the plan received is bigger at 7 x 5m than originally advised, which means it will be partially on the protected walkway in the car park and that the pipe access route was not clearly defined. Following discussions it was agreed that another site meeting was needed to clarify the details received.

Discussions on the consideration amount and term of the lease confirmed that all councillors felt these were reasonable and that an annual rent should be taken rather than the commuted sum offered.

9.0 To discuss correspondence from Dalcour Maclaren and renewal of EE & Three mast agreement and appointment of Land Agent representative

Cllr Leek reported that no further correspondence had been received from Dalcour Maclaren and the latest correspondence from a land agent had been circulated to all councillors. Following discussions it was agreed this item would be deferred to the next meeting.

10.0 Update on wind farm proposals

Cllr Aldous gave a full report on several related wind farm projects including Dogger Bank, Norfolk Vanguard and Boreas, Hornsea Three, and Dudgeon and Sheringham Shoal extensions. The report also covered the government's urgent review of offshore transmission and the National Grid consultation on the same issue. A letter has been sent to Richard Bacon MP asking for support for offshore transmission. The council noted the report. Cllr Peachey said he had received a reply from Mr Bacon MP confirming his support for offshore transmission.

11.0 Bloy's Grove Solar Farm

During discussion a number of concerns were raised concerning the proposed routes for construction traffic and it being directed through the village; whether the connection being made at Dunston would be via overhead or underground and the size of the site boundary.

Following discussions it was agreed to invite the EDF solar farm project team to MPC's meeting on the 4th January and to have ready a number of questions to ask. It was also agreed to have a working group on the 5th January to finalise MPC's consultation response to be submitted prior to its closing date of 11 January 2021.

Following a discussion of what were the views of SNC of the industrialisation along the A140 with regards to substations, solar farms and Ben Burgess, Cllr Leek advised that she was going to adjourn the meeting to allow input from the District Councillors.

Meeting adjourned

District Cllr Legg reported that SNC don't have a policy on solar farms and he has challenged them recently on this. SNC have stated that they treat every application on its own merits.

A councillor suggested that this could feed into the development plan which was mentioned earlier.

District Cllr Clifford-Jackson agreed to this suggestion and also that she would raise it with the Chair of SNC's Environment and Economic group who are meeting this Friday (11.12.20).

Meeting resumed

Cllr Leek summarised discussions points and confirmed that MPC would compile a list of questions for EDF and invite them to the January meeting.

12.0 GNLP SNC village cluster document

Cllr Leek reported that SNC's GNLP Village Cluster document has not yet been published and following no objections deferred the item to the next meeting.

13.0 To consider planning applications received

Cllr Leek reported that no planning applications had been received.

14.0 Correspondence requiring consideration

- Email received raising concerns about buses parking up for drivers breaks at the bus stop on Cuckoofield Lane (north side). Following discussions MPC agreed to write to the bus company to request they adopted a policy whereby drivers parking up for breaks in the village do so at the south side bus stop
- Email received raising concerns about dog walkers using the recreation area at Bromedale Avenue. Following discussions it was noted that the land belongs to South Norfolk District Council. It was agreed however to add an item to January's agenda to investigate the provision of an enclosed designated dog walking area.

15. Liaison officer reports

Councillors agreed that all points had already been raised.

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

- To discuss correspondence from Dalcour Maclaren and renewal of EE & Three mast agreement and appointment of Land Agent representative
- GNLP SNC village cluster document
- To discuss the provision of an enclosed designated dog friendly area in the village

17.0 To adjourn the meeting for the 2nd public session

A member of the public thanked Cllr Aldous for his wind farm report this evening.

Cllr Clifford-Jackson asked if MPC wanted to invite other parish councils to the EDF presentation at the January meeting and if it was worth raising the issue of dog fouling with the enforcement team at SNC and seeing if there was a way forward for them to police it.

Cllr Leek explained that the meeting in January was MPC's ordinary council meeting and other local parish councils should be encouraged to have their own initial engagement with EDF.

Cllr Legg stated that when the solar farm was built at Brick Kiln Lane all construction materials were brought in from the A140 using a shuttle system to bring them under the railway bridge which meant construction traffic was kept out of the village. With regards to the proposed Bracon Ash solar farm, Cllr Legg explained that the original plans appear to have been watered down and that the proposal is now for a 70 acre site instead of 100 acres. EDF's proposal is for 200 acres.

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

The next meeting will take place on Monday 4th January 2021 at 7.30pm.

Payments for November 2020

Cheque Number	Recipient	Details	Net total	Vat	Amount £'s
102678	APC Pest Control	Quarterly pest control invoice	120.00	24.00	144.00
102679	D Aldous	Expenses	75.00		75.00
102681	South Norfolk Council	Dog Bin – Annual Charges	2078.60	415.72	2494.32
102682	G Peachey	Expenses	24.46	3.07	27.53
102683	Printerland	Printer toners and waste toner bottle	379.60	75.92	455.52
102684	Information Commissioner	Data Protection Fee	40.00		40.00
102685	DJ Ireland Groundworks & Paving Services	Front car park repairs	2600.00	520.00	3120.00
102686	NTS Partnership T/A Icení	Jubilee Gardens maintenance	65.00		65.00
102687	A Phillips	Expenses	17.25	3.45	20.72
102688	A Phillips	Salary	736.14		736.14
102689	HMRC	PAYE	235.79		235.79
		Total for month:	6371.84	1042.16	7414.00