

LONGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Longham Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Monday 21st January 2019 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr Sue Douglas (Chair)
Cllr Margaret Dye
Cllr Anne Kerry
Cllr Donna McLeod
Cllr Roddy McLeod

County Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris
District Cllr Robert Richmond
Two members of the public
Sheryl Irving (Clerk)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Phil Collins and D/Cllr Richard Duffield.

2. To receive any declarations of interest.

There were none declared.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19th November 2018.

Cllr Douglas proposed acceptance of the minutes as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr Kerry and agreed by Council. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

4. Meeting open for public participation.

In response to a query, the Chairman confirmed that the original BT Kiosk had been returned to its site.

5. To receive County and District Councillors reports.

C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris gave the following update:

The Government has provided Norfolk with £12.7M for road improvements which must be spent before March 2019; the B1145 at Rougham is currently being resurfaced and other projects are being considered.

The Government has provided Norfolk with an additional £11M to improve broadband for those properties which are on very poor signals and are difficult for normal fibre to reach.

The Government has provided Norfolk with £29M to create an additional 2800 care units, such as sheltered accommodation, which will alleviate the current bed-blocking issues. An additional £4.2M is also available to alleviate winter pressures.

The County Council is returning to the cabinet system and the elected leader of the Council will also be the Chief Executive. The current post holder has recently resigned.

D/Cllr Richmond gave the following update:

The council tax for 2019/20 will remain the same, this is due in part to the previous financial investments made by the Council. The annual increase for the Breckland precept of a Band D property is £4.95, with over 70% of properties being either Band D or below.

Grants are available for projects to alleviate loneliness and social isolation for the elderly.

Another Town and Parish forum is due to be held on 21st February where issues regarding the Planning Department will be discussed. Anyone is welcome to attend.

The Police had reported that recent arrests for drink/driving remained at a similar level to the previous year, however, there had been a large increase in drug/driving.

The Chairman thanked both councillors for their reports.

**6. To note any matters arising from the November minutes.
(not on this agenda and for information only)**

There were no matters arising.

7. To discuss planning issues:

a) Applications for consideration.

There were no applications for consideration.

b) Decisions to note.

- 3PL/2018/1324/F – New dwelling, land off Ostrich Lane – objections submitted (outside settlement boundary) – refused - this was noted by Council.

c) To discuss any new issues.

- 3PL/2018/0912/F – Proposed dwelling and garage – Land adjacent The Old Rectory – appeal to Secretary of State – to consider a written representation - Council agreed not to submit any additional comments as their previous comments will be taken into consideration.

8. To discuss Highway issues.

a) To receive updates on matters previously reported.

The following updates were noted:

- The sand/cement heap on Litcham Road had been removed.
- The pothole on the Wendling Road junction is scheduled for repair.

b) To consider any new issues.

There were no new issues raised.

9. To discuss any issues relating to the Playing Field.

There were no issues raised.

10. To receive a report regarding the refurbishment of the football pitch.

Council agreed to act as sponsors for the Village Hall (as it requires a Government body to support the application) in their application for grant funding to refurbish the football pitch. The Chairman reported that 50% funding had been obtained and the remaining 50% is available. There is no cost to the Parish Council.

11. To discuss issues relating to the Clay Pits.

There were no issues raised.

12. To consider registering land belonging to the Parish Council.

Cllr Douglas proposed that Council register the three plots of land at a cost of between £1,000 to £1,200, this was seconded by Cllr Kerry and agreed by Council.

13. To receive a report regarding the Village Hall.

There was nothing new to report.

14. To receive an update regarding the installation of a defibrillator.

The Chairman reported that she expected to be in receipt of the funds by the next meeting, at the latest.

15. To receive an update regarding the BT Kiosk.

The Chairman reported that the original BT Kiosk had been returned to its site, however, it had been purchased by an individual and was not available for the use of the Parish Council.

16. Financial Matters

a) To receive a financial report for the year ending 31st March 2019.

Council noted the financial report.

b) To approve the closure of the Barclays bank accounts.

Council approved the closure of the Barclays bank accounts and an appropriate letter will be sent.

c) To authorise financial payments as set out below:

Council approved the following payments:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| • Clerk – Salary/Allowance (Dec/Jan) | £224.40 |
| • HMRC | £22.40 |
| • Fransham PC (Election Training) | £4.00 |

17. Correspondence for circulation

- Norfolk Constabulary Newsletter – December issue – noted.
- Ward Gethin Local Council Budget Special - Council declined this offer of a legal service.
- Norwich Western Link Consultation - noted.
- NCC Briefing – Children’s Services - noted.

18. To receive any new items for the next agenda.

The following item was received for the next agenda:

- To consider the purchase of additional seating on the playing field.

19. To note the date of the next meeting which will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 18th March 2019 in the Village Hall.

The date of the next meeting was noted.

The meeting closed at 8.09pm.

Signed:

Date:
