

LONGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Longham Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 20th September 2021 in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Susan Douglas (Chair)
Cllr Donna McLeod (Vice Chair)
Cllr Margaret Dye
Cllr Roddy McLeod
Cllr Dawn Dewar
Cllr Clare Mitton
Cllr Paul O'Brien

County Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris
Sheryl Irving (Clerk)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from District Cllr Roger Atterwill.

2. To receive any declarations of interest.

There were none received.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19th July 2021.

Cllr Douglas proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting, this was seconded by Cllr Donna McLeod and agreed by Council. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

4. Meeting open for public participation.

There were no members of the public present.

5. To receive County and District Councillors reports.

In addition to his report (attached), C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris reported that the 50mph speed limit request would be included in a bid for funding from a £1M pot available for speed limit reductions in the county although, if approved, it is not likely to be put in place until 2022/23.

The Highways Engineer will be re-assessing the pull-in on Hoe Road and the report of mud on the road near to the pig farm will be dealt with.

The budget consultation process will soon commence and the County Council are likely to have to find savings of £39M.

6. Planning issues.

a) Applications for consideration.

There were no applications for consideration.

b) Decisions to note.

Council noted a decision had not yet been made on the following application.

- 3PL/2021/0894/F – Land adjacent to Southview, Hoe Road - the construction of a 1.5 storey, 3 bedroom timber framed dwelling (self build).

c) To consider a response to the 'Housing for Local People' presentation.

Following the presentation in July, Council agreed to investigate the Rural Exception Site scheme which could supply social housing for local people. A working party of Cllr Roddy McLeod, Cllr Dewar, Cllr O'Brien and Cllr Douglas will take the matter forward and report back once more information is available.

7. Highway issues.

a) To receive updates on matters previously reported.

- Speed Limit request – Litcham Road – this item had been dealt with at item 5.
- Flooding on Hoe Road – reported to Highways and no action to be taken at present time.

b) To receive an update regarding the pull-in on Hoe Road.

This item had been dealt with at item 5.

c) To consider any further planting around the Village Sign (Highways Land).

Council agreed to plant some bulbs and lavender plants around the Village Sign.

d) To receive a report regarding new permissive pathways.

Cllr Mitton reported that there was a lack of public footpaths in the village and road safety was a real issue for pedestrians. She proposed three possible routes, linking Hoe Road with New Road and New Road with Hall Green/Wendling Road. A third possibility could be to use the headland between High House Farm and the private track leading up to Spring Farm. The co-operation of the landowners would be required and Cllr Roddy McLeod reported that in respect of the first two routes, it was not likely to be granted but he will make enquiries.

In respect of the third route, Council noted that a bridleway used to exist in this area but it had been shut off some years ago. Council agreed to find the route of the old bridleway and, if necessary, make an application to add it to the definitive map. Historical evidence would be required but Council considered this would be easy to obtain.

Cllr O'Brien suggested a permissive path on part of the route to Honeypot Wood but Cllr Roddy McLeod suggested it was unlikely to receive permission from the landowners.

e) To consider any applications under the NCC Parish Partnership Scheme.

Council had no suggestions for an application for match funding under this scheme.

f) To consider any new highway issues.

There were no new highway issues raised.

8. The Playing Field.

a) To receive an update in respect of the football pitch resurfacing.

Cllr Roddy McLeod reported that the works to reseed and roll the pitch would commence the following week.

b) To receive the Annual Play Area inspection report and consider any actions.

Council noted the report and the issues raised would either be monitored in the weekly inspections or were either low or very low risk and no action would be taken.

c) To consider any new issues.

There were no new issues raised.

9. To receive an update regarding the Clay Pits (a county wildlife site).

Cllr O'Brien reported that a new person was now in charge of the Volunteer Group which had carried out the works earlier in the year and he would be meeting them on site to discuss the next stage, which was likely to take place in December .

Cllr O'Brien had been in touch with Beetley Primary School and they appeared keen to be involved in the project, with a meeting planned in the near future.

Council noted that an application had been submitted to Breckland for additional funding.

10. To receive an update regarding the Village Hall.

Council noted that improvements continue to take place and these had only been possible because of the Covid related grant received from Breckland.

11. To consider a parish council commemoration to mark the Queens Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

Council agreed to hold a village party and to plant a tree. This item will be removed from the agenda until nearer the date.

12. To consider any action in respect of the Climate Change Emergency.

The Chairman reported that there were lots of ideas available online and she would include an article in the next village magazine outlining what people can do locally to help combat climate change.

13. To receive a report regarding the Hastings Charity Land.

Cllr Roddy McLeod reported that the Charity had been set up to help single mothers in the village and had also assisted with coal for the needy. The Charity is now considering affordable housing but a lack of a committee is making this challenging to take forward.

14. To consider the installation of electric vehicle charging points in the village.

Cllr Dewar suggested that electric vehicles were unlikely to need an emergency charge in Longham and any residents with electric vehicles would have a charging point installed at home. That being the case, Council agreed not to pursue this matter.

15. Finance and Governance

a) To receive a financial report for the year ending 31st March 2022.

Council noted the financial report (attached).

b) To authorise financial payments as set out below.

Cllr Douglas proposed approval of the following payments, this was seconded by Cllr Donna McLeod and agreed by Council.

• Clerk – Salary/Allowance (Aug/Sept) & Expenses/HMRC Refund	£302.55
• Norfolk PTS (Training – Mitton & Dewar)	£100.00
• Play Area Inspection	£72.00
• Brisley PC (SLCC Membership)	£19.40
• Clerk – Essential Update Seminar	£6.50

16. Correspondence for circulation

Council noted the Draft Dereham Town Delivery Plan.

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

There were no new items received for the next agenda.

18. To note the next meeting of the parish council will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 15th November 2021 in the Village Hall.

Council noted the date of the next meeting and the meeting then closed at 8.44pm.

County Councillor for Necton and Launditch

Report for September 2021

Grass Cutting: The second cut of the year to highway verges and junctions was due to start on August 9th and when completed should have addressed all the inadequacies of the first cut of the year which was, quite frankly, a shambles. Please let me know if there are still problems in your area with the standard of the cut.

One Million Trees: Norfolk County Council (NCC) acknowledges that trees are a vital resource in combating climate change alongside rewilding for carbon sequestration. As reported previously NCC have committed resources to work with communities, landowners and partners to plant 1 million trees over 5 years which must amount to a net increase. NCC's tree planting scheme will work in harmony with the unique "Queens Green Canopy" initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. There are packs of trees and hedging plants available to parishes to "kick start" the project. If there is any interest, please contact me for further detail on how to apply. The planting season runs from November 2021 to March 2022.

Offshore Transmission Network (OTN): There has been a lot of discussion between our local MPs in both Norfolk and Suffolk and government ministers about the number and length of cable routes crossing both counties bringing wind generated electricity to connection points on land. To minimise ecological and commercial damage to the countryside an OTN has been proposed. The OTN would allow connection of all future wind farm electricity output to a cable system lying offshore which would only require one overland route to a connection point with the National Grid. NCC have been involved in the initial Offshore Consultation Project in 2020 and are currently responding to an OFGEM consultation which is asking for comments on proposals to amend regulations to allow the use of an OTN.

Hazardous Waste Amnesty: There is to be a hazardous waste amnesty at NCC's local recycling centres as follows; Dereham on September 18th and 19th (open 9am to 5pm) and Hempton (Fakenham) on 1st, 2nd and 3rd October (open 9am to 4pm). Details of the which items of hazardous waste are acceptable is available on NCC's website.

Highways: Despite the lack of revenue funding in NCCs coffers there is still some future capital available to put towards some highway schemes such as resurfacing (not surface dressing) and junction and other highway improvements. If you have any work that you would wish to be carried out, please let me know and I will submit the suggestion for inclusion in the long term capital budget.

Mark Kiddle-Morris

LONGHAM PARISH COUNCIL							
YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022							
FINANCIAL REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2021							
BUDGET UPDATE	Budget	To	%		Balance at 01.04.2021	11,378.18	
	2021/22	date	Spend		Plus Receipts at 31.08.2021	3,597.29	
					Less Payments at 31.08.2021	<u>4,034.56</u>	
PAYMENTS*					TOTAL	<u>10,940.91</u>	
Admin	1107	782	71%		Bank Balance at 31.08.2021		
Salary	1600	781	49%		Unity Trust Current Account	10,940.91	
Open Spaces	500	60	12%		Unity Trust Instant Access	<u>0.00</u>	
Donations	1925	1925	100%			<u>10,940.91</u>	
Defibrillator	0	28.00			including:		
TOTAL	5132	3547	69%		Clay Pits Reserve	3,810.33	
Clay Pit Reserve	4100	790			Village Hall Reserve	1,700.00	
					Football Pitch Resurfacing	3,000.00	
RECEIPTS					General Reserve	2,430.58	
Precept	6000	3000	50%				
Bank Interest	0	0					
HMRC	0	6					
Recycling	200	97	49%				
TOTAL	6200	3103	50%				
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	1068	-444					
<i>*includes payments awaiting approval on this agenda.</i>							