**Minutes of the Meeting of Neatishead Parish Council held on Thursday 16th February 2023 at 7.30pm at New Victory Hall, Neatishead**

**Present:** Cllr Michael Godfrey

Cllr Robert Hanger

Cllr Ben Mullard

Cllr Alex Craker

Cllr Jane Rutter

Laura Bateman Parish Clerk

**Also present:** Cllr Richard Price South Smallburgh Division

Cllr Nigel Dixon Chairman of Overview & Scrutiny Committee Conservative Group North Norfolk District Council

Tim Place Chairman R & JM Place LTD

Louis Baugh Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk

11 members of the public were in attendance

# Apologies

Cllr Dianne Pickering Neatishead Parish Council

Cllr Gerard Mancini-Boyle Deputy Leader Conservative Group North Norfolk District Council

# Declaration of Interest and applications for dispensations

Cllr Robert Hanger is trustee of The Poor’s Trust

# Minutes of the previous meeting

Amendment to the draft minutes of the meeting held on 19th January 2023 item 4 an update from district councillor to clarify new pipework was not currently being installed in Hoveton but plans were being discussed for this to happen in the future. Minutes were then amended and agreed.

Proposed Cllr Alex Craker, seconded Cllr Ben Mullard

# Public Speaking

1. County Councillor

Cllr Price updated the meeting on the memorial event for 70th anniversary of the East Coast floods. 550 people attended the exhibition and memorial service with money raised for the lifeboats.

Details of the levelling up budget for Norfolk can be found on the Norfolk County Council website in the Norfolk County Deal header. The estimated increase in council tax per household for Norfolk will be around 4.99%

MP Duncan Baker has successfully delivered 112 generators to Ukraine and was currently completing his return journey.

It has been established that the bridge at Potter Heigham can be repaired but the decisions on this lay with Historic England.

The suitability of the location of tree saplings that were planted at Burton Turf has been raised as an issue and has been passed to Highways to investigate.

District Councillors

The District Councils budget will probably see council tax rise by approx. 2% but a decision was not being made until next week.

Cllr Nigel Dixon asked for feedback regarding Serco’s performance with bin collections following their poor start with providing the service. All comments received were positive.

Cllr Mancini-Boyle submitted a report read out by the clerk: NNDC early intervention team has been set up to help vulnerable & families struggling. The email address is intervention@[north-norfolk.gov.uk](http://north-norfolk.gov.uk/)

NNDC are launching a house hold battery collection scheme for them to be left out in a clear bag on top of the bin. Dates when this would be rolled out to be confirmed

Public

A member of the public asked if there were any long-term strategic plans for the management of the medieval bridge at Potter Heigham and Wroxham as there were concerns the bridges would not sustain the increase in volume of traffic going forward. Cllr Price confirmed Highway officers were working with residents to discuss the best ways to preserve the Potter Heigham bridge including weight and speed restrictions. Cllr Dixon stated he was not aware of any long-term strategic plans for Potter Heigham or Wroxham bridge only maintenance plans. Other discussions regarding bridges outside of the parish briefly were mentioned and Cllr Dixon confirmed there were no strategic plans for a bypass.

# Planning Application PF/22/2249 - Neatishead - Land South Of, Norwich Road, (near Cangate)

Tim Place Chairman of R & JM Place apologised for not attending a meeting prior to now but it had not been clear when the application would be validated. Tim gave a talk on the necessity of the planning application for the survival of the local farming industry. Local farmers had their irrigation licences revoked resulting in having no facility to water crops. The reservoir was a joint initiative by five farmers to sustain their crops in the summer months by storing the water from the winter. The site had strategically been chosen away from properties and would be screened by woodland. The earth provided a clay layer to use as a natural lining to the reservoir.

Louis Baugh, project partner, added that boreholes in the Broadland area were planned to be closed. Anglian Water could counteract this by using water from Lincolnshire for residential use but local farmers did not have this option. The reservoir was the only way water could be supplied to the local farms. Louis reassured the meeting that the levels of water were controlled and set to a maximum and the history of non-impounding reservoirs such as this failing was non-existent. An independent reservoir engineer to oversee the project must be appointed and annual safety inspections have to be completed.

Parish Councillor and members of the public were given the opportunity to ask questions. A member of the public asked what assessments had been completed on the drainage in Cangate to counter any possible flooding risks. Tim explained that the land in question did not belong to him so he could not do anything regarding the drainage but was confident flooding was not going to be an issue as the reservoir would not fail. Louis added that it was landowners’ responsibility to provide suitable drainage and for the drainage to be kept clear and a collective approach was needed for routine maintenance.

Cllr Michael Godfrey noted the hard work that had been put in to the application but voiced residents’ concerns over the laying of the pipeline and the flooding effect that the backfill may cause. Tim explained that the excavated ditch for the pipe was much smaller in comparison to other industrial pipework operations so the backfill would not be an issue.

Cllr Alex Craker asked if the safety history of these reservoirs were based on a substantial number of reservoirs installed over various landscapes. Louis confirmed there were many of these reservoirs nationally; they were not a new concept. There is a national independent panel of engineers who oversee design and construction.

A member of the public asked how many employees Tim had, he confirmed 106 full time and a further 400 seasonal employees and that the produce was distributed through wholesalers.

Cllr Robert Hanger thanked Tim and Louis for the effort to keep the local farming industry surviving.

Councillors voted on the planning application

Proposed Robert Hanger Seconded Michael Godfrey, all in favour.

The chairman moved item 9 on the agenda to keep all planning applications next to each other on the agenda

# 9. Planning

1. New Applications (North Norfolk District Council)
2. PF/23/0209 - Erection of amenity and facilities building for use in association with touring caravan site | Caravan Site Street Hill Farm The Street Neatishead Norwich Norfolk NR12 8XG
3. PF/23/0210 – Erection of agricultural building | Street Hill Farm The Street Neatishead Norwich Norfolk NR12 8XG
4. PF/23/0211 - Demolition of existing garage, conversion of outbuilding to ancillary residential use and change of use of land to residential curtilage. | Street Hill Farm The Street Neatishead Norwich Norfolk NR12 8XG

There were three planning applications all related to Street Farm where the caravan site in the village is located. The applicant was in attendance and confirmed that the amenity building application was to enable the caravan site to be re-opened; it would offer attractive facilities for holiday makers and ensure the venture remained financially viable. Cllr Rutter asked if the machinery and vehicles for the agricultural building would remain in situ once they had been put there and the applicant confirmed they would.

There were no objections from the councillors for all three applications

Proposed Cllr Ben Mullard seconded Cllr Alex Craker all in favour

1. New Applications (Broads Authority)

None

1. Decisions and Appeals (North Norfolk District Council)

None

1. Decisions and Appeals (Broads Authority)

None

# Matters Arising – TO RECEIVE UPDATES

1. Jubilee/Commemoration Tree update

The tree had been successfully planted at the recreation ground, with a good turn out from local residents. Children from the school attended to help plant the tree. The tree surround was due to be fitted imminently but the support post may need moving for this to take place. Cllr Michael Godfrey offered to sort this if needed. Cllr Robert Hanger had applied to have the tree added to the Queens Green Canopy Map and a virtual plaque will be sent once processed that can be used on social media etc. Thanks were passed to Louis Baugh for officiating the occasion.

1. Appoint internal auditor

It was agreed Kerrie Wilton would be appointed as the internal auditor.

Proposed Cllr Robert Hanger Seconded Cllr Alex Craker

1. SAMS 2 update

The camera was currently on Irstead Road. The support of a 20mph limit around the school was mentioned and having a physical presence of enforcement occasionally was deemed a good idea to aid compliance. The camera would be passed back to Barton Turf at the end of the month.

# Maintenance Contract

It was agreed that ABC Landscaping would be given the contract for grounds maintenance again. It was also agreed that as long as the level of service was satisfactory then the yearly contract would go to the same contractor without the need for gaining three quotes from different companies. Every three years quotes would be sourced to ensure that the council were receiving good value for money. Clerk to draft contract agreement to send to ABC Landscaping. Also clerk to ascertain who is responsible for maintaining the green triangle opposite the school. **ACTION PARISH CLERK**

Proposed Cllr Ben Mullard seconded Cllr Michael Godfrey all in favour

# Maintenance

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| LOCATION | ISSUE | PROGRESS |
| Parish council car park | Posts are rotting and old | recycled plastic posts to be sourced |
| Staithe | holes in ground causing trip hazard | Assess on completion of BA works |
| Staithe | rotting wood and tree causing hazard | Assess on completion of BA works |
| Staithe | tap improvement | Cllr Hanger in discussions with plumber |
| Recreation ground | damaged keep dogs off sign | COMPELETED No longer required |
| Play area | two wooden posts need replacing | consider replacement |
| Allotment | broken fence | Try to repair, if not possible remove |

The council commented that the outstanding maintenance list had been reduced

significantly over recent months as jobs had been completed.

# Correspondence and consultations

EML received confirming road closure 15th – 26th May 2023 at The Street Neatishead for masonry repairs to the bridge following a road traffic collision. Clerk to confirm whether this includes closure for pedestrians **ACTION PARISH CLERK**

1. EML received from Norfolk County Council confirming Neatishead Restricted Byway 20 has been added to the Definitive Map and reads *Restricted Byway No. 20 (Common Road to Neatishead Footpath No. 2). Starts from a point on Common Road (U19071) at grid reference TG 3476 1954 and proceeds in an east north-east direction for approximately 488 metres to meet Neatishead Footpath No. 2 at grid reference TG 3525 1963. The width of the route extends between historic boundary features as indicated on the Ordnance Survey 1905 County Series second edition map and varies between 8 and 9 metres. Limitations and conditions None.* Clerk to feedback that the maps were not clear or accurate. **ACTION PARISH CLERK**

# Financial matters

1. Financial Update

**Main Account – Balance as at 11/02/2023 £1,000.93**

**Saving Account – Balance as at 11/02/2023 £4,551.06**

**Income**

09/02/2023 Lloyds Interest £2.32

**Payments**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 23/01/2023 | L Bateman | Salary/Expenses | £809.82 |
| 23/01/2023 | ABC Landscaping | Maintenance | £2,950 |
| 25/01/2023 | Anglian Water | Water | £38.00 |
| 08/02/2023 | Norfolk PTS | Training | £36.00 |

1. To consider payment of the following:

L Bateman Salary Jan - Feb‘23 24 hours @£14.48 £347.52

L Bateman Phone /WFH allowance/Stamps £22.90

Countrystyle Recycling Disposal of mixed glass £18.20

New Victory Hall Room hire January £19.00

Rob Turner Tree guard £650.00

Norfolk PTS End of year finances/new councillor £108.00

All agreed to be paid

Proposed Cllr Alex Craker Seconded Cllr Robert Hanger, all in favour

Up to date cashbook to be sent to all councillors at end of financial year

**ACTION PARISH CLERK**

# STAITHE

Broads Authority currently completing essential work in this area. Cllr Craker concerned regarding the restoration of the area including planting new grass which would take time to grow. Broads Authority to be contacted to request details of the plan for this. **ACTION PARISH CLERK**

# Play area

1. None

# OTHER matters

1. None

# Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 16th March 2023 7.30pm Victory Hall, Neatishead

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

**CHAIRMAN**