

Minutes of the Neatishead Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 21st November 2024 at 7.30pm at New Victory Hall, Neatishead

Present: Cllr Robert Ferrier-Hanger (Chairman)
Cllr Michael Godfrey (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr Daniel Moulton
Cllr Ben Mullard
Cllr Jane Rutter
Parish Clerk Laura Bateman

Also present: 1 member of the public

1. Apologies

Cllr Richard Price – South Smallburgh Division, Norfolk County Council
Cllr Gerard Mancini-Boyle, District Councillor Hoveton & Tunstead Ward
PC Matt Pritty – Norfolk Constabulary

2. Declarations of Interest and applications for dispensation

Cllr Ferrier-Hanger declared an interest in The Poor's Trust. Cllr Ferrier-Hanger and Cllr Mullard declared an interest in Item 9b as they are both friends with the contractor, however this would not impinge their ability to make a fair and unbiased decision.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2024 were AGREED as an accurate record. Proposed Cllr Rutter, seconded Cllr Moulton, all in favour.

4. Public Speaking

a. County Councillor

The clerk read a report submitted by Cllr Price. In regards to the visibility splay at the village hall, he confirmed the hedge is a private asset and the responsibility of the landowner if it were to be cut back. Lowering the bank could qualify for funding support from his personal Highways and Environment Budget, although this would need to be assessed by a highways engineer and a local designer. If the parish council wish to proceed with this, they would firstly need to commission a tree expert to assess any damage that could be caused to the tree on the bank.

b. District Councillors

No report was submitted for the meeting

c. Police

No report was submitted for the meeting

d. Public

There was no public speaking

5. Planning

a) New

Application PF/24/2271 The Bungalow, Allens Farm School Road, Neatishead was considered. It was favourably noted the plans of the proposed extension were smaller than that previously submitted under application PF/24/1539. It was agreed to submit a neutral stance with no comments.

b) Decisions

The decision to refuse PF/24/1539 The Bungalow, Allens Farm School Road, Neatishead was noted

c) Appeals

There were no new planning appeals to discuss

6. Matters arising

- a) Cllr Price had confirmed funding for street furniture was not permitted under the Parish Partnership Scheme.
- b) Steve Cullington had visited the proposed site for the new defibrillator to provide a quote for the installation of the machine, however had not had time to submit the figure prior to the meeting. The clerk will update the council on receipt of the quote and will try to arrange for a second quote for comparison ready for January's meeting. **ACTION Parish Clerk**
- c) Approximate costings of an interpretation board at the staithe had been received at £1200 for the map, board content and graphics and a further £1200 for the structure. There was a consensus this was too expensive for the parish council to fund but they would support the Community Heritage Group in seeking possible funding opportunities. Cllr Ferrier-Hanger would continue discussions with the Community Heritage Group in the new year.

7. Maintenance, risk assessments and other matters of parish council land

- a) The hoses and water had been turned off at the staithe. The taps required repair and would be added to March's meeting agenda for action.

A mooring post at the staithe was reported as broken. The clerk would report to the Broads Authority for action. **ACTION Parish Clerk**

- b) Cllr Rutter reported the swing bolts kept working loose and the flooring under the gate at the entrance still required levelling. Cllr Ferrier-Hanger would try and resolve these issues. The annual playground inspection was due imminently and the findings would be given consideration. The clerk would try and contact Kamco regarding the zipwire inspection enquiry previously sent. **ACTION Parish Clerk**
- c) A replacement clear up your dog mess sign, had been ordered and would be delivered to Cllr Ferrier-Hanger's address.
- d) A quote for £300 to remove and dispose of the tree that is leaning against a residents fence on the recreation ground was approved. Proposed Cllr Ferrier-Hanger, seconded Cllr

Godfrey, all in favour. The clerk would first request The Poor's Trust permission to remove the tree, before instructing the contractor.
ACTION Parish Clerk

- e) Cllr Rutter provided details of the rubbish left on the allotment plots. The annual invoices for allotment rent are due to be sent, so the clerk would include a polite reminder to all allotment holders to ensure rubbish is disposed of promptly.
ACTION Parish Clerk

f) The school green: No issues to report

g) The village hall car park: No issues to report

8. Other matters

- a) Cllr Rutter provided an update on the SAM2 data recorded whilst on School Road.

- b) A member of the public had reported concerns regarding vehicles from the business park driving too fast. It was acknowledged this had been an ongoing issue for a number of years and the parish council had previously spoken to the businesses on the park about the concerns. The clerk would liaise with PC Matt Pritty as this is a police matter that the parish council have no power to enforce. Cllr Rutter would analyse the historic data from SAM2 to identify any potential patterns.
ACTION Parish Clerk & Cllr Rutter

- c) The council discussed a request to improve the visibility splay at the village hall car park exit and agreed it could be improved but were reluctant to reduce the size of the bank. The possibility of reducing the height of the hedge was considered and although not ruled out completely, it was decided the initial action would be to replace the mirror opposite the exit that was currently unusable. The clerk would contact Cllr Price to progress this further. Whether the entrance was classed as a concealed entrance and required a sign would also be investigated.
ACTION Parish Clerk

- d) The clerk provided an update on planning enforcement at the former RAF base. North Norfolk District Council planning department had served notice to the proprietor to apply for retrospective planning permission for the developments at the site.

- e) The clerk informed the meeting the public inquiry over the disputed permissive footpath from Three Hammer Common to Alderfen Broad, had ruled in favour of the footpath remaining open.

9. Financial Matters

- a) The draft budget was considered. It was agreed the precept should not be increased due to high increases the past two years. Some amendments were discussed which the clerk would action and present the final draft at January's meeting.
- b) It was AGREED to award the grass cutting contract for 2025 to ABC Landscaping as the quality of the work carried out previously has been excellent and the price is very competitive. Proposed Cllr Moulton, seconded Cllr Ferrier-Hanger, all in favour.

The clerk would notify the contractors who provided a quote of the council's decision.

ACTION Parish Clerk

- c) The payments made and received were noted. Cllr Rutter stated she had collected £175 for water donations which she would be banking imminently and she would remove the donation box for the winter.
- d) It was AGREED the invoices due were to be paid.
Proposed Cllr Rutter, seconded Cllr Mullard, all in favour.

10. Correspondence

- a) The latest Broad's Briefing was noted.
- b) The North Norfolk Planning Consultation on the Local Plan was noted.
- c) The latest Broadland Future Progress newsletter was noted
- d) The Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan Consultation was noted.

11. Any other business

A letter had been received from the land owner who permits the use of a footpath on his land from Slaughter House Corner. The letter raised concerns the footpath is dissected by the parish council car park at the village hall, which has no entry point for pedestrians to continue their walk, forcing them onto the road. The request was for the parish council to open up the car park boundary to allow pedestrians to continue walking off road and maintaining their safety. The council agreed the safety of pedestrians was important and would consider this matter in full at the January meeting. The cost and health and safety of the path running through a car park would need consideration. The clerk would contact Cllr Price for advice.

ACTION Parish Clerk

12. Date of next meeting

Thursday 15th January 2025 at 7.30pm in the new Victory Hall, Neatishead

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

CHAIRMAN