

Minutes of the Neatishead Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 20th February 2025 at 8.00pm in the New Victory Hall, Neatishead

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

Also present: Cllr Gerard Mancini-Boyle, District Councillor Hoveton & Tunstead Ward
3 members of the public

1. Apologies:

Cllr Michael Godfrey (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr Richard Price – South Smallburgh Division, Norfolk County Council
PC Matt Pritty – Norfolk Constabulary

2. Declarations of Interest and applications for dispensation

Cllr Ferrier-Hanger declared an interest in The Poor's Trust.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2025 were AGREED as an accurate record.
Proposed Cllr Moulton, seconded Cllr Rutter, all in favour.

4. Public Speaking

a. County Councillor

Cllr Price had previously circulated his annual parish report to the Council.

b. District Councillors

Cllr Mancini-Boyle reported North Norfolk District Council (NNDC) had agreed to impose a 100% council tax charge on second homes. NNDC would receive 25% of the funds generated which will predominantly be used to provide affordable housing and temporary accommodation. He confirmed there would be no county elections as planned this year, due to the start of the devolution process. The geographically boundaries of the new authorities is currently only speculation at the moment, but a plan has to be submitted to central government by September 2025 for consideration.

The plan to extend the Western Link has been halted; however central government may push the plans through despite this.

NNDC is currently in deficit of £12million which is likely to rise to £16million.

He requested that details of the community connectors be published on the website.

c. Police

No report was submitted for the meeting.

d. Public

No participation from the public.

5. Planning

a) New applications:

i. **BA/2025/0036/TCAA - The Moorings & Nancy Oldfield Trust, Irstead Road, Neatishead.** Proposal: T1: Oak - Crown reduction of 2m. T2-T6: Silver Birch - reduce crowns to previous reduction points. No objections were raised.

ii. **RV/25/0187 - The Bungalow Allens Farm School Road Neatishead Norwich Norfolk NR12 8BU.** Two storey extension to dwelling including alterations to roof without complying with condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission PF/24/2271 to allow raising of eaves and enlargement of dormers to facilitate more usable floor space in loft. No objections were raised.

b) Decisions and Appeals:

None received

6. Matters arising from the last meeting

- a) The electrical contractor for installing the new defibrillator machine has undergone a change of management, causing delays in scheduling the work. They will book the job as soon as possible.
- b) Cllr Rutter reported that she had assessed the continuation of the permissive footpath through the parish council car park and explained an alternative route, which could require significantly less work. The clerk would email the landowner to ascertain his thoughts and if amenable, a quote would be requested from ABC Landscaping. **ACTION Parish Clerk**
- c) Cllr Ferrier-Hanger will assess the entrance to the village hall car park to see if the hedges could be cut back further to improve visibility. The resident opposite the entrance would prefer the replacement mirror remain in its current location, but this does not help vehicle users when leaving the car park. Cllr Moulton has a replacement mirror that can be used when needed. **ACTION Cllr Ferrier-Hanger**
- d) It was agreed the Clerk would purchase a new compatible printer to enable the ink subscription service to be used, which would save money on expensive ink cartridges. Proposed Cllr Ferrier-Hanger, seconded Cllr Rutter, all in favour

ACTION Parish Clerk

7. Maintenance and risk assessments

- a) Cllr Ferrier-Hanger and Cllr Moulton would visit the Staithe to address some maintenance issues. A working party, formed outside of the Parish Council, would also complete some tidying of the area. **ACTION Cllr Ferrier-Hanger/Cllr Moulton**

- b) It was agreed NGF Plays' quote for the maintenance of the zipwire would be accepted. The full inspection of the basket swing and standard swings would be planned for a later stage as these had not been highlighted as urgent on the annual inspection report.
Proposed Cllr Ferrier-Hanger, seconded Cllr Rutter, all in favour. **ACTION Parish Clerk**
- c) Cllr Ferrier-Hanger would put up the new dog litter sign in the car park along with a sign that had previously been designed by the school to encourage litter picking.
ACTION Cllr Ferrier-Hanger
- d) It was noted that whilst the compost disposed of on the recreation field was still in situ, it had been spread neatly and in time nature would dispose of it, so no further action was required.
- e) It was noted there was still some rubbish on the allotment pitches that needed moving and one pitch that appeared to be being unused. This would be monitored.
- f) The bench on the school green would need replacing in the future as was becoming well worn. The bench would be monitored for safety and removed if it became dangerous.
- g) There is a pothole in the car park at the village hall that needs filling. Cllr Ferrier-Hanger would try to fix this issue.
ACTION Cllr Ferrier-Hanger

8. Other matters

- a) The SAM2 camera has been positioned on School Lane, but it is too early to pull data for analysis.
- b) The request for a sign at the Staithe to inform dog walkers that bagged dog poo can be put in the main bin was agreed. Clarification was needed on exactly what the Council was paying for in terms of bin emptying in the village and then an informed review of this service can be made.
ACTION Parish Clerk
- c) The request for a sign at the allotments asking people not to walk over the pitches was considered. It was agreed that a sign would not resolve the issue. However, the Clerk would write to allotment holders to inform them that they can put up their own signs on their pitches if they wish.
ACTION Parish Clerk

9. Correspondence

- a) The draft response to a complaint letter received regarding the precept increase for 2024-2025 was agreed with a minor amendment to clarify the actual percentage increase per property.
- b) It was agreed the Council would abstain from voting on the Norfolk Association of Local Councils (NALC) proposal to change from a co-operative society to a company limited by guarantee as not enough details were known regarding the implications of such a change.
- c) The welcome letter from the new county officer of NALC was noted.

10. Finance

- a) The financial update was noted.

An invoice for one allotment pitch had been issued with the incorrect sum of £22. The Clerk would email the allotment holder to request they either bank transfer the money or an extra £2 will be added to next year's invoice.

ACTION Parish Clerk

- b) The payments due were agreed to be paid. Proposed Cllr Ferrier-Hanger, seconded Cllr Moulton, all in favour.

11. Date of next meeting

Thursday 20th March 2025 at 7.30pm in Neatishead Primary School, Neatishead

The meeting closed at 9.12pm

CHAIRMAN