

BEIGHTON WITH MOULTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 12th January 2021 via Zoom at 7.30 pm

Present: Joseph Wright (Chairman), Ivan Cator, Valerie Mack, Kathleen Ashcroft, Edgar Matthews, Allan Wright, Sophie Young, Jessica Jennings (Clerk)

Plus Brian Iles (County Councillor), Grant Nurden (District Councillor) and 2 members of the public.

1. Attendance:

All present, no apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations: None

3. Public Forum

3.1 County Councillor's Report –

- Communication has been a problem for NCC, as so many officers are working from home and it's proved hard to get hold of the right person. Also, many have virus symptoms and are therefore restricted in their duties.
- Schools have marginally improved, based on the latest report. Problems have been identified and solutions put forward. Norfolk has a history of problems relating to children's education, due to many coming in to the County from outside areas, who are often very disturbed, which has an impact on cost – approx. £200,00 p.a. per child. NCC is legally liable for the costs.
- Holt Hall – NCC will stop running it and it will probably be sold but there is a 6 month restriction in place whilst all options are looked at. The service will be bought by a private provider.
- Adult social services are doing reasonably well but is another large cost to NCC. There are a lot of older people in the County and many people retire here which has a knock-on effect on the use of services and related costs.
- Budget – the savings that need to be made are going to plan.
- Highways has continued to be very productive and efficient, having dealt with a huge number of reported problems. Any flooding issues or other problems, either let Highways know direct or go via Brian or the Parish Clerk.
- County Farms is a problem at the moment but is NCC's biggest asset. Pledged not to let the estate go below 16,000 acres, and currently have over 17,000 acres. Important to encourage younger people to farm. The extra acreage allows parts to be sold off, e.g. barns for housing which provides an income. 2020 saw over £6.5m generated from sales, and also a £2m income from County Farms – used towards services.

3.2 District Councillor's Report

- Grant emphasised the fact that the Coronavirus situation is very close to us all, using a case in Freethorpe to demonstrate this, who had been found by the Track and Trace scheme.

- The most recent Scrutiny Committee meeting can be viewed on Broadland DC's website on YouTube.
- There are Covid related Discretionary Grants to help support businesses affected by Covid, details of which are on Broadland DC's website.
- BDC will be considering a recommendation by the Greater Norwich Growth's Board to publish the GNLP Strategy and Sites document. If approval from all 4 local planning authorities is given, it will be published in Feb 2021 to allow representations to be made on the plan. First draft to be available for public comment from 1st Feb to 15th March 2021. All details can be found on the GNLP website.

3.3 Village Hall Report

- Ed Matthews explained that there have been no events or meetings, except the September Parish Council meeting, and the hall is still on Lockdown.

3.4 Public Participation – Dawn Borrett (Parishioner) raised the fact that Broadland DC had only sent letters to a select number of parishioners about the Poultry Unit and felt that not enough people knew about the application. Clerk responded that applications are now put on the Website & Facebook page. The importance of parishioners looking on the noticeboards was emphasised, as these are the places where a lot of information is put. Peter Howell (the other attending parishioner) told of the difficulties of contacting Broadland DC by phone on the number provided on their notice about the application. Grant Nurden explained that Broadland DC had experienced a serious issue with their telephony system which led to 15-20% of calls being abandoned. They now have a new system in place and abandoned calls have been reduced to 2%.

4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2020 were agreed to be a true and accurate account and it was resolved that the Chairman sign them.

4.2 Clerk's Report

- Clerk reported that the VAT for the period May to November 2019, equalling £214.98, has been reclaimed and credited to the bank account.
- The Poors money, due to the Coronavirus situation and delays in Lloyds Bank processing the changes to administration of the bank account, will be delayed in reaching beneficiaries this year. As soon as it can be processed, it will be delivered. Councillors were asked to let anyone who contacted them about it know.
- Since the last meeting, the application to the Parish Partnership Scheme has been submitted for re-doing the path at Beighton Church. The estimated cost given by Highways is £1,800 which, based on a 50/50 division of costs, would mean the PC would only pay approx.. £900. Any VAT costs can be claimed back. If the application is not successful, the PC will return to Beighton Builders for a gravelled path at approx. £921 +VAT. Notification of success or not should be received in March.
- More dog fouling signs have been requested from Broadland DC but not yet received. Notices reminding people to clear up after their dogs have been put on the Website and Facebook page. Once signs received, they will be distributed.
- Contacted Planning at Broadland DC to request that they amend the address they had for "Poplars" from Beighton to Moulton on the application submitted for that address.

- Clarion Housing are in the process of doing a feasibility appraisal on the disposal of the land behind Hopewell Gardens, the result of which won't be available until the end of January at the earliest .

5. Correspondence of Note

- Broadland Community at Heart Lottery – Broadland DC have asked for details of local charities / good causes that might benefit.
- Information Commissioners Office (I.C.O.) – have collected the annual Data Protection Renewal fee by direct debit.
- The Broadland DC Overview & Scrutiny Committee requested an inclusion on the Agenda (see 8.2).

6. Planning

None

7. Finance

7.1 The following payments were agreed:

Norfolk Pension Fund	December / January	£ 100.40	Bank Transfer
Jessica Jennings	December / January Wages	£ 318.24	Bank Transfer
HMRC	December / January	£ 66.60	Bank Transfer
	Total:	£ 485.24	

Payment made since last meeting:

Jessica Jennings	October / November Wages	£ 318.24
HMRC	Income Tax Oct/Nov	£ 66.60
Norfolk Pension Fund	October / November	£ 100.40
Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreaths x 2	£ 60.00
	Total:	£ 545.24

Receipts:

Lloyds Bank	Interest	£ .23
HMRC	VAT Reclaim	£ 214.98
	Total:	£ 215.21

Bank Balance as at 30 th November	£ 5,423.14
Outstanding Payments	£ 485.24
Receipts	£ 215.21
Projected Balance	£ 5,153.11
Business Account Balance	£13,584.43
TOTAL FUNDS:	£18,737.54

8. Items for Discussion

8.1 Broadland DC Overview & Scrutiny Committee – they had contacted the Parish Council outlining their purpose, which is to overview and scrutinise any Cabinet reports, decisions, Council recommendations, policies and partnerships. The Parish Council were asked if they had any suggestions for the Committee to consider. After discussion, no topics were raised for suggestion and there was uncertainty as to how this applied to the Parish Council.

8.2 Litter Signs – carried over from November's meeting. This was discussed further and it was felt that the proposed type of litter sign that could be placed in the Village Hall car park was

possibly too provocative and may actually encourage more litter dropping as a result. However, it was agreed that litter is a big issue. There is CCTV recording of a litter dump which will be passed to Broadland DC for them to follow up. It was decided to place more litter signs, with a strong message and a warning that there is CCTV but without provocative text. Clerk to investigate suitable signs and report back to Councillors. On the positive side, it was reported that there were some people seen picking up litter along the main road; the Parish Council are very grateful to whoever that was.

8.3 Village Hall – due to the ongoing Coronavirus situation, the Village Hall bank balance has decreased and there is concern from the Committee over its ability to carry on paying bills such as insurance, electricity, water if this continues. On discussion, it was suggested that the Village Hall Committee look at applying for grants to help them, such as the Local Restrictions Support Grant (LRS) which is awarded by Broadland DC. Other grants may also exist and the Committee are encouraged to look at and apply for more. Grant Nurden suggested that they explore the Community at Heart Lottery which has just started and approach them for funding. Clerk to e-mail all details to Village Hall Committee.

8.4 Operation London Bridge – Location for Copper Beech. Item rolled over to next meeting.

9. Items for Next Agenda / Information:

- Footpath issue at the steps that go up to the Elizabethan house in Lingwood. Val to send Clerk details so it can be reported to Highways.
- Potholes in Beighton on Main Road – Val to send Clerk details to pass on to Highways.
- 3 potholes on the right hand side of the road at Cantley Cock – Clerk to report to Highways.
- Councillors requested that the Clerk get a subscription to Zoom as a step-up from the free version which, now all the free minutes have been used, is no longer suitable for meetings to be carried out effectively. Clerk to look at splitting the cost of an account with Halvergate PC.

With no more business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8.28 pm

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 9th March 2021, 7.30 pm, Beighton Village Hall (t.b.c.)

Signed:

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J. Wright (Chairman) Date: