



MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Thursday 19 November 2020 at 1930 2020/11

**Because of Coronavirus this meeting was held by email with members
corresponding together at the agreed time to work through the agenda**

Those Present: Polly Hanson-Smith, Jon Smith (Chairman), Kirsty Vaughan-Jones, Steve Vickers
Keith Leesmith (Clerk), Marie Strong (NCC), Richard Kershaw (NNDC) David Fennell (Homes for
Wells)

1) Apologies None

2) Declarations of Interest None

3) Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 17 September 2020 - Approved and signed

4) Reports

a) Norfolk County Council

Marie Strong had circulated a report which is appended to these minutes and appears on the website. During the meeting she added some items which KL has added to the original report.

b) North Norfolk District Council

Richard Kershaw had circulated a report which is appended to these minutes and appears on the website.

c) Parish Clerk

Keith Leesmith had circulated a report which is appended to these minutes and appears on the website.

5) Planning – any matters to hand

There were no planning matters for discussion.

6) To discuss outstanding matters regarding the affordable housing site

David Fennel had circulated a report which is appended to these minutes and appears on the website. Whilst the project is currently working very slowly, it is progressing.

7) To discuss the budget for 2021/2022 and fix the precept

KL had prepared a budget for the next financial year which was agreed. The precept would be £6000 – no change from the current year.

8) To discuss Boundary Commission (County Council) consultation

The Boundary Commission had produced a plan to re-allocate Parishes between County Councillors. This had resulted in a proposal that the Wells Councillor would be responsible for 24 Parishes instead of the current 20. KL and MS had discussed this before the meeting and produced a draft response which was approved. In this, objection was made to the increased area, and to the fact that some of the most distant Parishes are more likely to associate themselves with Fakenham or Holt rather than Wells. An objection was also made to the fact that in calculating the size of the area the number of residents were taken into account. However, second-home owners were ignored, and yet they can produce additional work for the County Councillor. It was suggested in the response that they should be included but perhaps they could be discounted by the same percentage that their council tax was discounted

9) To discuss speeding in the village

Prior to the meeting an email discussion had taken place between a resident and Councillors regarding speeding in Chapel Street. The discussion was summarised at this meeting. It was thought that physical means of slowing traffic ("entry gates") would be too expensive for the Parish, particularly as there was probably more speeding traffic in The Street and Binham Road, so they would require the same measures. It was thought that the only sensible solution was to form a Speedwatch group if a co-ordinator and enough volunteers could be found to operate it.

10) Financial Report & Accounts for Settlement

A bank reconciliation had been circulated to Councillors.

The following accounts had been paid since the last meeting:

Unity Trust Bank	quarterly bank charges	18.00
NNDC	second half of precept	(3000.00)
E-on	October electricity for street lights	27.56
Grounds Maintenance	September	100.00
Grounds Maintenance	October	100.00
E-on	November electricity for street lights	28.48
Parish Clerk	3 rd quarter salary & expenses	501.80
HMRC	3 rd quarter PAYE on above	23.40
E-on	September streetlights electricity	28.48

11) Minor Matters

A streetlight required attention near the bridge in Binham Road – KL would advise engineers.

K V-J said that she found the email meetings difficult and asked if it would be possible to use 'Zoom'. The trouble with this program was that it could only be used free for 40 minutes, which would not be long enough for most meetings. An annual license could be purchased for a little over £100 but this would be expensive if we were only going to use it once or twice. Also available were programs called "Microsoft Teams" and "Google Meet". We could investigate these before the next planned meeting.

12) Date of Next Meeting

Confirmed as 21 January 2021

The meeting closed at 2030