



MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Thursday 18 November 2021 at 1930

2021/11

Those Present: Polly Hanson-Smith, Jonathan Smith, & Steve Vickers.
Keith Leesmith (Clerk), Sammi Cooke (Reading Room)

1) Apologies Kirsty Vaughan-Jones, Richard Kershaw.

2) Declarations of Interest None

3) Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 16 September 2021 - Approved and signed

4) Reports

b) North Norfolk District Council

Richard Kershaw had sent apologies shortly before the meeting as he was still at a meeting elsewhere. He sent a short report, which KL read, as follows:

The Reef (Sheringham Splash replacement) is opening this month. It is a beautiful building. There is a video of it on the NNDC website.

Covid cases are dropping significantly in North Norfolk, which has the lowest rate in Norfolk.

The 60+ rate is dropping which is reassuring. 69% of booster doses have been delivered.

5 to 9-year-olds seeing an increase, caused by household transmission from older siblings.

NNDC now has a Director of Place and Climate in situ and are seeking improvements to planning performance already.

The next meeting of the North Norfolk Town and Parish Council Forum is on 29 November on Zoom.

c) Parish Clerk

KL had circulated a report to Councillors. This is attached to these minutes and appears on the website.

d) Homes for Wells/Flagship Housing – affordable housing site

Jane Berwick, the Chief Executive Officer of Homes for Wells had sent a report which was circulated to Councillors, is appended to these minutes, and appears on the website. KL had spoken to Richard Kershaw about the suggestion that equipment would not now be provided on the children's playground. He would speak to planners on the issue. Previously we had agreed to pay for grass cutting if the playground was equipped. It was resolved that we now withdraw this offer.

5) Planning Matters

There were no planning matters for discussion.

6) To discuss any developments re speeding in the village

JS had been unable to contact the parishioner who had raised this issue. However, the instance of speeding seemed almost to have disappeared and it was thought to be a “summer problem”. It was therefore decided to shelve any discussion until next year.

7) Proposal to apply for free trees to make Reading Room hedge (P H-S)

P H-S had thought that the offer from NCC of free trees was worth taking up. She had thought that a hedge could be established at the back of the Reading Room car park (south boundary). She and her husband would be prepared to plant the trees and look after them until they were established. The Reading Room committee had already discussed this and decided that people liked the view, which was currently on the south side, and felt that the trees would detract from this. Everyone thought it a good idea to plant some trees somewhere in the village but could not think of a suitable site. However, it was possible that a site might present itself when the new affordable housing development was completed.

8) To discuss budget for 2022/2023 and fix precept

KL had prepared a budget for the next financial year, which was agreed, and the precept was fixed at £6000 – no change from the current year. However, there was some discussion on the very high increases expected in the cost of electricity to operate the streetlights. The suggestion was made that they might be switched off between midnight and 5 AM. KL would enquire how much it would cost to fit timers to each light.

9) Financial Report & Accounts for Settlement

A bank reconciliation had been circulated to Councillors.

The following amounts had been paid since the last meeting:

a)	Bank charges – July to September	18.00
b)	Street lights – October	31.67
c)	Grounds Maintenance - September	110.00
d)	Street Lights – November	32.73
e)	Grounds maintenance - October	110.00
f)	Parish Clerk – 3 rd quarter salary and expense contribution	503.10
g)	HMRC – PAYE on above	119.60

10) Minor Matters

None

11) Date of next meeting

Confirmed as Thursday 20 January 2022 at 1930

The meeting closed at 2030