



2022/06

MINUTES of the ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Thursday 19 May 2022 at 19.43

Those Present: Richard Cole, Polly Hanson-Smith, & Steve Vickers

Keith Leesmith (Clerk), Michael Dalby (NCC)

Steve Vickers in the Chair until the arrival of Jonathan Smith

2. **Dates of meetings for the coming year**
Agreed as follows: 21.07.22 – 15.09.22 – 17.11.22 - 19.01.23 – 16.03.23 – 18.05.23
3. **Apologies** – Kirsty Vaughan-Jones
4. **Declarations of Interest** – None
5. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 March 2022** – Agreed and signed

6. **Reports**

Norfolk County Council

MD had previously circulated a report which is appended to these minutes and appears on the website. In addition he mentioned Ukrainian refugee children who were being provided with special help in schools, including interpreters.

Richard Kershaw arrived at this point

North Norfolk District Council

The numbers of Covid infections, which were previously available from central government, are no longer being supplied by them. It is known that infections are dropping but there are still staff shortages in local hospitals partly due to Covid. There is now also a shortage of pharmacists due to the virus, and this has been reported to the government. In North Norfolk there are currently 35 Ukrainian children in schools, and these are being given special help. 95% of Council Taxpayers have now been provided with the government's £150 rebate. Those that do not pay by direct debit have been written to, inviting claims. 66% of North Norfolk is currently affected by the *Nutrient Neutrality* rules, preventing housebuilding even if it has already received planning permission. (This includes the 950 homes on the edge of Fakenham). Unless this is solved quickly, it will put more pressure on those areas in which it does not apply. Efforts are being made by RK to get NNDC assistance in the provision of a playground at the proposed affordable housing site in the village.

Jonathan Smith arrived during the following and took over the Chairmanship

Parish Clerk

KL had previously circulated a report to Councillors which is appended to these minutes and appears on the website. In addition, he mentioned that 300 cyclists would be travelling through the village on Sunday 19 June, during the Wells Harbour Triathlon.

Homes for Wells/Flagship development

Jane Berwick had passed on a report from Flagship which does not promise the homes any time soon. RK is continuing to talk to the NNDC Housing Enablers to expedite them.

1) Election of Chairman including signing of declaration of acceptance of office

Jon Smith elected. He signed the declaration

7) To discuss any planning matters to hand

There were no new applications. A short discussion took place on the scheme to “rewild” the River Stiffkey between Wighton and Warham. Warham PC had been unable to comment on this as Councillors could not reach a consensus.

8) To agree the annual audit governance statement for the year 2021/2022

It was agreed that we could answer positively to all the questions in the Annual Governance Statement, and this was signed off.

9) To agree accounts for 2021/2022 and sign off audit statement

It was agreed that the accounts could be signed off for the year. Also, the *Certificate of Exemption* as we continue to have a turnover (well) under £25,000. These were signed off by the Chairman and Clerk.

10) to Consider appeal for funds to train a local first responder

The ambulance service is trying to recruit six first responders to work in the Wells area. But it has been discovered that if people apply, they then have to pay £55 for the training. An appeal has been made to local Parish Councils to sponsor the training of one responder. It was agreed that we would do so if enough responders were recruited.

11) Financial Report and accounts for settlement

A bank reconciliation had been passed to Councillors with agendas.

The following accounts have been paid since the last meeting:

Ground's Maintenance Contractor (March)	55.00
Norfolk Association of Local Councils – annual subscription	132.00
Binham Youth Group – donation	50.00
Ground's Maintenance Contractor (April)	110.00
Internal Auditor	25.00
Parish Clerk – 1st quarter salary and contribution to expenses plus backpay 2021/22	552.40
HMRC – PAYE 1 st quarter	131.40
Data Protection Fee	40.00

12) Minor Matters

Potholes reported at the last meeting had recently been filled.

No other matters

13) To agree date of next meeting

Confirmed as Thursday 21 July 2022

The meeting closed at 2028