



MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Thursday 19 January 2023 at 1930

2023/01

Those Present: Richard Cole, Polly Hanson-Smith, Jonathan Smith (Chairman), Kirsty Vaughan-Jones, Steve Vickers
Keith Leesmith (Clerk), Richard Kershaw (NNDC)

- 1) Apologies Michael Dalby (NCC)
- 2) Declarations of Interest None
- 3) Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 10 November 2022 - Approved and signed

4) Reports

a) Norfolk County Council

Michael Dalby had sent a report which was distributed to Councillors, is appended to these minutes, and appears on the website. In addition, he had emailed Councillors after sending them the report and said that details of the Norfolk devolution plan were on the NCC website. He asked Councillors to decide whether they liked the plan or not and to let him know. A short discussion followed. RK advised that four District Councils including NNDC were planning to bring legal action against NCC if the current plan proceeded, since they had not been included in any discussions and disagreed with the current form. It was agreed that we would advise MD that we were not in favour of the current plan, as we required more information before we could make any firm decisions.

b) North Norfolk District Council

The amount of money which the government pays NNDC will increase by 3% in the coming year. This is obviously considerably less than inflation, in addition to which they will no longer receive the "new homes bonus", which is currently £800,000. Some capital projects will probably have to be delayed because of this. However, the Environment Agency has awarded £14m to allow coastal protection work and to allow vulnerable homes to be purchased so that people can move elsewhere. Disappointingly we have received nothing from the levelling up process, the money seems to have been awarded on a political basis in most cases. Photo ID will be required for the forthcoming Parish and District elections. There is a specific list of acceptable forms of ID. Not all photo IDs qualify.

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 re affordable Housing Site.

Kia Gibbon from Flagship had sent a comprehensive report. This is attached to these minutes and appears on the website. Various investigations are continuing into sewage problems, and for the route of the sewage from the new development. Flagship do not intend to apply for planning permission to change the roof colour at present, as this would cause delays to the scheme. However, if any other changes need to be made, this alteration would be added. Regrettably it now looks as if the scheme will not be started until the summer (previously the spring). Highways and/or NNDC Planners should be looking at any changes to speed limits etc.

5) Planning Matters

There were no planning matters for discussion.

6) To discuss current position regarding Affordable Housing proposal

This was covered under item 4d

7) To discuss the increased cost of street lighting

Following the last meeting, KL had spoken to the lighting contractors, who had quoted £910 plus VAT as the cost of fitting timers to all the street lights. He had also spoken to the Norfolk Community Foundation who administer the Sheringham Shoal Community Fund. It should be possible to obtain a grant for the majority of the £910, the VAT is reclaimable. Because of the increased cost of electricity, unless we undertake this scheme it would be necessary to increase the Council tax. In order to claim a grant, the providers require us to undertake research to prove that residents agree with the process. It was decided that the best way of accomplishing this was to place a notice on the board, stating the case and asking people to contact a Councillor or the Clerk if they disagreed with it.

8) Financial Report & Accounts for Settlement

A bank reconciliation had been circulated to Councillors.

The following amounts had been paid since the last meeting:

a)	Ground's Maintenance including annual hedge cut on green	235.00
b)	Npower adjustment due to government subsidy	-15.00
c)	Npower November	27.43
d)	Bank charges October to December	18.00
e)	Npower December	31.52
f)	Clerk's Salary & expenses 4 th quarter plus backpay from 01/04/22	680.36
g)	HMRC – PAYE on above	163.60

9) Minor Matters

On the main Coast Road to Wells there are two areas where large puddles are forming which take some time to clear. This is dangerous in icy weather. Highways would be informed.

10) Date of next meeting

Confirmed as 16 March 2023 at 1930.

The meeting closed at 2025