

Minutes of Scarning Parish Council Meeting held in Scarning Village Hall on 17 October 2022

Present: S Bunn (Chair), T Abel, M Blackburn, C Farnham, C Geary, C Hewson. In attendance: Cllrs P Hewett and L Turner (Breckland Council) and Cllr W Richmond (Norfolk County Council) N Hartley (Parish Clerk). One member of the public.

Public Participation

It was noted that the village was looking free of litter. Cllr Richmond was asked when the Draytonhall Lane/A47 junction was to be resurfaced. He said the work has been rescheduled, no date set as yet. The Council was asked the position regarding cutting the hedge near the junction of Draytonhall Lane/A47 junction. Taylor Wimpey is obtaining quotes to carry out the work.

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Bradford, Mallard and Steward.

2 Reports from Norfolk County and Breckland Councillors

Cllr Richmond (Norfolk County Council) noted that work to repair the 'dips' in Dereham Road has been programmed. Members of the Parish Council will meet Cllr Richmond and the Highways Engineer on 10 November at the Village Hall.

Cllr Turner (Breckland Council) noted Breckland Council is offering Community Hot Spot grants of up to £2,000. Breckland Council is also offering household support grants. £1.6m has been released to purchase properties for the homeless. She noted that Swanton Morley has become the first Mindful Village in Breckland.

Cllr Hewett (Breckland Council) noted the calls for Local Plan sites has been extended to 1 December 2022. He noted that, contrary to newspaper reports, Breckland Council is not planning to build on all its land. He and Cllr Turner will keep the Parish Council updated.

3 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Farnham and Hewson declared an interest in the grant application to Scarning Playing Field Committee as they are trustees of the Playing Field Committee.

4 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on September 26, 2022 as a true and accurate record. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

5 Matters Arising

None.

6 Planning

6.1 Breckland Council decisions:-

Land at Railway Farm, Fen Road 3PL/2022/0950/F
Retention of three one storey detached holiday units with parking (retrospective)
Refused

7 Finance

7.1 The Council approved the following payments in accordance with the Budget:-

N Hartley, clerk's salary, £851.30
SCS Accounting, payroll services, £18
S Rockley, reimbursement for purchase of storage boxes for church porch, £17
S Goldsworthy, reimbursement for purchase of flowers for flower boxes, £24.50
Npower, street light charges, £273.14
Glasdon UK Ltd, bin post for Dereham Road/Chestnut Road, £115.57
RBL Poppy Appeal, Parish Council wreath, £50 (Section137)
TOP Garden Services, grass cutting in churchyard, £180 – July (Section 137)
TOP Garden Services, grass cutting in churchyard, £270 – Aug (Section 137)
TOP Garden Services, grass cutting in churchyard, £180 – Sept (Section 137)
TOP Garden Services, verge and grass cutting Blackthorn Drive play area (July), £531
TOP Garden Services, verge and grass cutting Blackthorn Drive play area (Aug),
£796.50
TOP Garden Services, verge and grass cutting Blackthorn Drive play area (Sep), £531

7.2 The Council had received the following payments-

S Eagle, annual rent for former Highway Surveyor's Land at Chapel Lane, £15
A Buckingham, annual rent for former Broadway Allotments, £375
Scottish Widows, interest on account, £14.61

7.3 The Council received a report of Actual Expenditure to Budgeted Expenditure

8 Clerk's Report

The Council received the Clerk's report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

9 Bank Signatories

It was **RESOLVED** to add Cllr Mallard to the Council's bank signatories.

10 Update on Water Meadows Lease

The Parish Council is awaiting a copy of the new lease from Breckland Council.

11 Grant Application of Scarning Playing Field Committee

Cllr Hewson explained that the Covid Restart Grant paid to the Committee can only be used in respect of the Pavilion.

Cllr Abel asked if the Parish Council could give the Committee £3,500 each year to spend on the upkeep of the playing field. It was noted that this is not possible, as the Parish Council is accountable for the expenditure of public funds and must be able to produce an audit trail.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve a grant of £3,100 to the Playing Field Committee toward its maintenance costs. The grant to be paid in April 2023.

12 Tree Preservation Orders Shipdham Lane Playing Field

The Council had received notification from Breckland Council of Preservation Orders to be placed on two oak trees on the edge of the Shipdham Lane Playing Field.

Cllr Hewson, Chairman of the Playing Field Committee, said the Playing Field Committee did not intend to fell the trees.

It was **RESOLVED** to appeal the Preservation Orders on the grounds of the health and safety of those playing tennis.

It was **RESOLVED** to include the trees on the Playing Field in the Parish Council's Tree Survey and for any works recommended in the report to be carried out by the Parish Council.

It was **RESOLVED** to carry out a survey of all the Council owned trees as soon as possible.

The Playing Field Committee will install signage.

13 Graffiti on Black Horse Close Bus Shelter

It was noted that there was graffiti on the bus shelter. The Council noted that as it had agreed to take no immediate action regarding the graffiti on another of its bus shelters, it will not take action to remove the graffiti at the Black Horse Close shelter, but will monitor the position.

14 Food Box in Scarning Church Porch

The PCC had purchased two boxes for donations. It was **RESOLVED** to call the scheme the Scarning Community Box. The boxes to be available in the church porch when the church is open. Councillors will provide some initial donations. Cllrs Geary and Farnham will liaise to produce a list of acceptable items based on the Dereham Food Bank. Cllr Geary will monitor what is in the boxes and take items to the Dereham Food Bank at the end of each week.

15 Litter Pick

The next Litter Pick will be on 5 November at 9am.

16 Items for Inclusion in the Next Agenda

Grant application of Scarning Fuel Allotment Charity.

17 Next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting will be in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on 21 November. The meeting will be simultaneously screened online.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.30pm.

Clerk's Report

A47/Fen Road Slip Road

Norfolk County Council has inspected and has cleared the ditches/drains.

The Broadway

Norfolk County Council has programmed to have the offlets cleaned and jetted (Job 222542). The Give Way sign will be repaired (222537). The Council is adding gabions under a Scheme, due to the cost. (Advised by William Richmond August 2022).

Dereham Road 'Dips'

The 'dips' were programmed (Job 222556 and 222555). Norfolk County Council says the work has been carried out.

Former Broadway Allotment site

Rent collected from the tenant.

Hedge Cutting Draytonhall Lane

Taylor Wimpey to obtain quotes re the request to cut back the hedge near the junction of Draytonhall Lane and the A47.

Highway Surveyors Land (Chapel Lane)

The tenant has signed a new lease commencing 30 September 2022 and paid the annual rent.

Litter Bin Chestnut Road/Dereham Road Bus Shelter

A new bin is to be installed. New post to be delivered.

WATER MEADOWS

Outdoor Fitness Rower

Norfolk Games & Frames has repaired the damaged rower.

Outdoor Fitness Equipment Sign

One of the signs has been replaced as it was damaged beyond repair.

Picnic Bench

One of the outer pieces on the picnic bench near the enclosed play area has been removed. A replacement part has been fitted.

Play Report Works

The Mansfields will carry out some of the works recommended in the annual report. NGF Play Ltd is to quote for the remainder of the works.

Slide

Damage to the base of the slide has been attended to and adjusted.