

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in Scarning Village Hall on 21 June 2021

Present: F Bradford (Chair), T Abel, S Bunn, C Druce, C Farnham, C Geary, C Hewson, T Mallard, M Steward. In attendance: N Hartley (Parish Clerk) Cllr W Richmond (Norfolk County Council). Two members of the public.

1 Co-option of New Councillors

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Cathy Geary and Tina Mallard to the Parish Council. Both signed the Acceptance of Office forms.

2 Public Participation

A minute of silence was held to the memory of former councillor Norman Eagle.

Andrew Hudson of Scarning Playing Field Committee explained that the Committee's mower needs to be replaced while it still has some residual value. The price of a new mower is between £25,000 and £30,000. A second hand mower is between £14,000 and £16,000.

Cllr Farnham was asked to put a notification in the Beacon that there will be additional traffic on New Inn Lane and other roads over the August Bank Holiday weekend due to an event at Hill Farm, Gressenhall.

3 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs P Hewett and L Turner (Breckland Council).

4 Report from Norfolk County Councillor

Cllr Richmond noted that the 50mph speed limit has been applied from Wendling. With regard to the bollards from the footpath at Draytonhall Lane, he explained that Norfolk County Council will leave these in place. He explained that there is a dropped kerb by the road and that this would not usually have a railing.

It was noted that the County Council had spread soil and grass seed over the footpath entrance at Scarning Fen and that this was not suitable. The Parish Council will contact Norfolk County Council.

5 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Abel in his Planning application (item 9.2 land at Pennymeadow Nursery).

Cllrs Farnham and Hewson as members of Scarning Playing Field Committee (item 6).

6 Scarning Playing Field Committee (re replacement mower)

It was **RESOLVED** that the Playing Field Committee should seek funding in addition to the funds set aside by the Parish Council towards the cost of a new mower, and once that funding is in place the Parish Council will release the £9,000 it is holding. The Committee was asked to complete a grant application form and to submit the requested information with it in respect of the mower, including three quotes for the mower.

7 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 5 May 2021 as a true and accurate record.

8 Matters Arising

None.

9 Planning

9.1 Parish Council comments sent to Breckland Council

Willow Pond Farm, Church Farm Lane
Single storey side extension

3PL/2021/0723/HOU
No objection

9.2 Applications considered

Land at Pennymeadow Nursery, Podmore Lane
New dwelling and garages with ancillary accommodation over

3PL/2021/0755/F

No objection, subject to a condition being added that the garages cannot be sold as separate dwellings.

Asam Investment Ltd, 3 Scarning Fen
Double storey side extension, installation of septic tank at rear of property

3PL/2021/0851/HOU

No objection, subject to the septic tank being considered suitable.

10 Finance

10.1 It was **RESOLVED** to make the following payments in accordance with the Budget:-

N Hartley, clerk's salary, £729.65

BHIB Ltd, insurance policy premium, £607.34

Norfolk Parish Training & Support, charring meetings course, £60

SCS Accounting Solutions, internal audit fee, £120

N Hartley, reimbursement for Council envelopes and stamps, £10.21

N Hartley, reimbursement for replacement key to Gorse Close gate, £4

Mansfield Fencing, install French drains at Water Meadows (Blackthorn Drive) and repair fence at Ted Ellis play area, £445

S Goldsworthy, reimbursement for flowers for flower boxes, £34.47

TOP Garden Services, cutting grass verges and water meadows, £531

TOP Garden Services, cutting grass in Scarning churchyard, £180

NGF Play Ltd, replace swing seat at Blackthorn Drive play area, £138.38

10.2 The following payments had been received:-

HMRC, Vat refunded to Parish Council, £5,058.43

The Willmaker, advertisement in the Beacon, £150

10.3 The meeting received a report of Actual to Budgeted expenditure

10.4 The completion of the internal audit was noted.

11 Standing Orders

It was **RESOLVED** to remove the temporary Standing Orders that were added to support the Coronavirus Act 2020.

12 Clerk's Report

The meeting received a copy of the clerk's report.

13 Parish Council Scanner

It was **RESOLVED** to purchase a new scanner/photocopier to replace the Council's existing photocopier. The existing copier will be offered to the school.

14 Green Lane

It was noted that Norfolk County Council will temporarily close Green Lane for three months from mid October and carry out works to repair the path. It was **RESOLVED** to apply to Norfolk County Council to change the status of Green Lane to a bridlepath/public footpath.

15 Speed Limit Change on Fen Road

It was noted that Norfolk County Council has declined the Parish Council's request for a speed limit change, but has programmed works to protect the bank at the junction of Fen Road with the Broadway.

Cllr Richmond will ask if safety barriers can be installed near the junction of the two roads. The Council requested if one of its members (Cllr Abel or Cllr Hewson) can meet the engineer.

16 Dereham Road Speed Limit

The Council considered a request to reduce the speed limit on Dereham Road. It was noted that a Speed Watch group is being established and that this may help reduce the speed of traffic.

17 Speed Watch Group

Cllr Hewson noted that paperwork for the group needs to be returned.

18 Bus Shelter (Parish Partnership Scheme) Dereham Road

The Council considered three quotes for the appointment of a contractor to install a new bus shelter on Dereham Road (near the Village Hall) under the Parish Partnership Scheme. It was **RESOLVED** to appoint GW Shelter Solutions.

19 Dereham Road Footpath

Cllr Farnham noted that the surface of the footpath from Black Horse Close to the village sign layby needs restoring/repairing. It was noted that the footpath is the responsibility of Norfolk County Council. Cllr Richmond will ask if the footpath can be restored/repared.

20 Replacement Tree in Beacon Lay by

The Council considered a proposal to plant a tree to replace the old Beacon in the village sign layby. It was **RESOLVED** to plant a tree in the autumn and for Cllr Abel to investigate suitable species and prices.

21 Village Appraisal

It was noted that a Village Appraisal can cost around £4,000 of which the Council would pay half. It was **RESOLVED** to canvas the views of residents in the Beacon and

on social media as to what improvements/additional facilities they would like to see in the parish.

22 Tree Planting

It was **RESOLVED** that councillors should identify suitable areas to plant trees.

23 Parish Tour

A date was set for 1 August at 3pm.

24 Litter Pick

The Council considered holding another litter pick as part of Norfolk Day. It was noted that in July the verges will still be overgrown. The Council will hold another litter pick in September/October.

25 Queen's Jubilee

It was **RESOLVED** to establish a Committee after July 19 when the current restrictions may have been lifted. Cllr Farnham will request volunteers through the Beacon.

26 Items for inclusion in the next agenda

To appoint a new member of the Water Meadows sub committee.

27 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on July 19.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.15pm.