

WHISSONSETT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Whissonsett Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 24th January 2019 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr Sally Dye (Chair)
Cllr James Daniels
Cllr Bruce Andrews

District Cllr Trevor Carter
County Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris
Two members of the public
Sheryl Irving - Clerk

1. Welcome and apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, apologies were received from Cllr Edge and Cllr Buckley. It was noted that the meeting had a quorum with three members in attendance and business could be conducted.

2. To receive any declarations of interest.

Cllr Daniels declared an interest in item 7a) Meadow House.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13th December 2018.

Following an amendment in respect of Cllr Bruce Andrews, who was not at the December meeting and had sent his apologies, Cllr Dye proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr Daniels and agreed by Council. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

4. Matters for information only (not on the agenda).

Advice had been received and a refusal letter had been sent in response to the request for a half acre allotment plot.

5. Open Forum for Public Participation.

A member of the public raised the flooding issue to the front of her house, however, this was an issue for Highways and C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris will take the matter forward.

6. County & District Councillors

C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris gave the following update:

The Government has provided Norfolk with £12.7M for road improvements which must be spent by March 2019; the B1145 at Rougham is currently being resurfaced and improvements at both the London Street and Stocks Hill junctions are among other projects being taken forward.

The Government has provided Norfolk with an additional £11M to improve broadband for those properties which are on very poor signals and are difficult for normal fibre to reach.

The Government has provided Norfolk with £29M to create an additional 2800 care units, such as sheltered accommodation, which will alleviate the current bed-blocking issues. An additional £4.2M is also available to alleviate winter pressures.

The County Council is returning to the cabinet system and the elected leader of the Council will also be the Chief Executive. The previous post holder had recently resigned.

The Chairman moved item 8 to this point in the meeting to allow the County Cllr to contribute.

8. To consider any Highways matters.

a) To receive an update re matters previously reported.

- Flooding in New Road – the gruts will be cleared by the Highway Rangers.
- London Street Junction resurfacing – now scheduled for completion.
- Potholes – repaired or scheduled for repair.
- Footpath 4 (adjacent to Rodwell Farm) – overgrown – still ongoing.
- East View Crescent – overgrown shrub/blocked grit box – C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris will take this matter forward and find who is responsible for the area.
- New Road/Springwell Road – exposed concrete drain cover – this had been repaired.
- Mill Lane – damage by Open Reach vehicles – a meeting had taken place and the Open Reach vehicles were now parking on the road rather than the verge, however, this resulted in passing vehicles having to drive on the verge instead. C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris will investigate the possibility of a pull-in.

b) To consider any new issues.

Cllr Daniels requested three 'dog mess' signs for the public footpath. Council approved the purchase up to a value of £60.00.

D/Cllr Carter gave the following update:

Grants are available clubs and groups etc for innovative projects to alleviate loneliness and social isolation, physical health and children's health, up to £3,000.

Breckland will share the waste collection service with Kings Lynn and North Norfolk Districts in the very near future, there will be no change in the service for residents.

The Local Plan is now expected by summer 2019, the Inspector had requested some changes i.e. more growth to be permitted in villages.

A Town and Parish forum is due to be held on 21st February and councillors are welcome to attend.

The Chairman thanked both Councillors for their reports.

7. Planning Issues

a) Decisions to note.

The following decisions were noted:

Application	Parish Council Comments	Current Breckland Status
3PL/2018/1069/F Halmdayle, London Street Proposed new residential dwelling.	Issues raised re access, turning and parking.	Refused
3PL/2018/1350/HOU 2 Orchard Close Proposed car-port extension to existing double garage.	No objections.	Approved
3PL/2018/1415/D Meadow House, Mill Lane Reserved matters.	No objections.	Undecided

b) Applications to consider.

3PL/2019/0022/VAR, Talbot House, London Street, Variation of Conditions – Council considered the application and agreed the following response:

The Council object to this application on the grounds that the removal of the reference to cumulative ground-space could result in an increase in both the size and number of dwellings permitted on the site. The Council objects to any properties over 1½ storey as they would not fit sympathetically with the properties in the surrounding area, which are all either cottages or bungalows. In addition, the Council considers any more than five properties to be over-development of the site.

At this point in the meeting the County and District Councillors left the meeting.

c) To reconsider how planning applications are dealt with by the Council.

It was agreed that all councillors should receive training in respect of planning and a session will be arranged in the near future.

8. To consider any Highways matters

This item had been dealt with earlier in the meeting.

9. To receive a report re the grass cutting contract.

This item was deferred to the next meeting as Council were still awaiting a suitable meeting date from the contractor.

An alternative contractor had expressed interest in tendering for the contract and this will be followed up.

10. To consider issues relating to the Play Area.

a) To receive an update regarding the Play Area regeneration project.

A questionnaire had been sent to all properties in the village to gauge the level of support prior to submitting grant applications for the project. The feedback received to date had been wholly positive. In addition, the proposed plan had been on display prior to the meeting where a resident had expressed concerns regarding privacy, however, it is likely these concerns can be addressed.

b) To receive an update regarding the resurfacing of the playing field drive.

One quote had been received and at least one other additional quote is required, this will be obtained.

c) To consider any other issues.

There were no other issues raised.

11. To consider any issues relating to the Allotments.

a) To receive an update regarding the recent request for two allotments.

The resident who had requested two allotments had not returned his signed contract, despite a reminder, and Council agreed to withdraw the offer.

b) To consider a request for one allotment.

Council approved the request for one allotment.

12. To consider meeting dates for 2019/20.

Council agreed to move the meetings from six-weekly on a Thursday to the second Monday in alternative months, commencing on Monday 13th May 2019, with the dates for 2019/20 as follows:

13th May, 8th July, 9th September, 11th November, 6th January 2020, 9th March and then 11th May.

13. To consider an updated Asset Register.

Council approved the updated Asset Register.

14. To review the Risk Assessment & Management Policy in respect of the SAM II sign.

Council approved the updated Risk Assessment and Management Policy and noted that a risk assessment had been drawn up for the operative of the Sam II sign.

15. Correspondence

- Norfolk County Council Children's Services – Briefing – noted.
- Ward Gethin – Legal Advice Offer – Council agreed this service was not required.
- Norwich Western Link Options Consultation Reminder – noted.

16. Finance & Governance Matters

a) To receive a financial statement for the year ending 31st March 2019.

The financial report was noted. The Chair reminded the Council that the annual domain fee of approx. £15 was due shortly, this was deducted from her personal account and she would reclaim the expense.

b) To approve the following payments:

Cllr Daniels proposed approval of the following payments, this was seconded by Cllr Dye and agreed by Council

- Clerk (Salary/Allowance – Jan) £123.40
- ICO (Data Protection) £40.00
- Contractor (Church Lanes resurfacing) £936.00
- Contractor (Play Area fencing) £810.00

17. To consider the co-option of a councillor to fill the vacancy.

A potential candidate had made contact with the Clerk and they have been asked to confirm they meet the criteria and to submit a CV, to include why they wish to be a councillor, which will be circulated to Council prior to the next meeting. Council will make a decision re co-option at the next meeting.

18. To receive any new matters for the next agenda.

There were no new matters for the next agenda.

19. To note the date of the next meeting – Thursday 14th March 2019 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The date of the next meeting was noted.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Signed:

Date:
