



Minutes No:
2024/79

Necton Parish Council

Minutes Parish Council Meeting held

Monday 9th December 2024 at 7.00 pm held at Necton Rural Community Centre

Parish Councillors (6) present:

Chair Bass, Councillors Fraser Bateman, Genine Curtis, Zsolt Fejer (arrived at 19.15, noting his lateness was given prior notice), Phil Hayton, and Alice Spain

Councillor Mark Jennings was not in attendance

Additional attendees:

Justine Luckhurst- Parish Clerk,
Norfolk County Councillor – Mark Kiddle - Morris

Members of the public – 2

Date: Monday 9th December 2024

Time: 7.00 pm

Place: Necton Rural Community Centre

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies received from Councillor's Hicks and Sisto

2. To receive any declarations of interest from Members & consider requests for dispensation

Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Necton Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

None received

3.To approve minutes of Council meeting of 11th November 2024

Proposed as accepted by Councillor Bateman, seconded by Chair Bass and agreed unanimously by all Councillors who were present at the November meeting.

4.Adjournment for public participation (10 mins)

This provides an opportunity for members of the public to raise questions about and comment on items on the agenda before the Council make decisions.

Nothing raised

5.Reports from:

Parish Clerk –

The Clerks report is attached to the minutes

Norfolk County Council, Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris

Report attached to the minutes.

Breckland Council, Cllr Nigel Wilkin

No report received.

Chair

We have had a great deal of rain this year causing many road puddles/ please would drivers be considerate and avoid splashing pedestrians when possible At this time of the year the yellow grit bins in the village are filled by the council. This grit is supplied for highway use only, to ensure pavements and roads are kept as safe and ice free as possible. This grit is not for use on paths or access to private dwellings.

Finally, the coffee mornings are back and will be held on the first Thursday of the month. The first one in 2025 is on February 6 and all Parish Councillors are welcome to attend.

Councillors

Councillor Curtis confirmed the Community Speedwatch sessions for November did not take place and further confirmed that the Speedwatch sessions would re- commence in March 2025

Councillor Bateman attended a Teams meeting held this week by Norfolk ALC. He attended as the PC's representative. He confirmed they are pressing ahead to vote for an EGM to be held in order for them to discuss their change in legal entity from a co- operative to a company limited by guarantee as per the advice they have received from National ALC. They also propose to discuss a possible change in their rules regarding member's data. Councillor Bateman confirmed he felt this was ambiguous as the member of NALC is Parish Council itself, not the individual Councillors. Councillor Bateman requested an agenda item be added for the next meeting to decide if the PC was happy for his details (as the PC representative) to be held by them.

He also confirmed that they recommended the PC join CPRE (The Countryside Charity) , this will be discussed at the next meeting.

6.To approve Bills made, to be made and approve late payments as necessary: To receive financial update and monthly reconciliation for consideration.

See separate payments list

Proposed as accepted by Chair Bass, seconded by Councillor Curtis and agreed unanimously

7.To receive the minutes from the NRCC meeting held on 25th November 2024

Received

8.To consider the quote received for the repairs at the play area and decide if these works should proceed and to decide if the reserve funds held for repairs should be used.

Chair Bass proposed the quote from Fenland Leisure was accepted, seconded by Councillor Fejer and agreed unanimously. Thereafter Councillor Hayton proposed that if funds were required to be transferred from reserves to cover the cost this could be undertaken as the time the Clerk felt was appropriate. Seconded by Councilor Spain and agreed unanimously.

9.To consider if recognition should be given to those who supported with the Neighbourhood Plan and if so what form this should take

Councillor Spain reminded the council of the enormous amount of hours and hard work given by three individuals who are not members of the PC and proposed they were given a voucher of £50 each by way of a thank you gesture from the PC and for these to be presented at the next PC meeting. Seconded by Chair Bass and agreed unanimously. Councillor Curtis offered to purchase the vouchers and to be reimbursed. The Clerk to contact the individuals and invite them to the January meeting.

10.To receive the monthly SAM II data and decide on any actions that may arise from this information

SAM Data for November 2024 – 3 weeks only due to battery failure and battery back-up needing to be replaced)

Location: Tuns Road, outside the community centre facing Necton – cars leaving the village.

Total cars 44,713 AADT (annual average daily traffic) 3117

25925 cars were travelling over between 30- 35 MPH

9266 cars were travelling over between 35 -40MPH

1530 cars were travelling between 40- 45 MPH

202 cars were travelling between 45 - 50 MPH

37 cars were travelling between 50 – 55 MPH

5 cars were travelling between 55 – 60 MPH

2 cars were travelling over 60 MPH

Due to the battery being swapped over during the month and the power therefore disconnected the times cannot be collected as the battery back-up has stopped working. Wescotec have replaced the parts required and going forward the battery change should not lose the times as the new working will retain the date and times.

Councillor Bateman asked Councillor Curtis to discuss a possible police speed check to be undertaken outside the community centre. Councillor Curtis to discuss this with her local police contact.

11.Planning matters – to note new planning applications and discuss.

REFERENCE	PL/2024/0820/HOU
PROPOSAL	Single storey rear extension
LOCATION	36 Chantry Lane, Necton
APPLICANT	Mr & Mrs Baldry

The Parish Council had no objections and supported this application- Breckland DC to be informed.

12.To receive any updates and proposals from action plan working party, including the following

- Consider and decide on next steps regarding permissive footpaths around Necton as outlined in the Neighbourhood Plan

After discussions Councillor Spain proposed the Clerk contacted the local farmer who has permissive footpaths in Necton. This would be to ascertain if he would consider further discussions with ourselves regarding these footpaths and if he would be open to entering a legal agreement to allow the public to use the existing footpaths. Seconded by Councillor Hayton and agreed unanimously. The Clerk to contact and report back.

13.To discuss and decide on the statement from Necton PC in regards to the proposed local car parking fees and for Fraser Bateman to attend the workshop being held as the PC representative and for him to deliver this statement

After discussing the proposed changes and the possible introduction of car parking charges in Swaffham Councillor Hayton proposed that the PC supported the proposals to introduce charges, noting the request to maintain one free car park to remain. Seconded by Councillor Bateman and agreed unanimously. Councillor Bateman to attend the workshop being held in January and to convey the views agreed by the PC.

14.To commence discussions on the draft budget for the next financial year and to decide to approve if further discussions are not required. To also discuss and decide on the Precept to be requested if further discussions are not required

Discussions were held regarding the draft budget prepared by the Clerk and her recommendation to increase the precept requested from Breckland DC from £82,160.00 to £85,500.00, noting this to be approximately a 4% increase. Discussions were then held about commencing a schedule to 'ring fence' some funds to build reserves with a view to save money over a period of time to create a village green. As this would be a long term project and the budget would not allow a large sum to be ring fenced from next year's funds Councillor Spain proposed the draft budget was approved and £1500 to be set aside for a village green (noting this would have to come from the community funds expenditure if required) seconded by Councillor Curtis and agreed unanimously.

15.Adjournment for public participation (5 mins)

This provides the opportunity for the public to raise awareness of an issue for discussion at the next Parish Council meeting

Nothing raised

16.To confirm date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting as Monday 13th January 2025 @ 7.00pm

Meeting closed at 20.31 pm