

## *Ashwellthorpe and Fundenhall Parish Council*

### **Minutes of the meeting of Ashwellthorpe & Fundenhall Parish Council held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019, 7.30pm in Ashwellthorpe Village Hall**

*Present: Jacqueline Ives (Chair)*

*Nick De Spon*

*Ian Bishop*

*Chris Eastwood*

*Jerry Franey*

*Roberta Morris*

*Mrs T Higlett (clerk)*

*District Councillor – Gerry Francis*

*County Councillor- Bev Spratt*

*Members of the public*

#### 1) To consider apologies for absence

Roy Burridge

#### 2) Declaration of Interest for Items on the Agenda and Dispensations for Councillors with a Pecuniary Interest

None

#### 3) To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019

One abstention from Cllr Franey who was not in attendance. Minutes were agreed as a true record of proceedings with no amendments.

#### 4) Public Participation

(i) Public in attendance, just to observe.

(ii) Representative from Saffron Housing in attendance to answer any questions in relation to planning applications 2019/2252 and 2253.

(iii) Report from District Councillor. Election imminent means some council business will be carried over to January 2020. Local grants are still available and people have until the end of December to apply. Members wondered if a grant could be obtained for the Fundenhall sign which is in need of repair. Criteria will need to be looked at to see if eligible.

(iv) Report from County Councillor. County are currently looking at council tax increase for next year. Pot hole policy has been reviewed and all will be filled in rather than meeting a specific criterion. Cllr De Spon spoke of recent communication advising of cancellation of certain bus routes. Member of public asked if we could get a better bus service if there is to be more social housing in the village. People do not always have access to a car.

#### 5) Matters arising from previous minutes

(i) Reported street light out on the Street. This has now been repaired. Chair informed members that a light is currently out on Knyvett Green.

*Clerk to contact TT Jones Electrical to carry out repair.*

#### 6) Reports from Councillors

(i) Community Speed watch - Cllr Bishop. Teams have now been out 137 times and 1450 logged. Cllr Spratt suggested Parish Council send a letter to Norfolk Constabulary with a view to reducing the speed limit in the village as this appears to be the only option to cut the excess speed. There is a lack of police and maybe council should also send a letter to the Crime Commissioner. Ashwellthorpe are playing an active part alongside the Police and the Safety Camera Partnership in tackling the problem of speeding in their village. At the NCC Infrastructure meeting Cllr Spratt spoke of the Community Speed watch and how it would be a shame if this was to come to an end, as there is a lot of good work being done by volunteers. Cllr Bishop asked whether having a nursery in the village would this help towards getting the speed limit reduced to a 20mph zone. Parish Council

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had hoped to move the 30mph further out on both ends of the Street. NCC Highways Engineer informed council that 'The position of both 30 speed limit terminals accords with County's 'Speed Management Strategy'. extension of the 30 limits would not be in-keeping with County's strategy nor would it meet the guidance set by the Department of Transport'.

(ii) Village Hall – Cllr De Spon. Village Hall committee will be meeting this month. Discussions are still ongoing with Bramble Bears taking on the Village Hall full time. There is Bingo planned before Christmas also a Film Night.

(iii) Footpaths – Cllr Franey Finger post has been knocked down opposite the Village Hall. A new sign will need to be installed. Cllr De Spon reminded members that we are holding onto a couple of spare signs.

(iv) Village Maintenance – Cllr Eastwood. Cllr Ives advised members that the noticeboard outside the village hall is still proving difficult to unlock. Cllr Eastwood has tried to make contact with contractor who carried out initial repairs to ask for this to be adjusted.

#### 7) Parish Amenities Adoption Project.

Project Lead was not in attendance, therefore Cllr De Spon updated members in his absence.

(i) Currently working on the charitable status. The new hall is progressing and becoming a reality. Roof has to be made watertight. The Parish Council should formally take on the hall from August 2020, with a formal opening ceremony. There is currently a team of five on the working party, with further people showing an interest in joining a Focus group.

(ii) Council had previously discussed that the bowling green would be better used as tennis courts. Members agreed unanimously. A Deed of Variation had been prepared and checked by lawyers and was duly signed and witnessed.

(iii) Parish Council had been asked as to whether they would like to buy the chairs and tables from the current village hall for new hall, but consensus is not to purchase.

(v) Name for new hall still to be decided.

Members recently attended a viewing of the showhouse on the development and were impressed with the build quality and hoped this would also be reflected in the finish of the new hall.

#### 8) Planning

(i) 2019/2222 Location: Land North East of The Maples Norwich Road Ashwellthorpe. Proposal: Erection of single storey dwelling. Application Type: Outline Planning Permission

This is the second time the application has been presented, previously refused. Members discussed the plans for the property and noted that the access has been changed. Discussion around the access to the site from the B1113 and the junction of the Street/Wymondham Road and safety issues when in construction stage.

Members decided to leave to South Norfolk Planning to make the decision. No further comments were made.

*Vote: Proposed by Cllr Eastwood – seconded by Cllr Franey – all in favour*

(ii) 2019/2252 Location: Land to rear of Wood Farm the Street Ashwellthorpe.

Proposal: Erection of 12 affordable dwellings with associated access and parking. Application Type: Outline Planning Permission

Members were unanimously in favour of the application.

*Vote: Proposed by Cllr De Spon - seconded by – Cllr Bishop – all in favour.*

(iii) 2019/2253 Location: Land to rear of Wood Farm the Street Ashwellthorpe.

Proposal: Erection of 5 affordable dwellings and 7 market dwellings with associated access, garaging and parking. Pond and wetland area. Application Type: Outline Planning Permission

Members were unanimously in favour of further development on the site.

*Vote: Proposed by Cllr Bishop – seconded by Cllr De Spon - all in favour*

Discussion had around the pond ownership and the driveway. Developer advised this would be a gravel drive and looked after by a management company. Council were also advised that the permissive footpath would not be affected. Developer asked if Cllr De Spon would mind attending the planning meeting when he is advised of the date for consultation of 2091/2252 and 53. No objection.

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Discussion was had around the need for one maybe two lifebuoys and a fence to be erected around the existing pond to safeguard against any accidents. Type of fencing will need to be discussed. Cllr Franey informed members that a risk assessment will also need to be carried out.

#### 9) To receive quotations for the refurbishment of Fundenhall Sign

No further quotes have been received. Council so far have only received one quotation.

#### 10) Approve assistance with maintenance of graveyards

Members approved the payment of £250 towards maintenance of graveyards at both St Nicholas Church Fundenhall and Church of All Saints Ashwellthorpe.

*Vote: Proposed by Cllr Bishop – seconded by Cllr Eastwood – All in favour*

#### 11) Finance

(i) To note councils current financial standing

Business Community Account balance 31/10/2019 = £20,658.25

Savings Account balance 31/10/2019 = £3442.79

(ii) Cheques/Invoices for approval

Council approved a one-off payment of £50 to the Royal British Poppy Appeal

*Vote – Proposed by Cllr Bishop – seconded by Cllr Eastwood – all in favour*

Date	Payee	Method	Description	Amount
13/11/2019	EON	Direct Debit	Electricity	29.59
18/11/2019	T Higlett	Chq: 100897	Clerks Salary	226.40
18/11/2019	T Higlett	Chq: 100898	Computer security software	20.95
18/11/2019	Fundenhall PCC	Chq: 100899	Churchyard maintenance	250.00
18/11/2019	Upper Tas Valley All Saints	Chq: 100900	Churchyard maintenance	250.00
18/11/2019	Royal British Legion	Chq: 100901	Wreath	50.00

#### 12) Budget and Precept

Clerk reminded members that she would need to look at the budget for 2020/21. The following possible future funding needs were noted: Electric lighting, and village maintenance. For the new hall there would be additional cost for insurance and licences. The budget would be further debated at the December meeting and would be agreed at the January meeting along with the precept.

#### 13) Consultations

(i) Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service's Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan

This was noted.

#### 14) Correspondence

(i) Forthcoming changes to bus services in Norfolk

(ii) Mobile Library Poetry Competition

(iii) South Norfolk Help Hub Bulletin

(iv) Norfolk ALC bulletin

(v) Alzheimer's Society befriending service Side by Side

#### 15) Discussion on date of next meeting.

Members took the decision to hold a meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

#### 16) To discuss marking the 75th Anniversary of VE Day

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CLlr Ives had looked into what grants are available if parish councils would like to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of V E Day in 2020. Grants of £250 are available.

[17\) To discuss the purchase of a book\(s\) of condolence in respect of Operation London Bridge](#)

Clerk advised members that it would be good practice to have a protocol drawn up along with the purchase of condolence books. Members suggested the purchase of two books

[18\) Urgent items for information but carrying forward to next meeting](#)

None

Meeting closed at 9:25pm