

ASHWELLTHORPE AND FUNDENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the virtual meeting held on Friday 20th November 2020 at 7:30p.m

Present:

J Ives

Nick De Spon

Roberta Morris

Roy Burridge

Jerry Franey

Chris Eastwood

I Bishop

Mrs T Higlett (Clerk)

District Cllrs V Clifford-Jackson and N Legg

County Cllr B Spratt

1)Welcome by the Chair

2)To consider apologies for absence

Nil

3)Declarations of interest

Nil

4) To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 20th October 2020.
These were approved.

5) Matters arising from those Minutes

(i)Update on future issues of Village magazine – The Mardle

Chair reported that there will be an issue in the New Year.

(ii) Street light at the junction of The Street and Greenwood Close has been reported as not working again. Clerk to speak to electrical contractor. Quote has also been received for the repairs to the street light close to no.40 Kynvett Green. Replacement LED lantern etc £267.75 +vat. Members approved the quotation.

6)To receive reports from County and District Councillors if in attendance.

(i)District Cllr Legg had sent a report prior to the meeting. The Council offices are open but personal visits are discouraged. Residents are requested to phone or email where possible. Many staff are still working from home and there are proposals for some of them to be on a permanent basis.

The Help Hub continues to operate for those residents requiring assistance. Member Ward Grants are available as before. Interested parties should contact the District Councillors directly.

Work continues on the assessment of applications for the Village Cluster Housing allocations. The final list is expected to be published in February/March next year with a consultation at a later date. The Greater Norwich Local Plan is dependent on the outcome of these Clusters. It may be superseded by The Government White Paper. This and the potential Local Government reorganisation may be put on the back burner due to the current Covid-19 situation.

(ii)District Cllr Clifford-Jackson had sent a report prior to the meeting. Electoral services are now contacting parishes with regards to polling stations. Clerk advised she had received communication from Electoral Services with a view to using the community centre. With regards to planning, we

have the new local plan in process and possible Government changes. Community grants will be discussed in December Cabinet as members wished to discuss the process further. CAF has not met this year but member grants have been given where possible. Money will be carried over to next year. There are also a lot of charities out there which can give assistance with grants.

(iii) County Cllr Spratt spoke of the purchase of seven new gritters. Gritting has been carried out twice. Covid-19 has spiked in South Norfolk. Local bus services are losing money. Local Plan has been put on hold as the government has stepped in with new government regulations. Long Stratton bypass looking to complete by 2024. Clerk asked Cllr Spratt whether NCC Highways would reconsider including the gritting of New Road, Ashwellthorpe. Cllr Spratt advised that the gritting routes are programmed in August. Cllr De Spon asked if it was a school bus route then it should be included in the gritting programme. Cllr Spratt advised this is not the case they don't always grit bus/school routes.

7) Public if in attendance

No public in attendance

8) To receive reports and to consider any necessary action.

(i) Footpaths – R Morris reported that the footpaths near the farm are being churned up by the agricultural machinery which are crossing them to access the farm buildings. Council expressed concerns that drivers of agricultural equipment should be aware of pedestrians and dogs which may not be on leads and that they give way to pedestrians using the footpaths. Council proposed that perhaps a sign should be erected. This was proposed by I Bishop and seconded by C Eastwood.

The hedge by the 'Old Smithy' is encroaching on the footpath and council have offered to get someone to cut this back for the residents, who will then pick up the cost.

Chair had received correspondence from a resident concerning the stiles on one of the footpaths, which runs off the bridleway between Ashwellthorpe and Fundenhall. The footpath in question has three high stiles which some people find it impossible to climb and wondered if these could be replaced with gates. The stiles in question had been erected by the previous owner of the land and it would be the landowner who would have to be contacted about changing these.

(ii) Village Maintenance – C Eastwood. To speak to Jaydee Gardens reference tidying the garden area around Ashwellthorpe village hall.

(iii) Memorial - Nothing to report.

9) Update on the new community centre

(i) Insurance – Parish Council have no legal obligation to insure the hall as not occupied. Completion date for the hall, advised as the 17th December.

Members proposed suspending insurance until the ownership has been passed onto the Parish Council.

Proposed by J Franey – Seconded by N De Spon – all in favour.

(ii) Defibrillator batteries on order. Look to purchase third defibrillator for new community centre and also to see what grant funding is available.

C Eastwood reported that five new trustees have been recruited which brings up to eight in total. AGM will be held within 28 days of being set up.

10) Approve assistance with maintenance of graveyards

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

Vote: Proposed by C Eastwood – seconded by J Franey – *All in favour*

11) Budget/ Precept for 2021/2022

Clerk had asked council to give some thought to next year's expenditure. Suggested proposals were for a third defibrillator and to review village maintenance to include new community area, in particular grass cutting. The budget/precept would be further debated at the January 2021 meeting with deadline date for submission mid-January 2021. Deadline has not been advised by South Norfolk Council.

12) Finance

(i) Councils current financial standing at 31/10/2020

Business community account £18,171.25

Savings Account £3447.13

(ii) Cheques approved for payment

Date	Payee	Method	Description	Amount
12/11/2020	EON	Direct debit	Streetlight electricity	29.59
20/11/2020	Autela Payroll	Chq:100954	Payroll services	48.24
20/11/2020	T Higlett	Chq:100955	Clerks Salary	258.24
20/11/2020	T Higlett	Chq:100956	Zoom meeting monthly charge + Norton Security	36.38
20/11/2020	Wel Medical	Chq:100957	Defibrillator batteries	364.80
20/11/2020	Fundenhall PCC	Chq:100958	Church maintenance	250.00
20/11/2020	Upper Tas Valley PCC	Chq:100959	Church maintenance	250.00

(iii) Payments received since last meeting – Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) payment £982.07

(iv) Council approved the Community Infrastructure Levy report to South Norfolk Council. Which showed expenditure of £1261.80 in 2019/20 and total amount of CIL receipts from previous years retained at the end of 31st March 2020 of £3141.64.

13) Date of next meeting 15th December 2020

14) Correspondence:

NALC Newsletters, NALC Wellbeing.

15) Urgent items for information but carrying forward to next meeting.

Nothing to report.

Meeting closed at 21:00.