

ASHWELLTHORPE AND FUNDENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the virtual meeting held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 6:30p.m

Present: J Ives (Chair)  
Nick De Spon  
Roy Burridge  
Chris Eastwood  
I Bishop  
Mrs T Higlett (Clerk)  
District Cllrs V Clifford-Jackson, N Legg, and G Francis  
County Cllr B Spratt

1)To consider apologies for absence  
J Franey

2)Resignation of Cllr R Morris.  
This was duly noted. Clerk to notify South Norfolk Council of the vacancy.

3) Declarations of interest for items on the agenda and to consider any requests for dispensations.  
None

4) To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021.  
These were approved.

5) Public Open Forum  
No Public in attendance.  
Reports from District Councillors had been forwarded to members prior to the meeting. (appendix 1)  
Cllr Spratt spoke of the recent flooding and the repairs which have been carried out in Ashwellthorpe to the drainage systems. Thanks to Norfolk County Council Highways for their work. Comments from the general public is that the new style Council Tax bill is misleading.

6)Planning  
i. To note applications refused/Accepted.  
2020/1820 Householder Parish: Ashwellthorpe And Fundenhall Location : Field View Wymondham Road Ashwellthorpe NR16 1HE Proposal : Erection of 2 bay cart lodge and wooden garage Decision : Approval with Conditions Delegated Date of decision : 10 March 2021.

2020/2236 PD Change from Barn to Dwelling Parish: Ashwellthorpe And Fundenhall Location Barn At The Grange Whipps Lane Fundenhall Norfolk Proposal: Notification for Prior Approval for a proposed change of use and associated building works of an agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (QA and QB) Decision: Approval of details - Approved Development Management Committee.  
Date of decision : 11 March 2021.

Cllr Legg reported that South Norfolk Planning Committee still consists of five members due to Covid-19 where most district councils have gone back to full committee. Suggested Parish Council could address their concerns on how this application was dealt with to the Planning officer. C Eastwood

passed on thanks from the Community of Fundenhall for the work done by District Councillors and the Parish Council towards planning application 2020/2236.

ii.Planning Applications.

2020/2462 Amended application. Location: The Woodlands Wymondham Road Ashwellthorpe Conversion and extension to existing garage to create family need annex, first floor games room, and storage area. Council remained as per original application, no comments to make.

*Vote. I Bishop proposed – seconded by C Eastwood – all in favour.*

7) Matters arising from previous months minutes

i. Update on Speed Awareness Machine – I Bishop advised he has spoken to the supplier and new battery when received will have a 2 year guarantee. But to date supplier has not advised new batteries have been sent.

It was proposed at the February meeting to revisit moving the 30mph on the Wymondham Road out towards Silfield, due to safety concerns. Parish Council corresponded with NCC Highways in August 2019. Clerk has since spoke with Highways and was advised “they have not changed their approach in regards to speed limits / traffic calming etc since 2014 and I do not believe there are any plans to change it. Authorities are looking ahead to financial recover resulting Covid and if anything a push for savings from central Government”. Therefore, focus will remain only on essential highways maintenance. Cllr Spratt spoke of the Local Members Highways funding which council can apply for a match funded grant to improve highways issues in villages. Cllr Spratt suggested council revisit after the local elections on May 6<sup>th</sup>. As this is a road safety aspect and local police have been in favour of moving, possibly correspond with the newly appointed police commissioner

ii. Whole council training has been arranged for two evenings in April. Dates to be advised.

iii. Quote to repair light fitting o/s no. 23 Kynvett Green £299.75 was accepted.

*Proposed by I Bishop – seconded by N De Spon – all in favour.*

8)Community Centre

Work is still to be completed. N De Spon has expressed concerns with the developer and reminded him of the section 106 agreement. New hall has been booked by SN Electoral Services for local elections on May 6<sup>th</sup> 2021.

9) Renewal to Parish Council Legal Advice Service

Members are concerned that they have not received response to legal advice when asked from the service and propose asking for a detailed breakdown of how much time the council have used out of the allotted 10hours during the last year. In terms of the staged transfer to the CIO, Council may have to seek Legal Advice from a commercial law firm.

10) Finance

i. Councils current financial standing:

Business community account £15,003.83

Savings Account £3447.22

ii. Cheques approved for payment

Date	Payee	Method	Description	Amount
12/03/2021	EON	Direct debit	Streetlight electricity	26.72

18/03/2021	NALC	Chq:100974	Planning Training & Internal Auditor	60.00
18/03/2021	Mardens Gardens	Chq:100975	Village maintenance	23.50
18/03/2021	HMRC	Chq:100976	Clerks Income Tax	3.80
18/03/2021	T Higlett	Chq:100977	Clerks Salary	258.04
18/03/2021	T Higlett	Chq:100978	Zoom meeting/condolence book	29.38

iii. Receipts since last month – Nil

iv. I Bishop had carried out an internal audit. Advised signatories had not signed bank receipts but this was due to Covid 19 and cheques were presented for signing detached from cheque book.

11) To receive reports and to consider any necessary action

- i. Footpaths – J Franey is now overseeing footpaths since R Morris resigned from council.
- ii. Village maintenance. (appendix 2). C Eastwood asked for approval to go ahead. Asset register – status report for items requiring maintenance to be supplied.

*Vote: All in favour.*

Dog fouling was discussed and in particular owners should not be allowed to let their dogs roam free on farm land. Editorial will be included in the next issue of the Mardle.

Discussion on the culverts and going forward the requirement to inspect once a year. It was noted this is Highways responsibility. There has been no update from Anglian Water regarding the pumping station. The sewage pipe is reported to be inadequate.

iii. Nothing to report on war memorial.

12) Periodic items

Council reviewed the following council documentation:

- i. Financial Regulations
- ii. Financial Risk Assessment

*Vote: All in favour*

13) Date of Annual Parish Meeting

This will take place on May 4<sup>th</sup> 2021 6:30pm.

14) Correspondence

- i. South Norfolk Council - Armed Forces Covenant

Council in favour of signing

*Proposed by I Bishop – seconded by R Burridge.*

15) Date of next meeting to be discussed.

Next Meeting will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 and will follow the Annual Parish meeting as previously discussed, at 7:00pm. Going forward Council will revert back to face to face meetings from June 2021. A meeting will only be called in April if deemed necessary.

16) Any other business

It has been brought to the attention of the parish council that there are lot of cars being parked around the Crescent which consist of properties owned by Saffron Housing. Members concerned there could be a business being run from one of the properties. To discuss at next meeting.

Meeting closed at 20:00

Clerk: Tina Higlett  
March 2021 Minutes

Chair.....  
Ashwellthorpe & Fundenhall Parish Council

## Appendix 1. District Councillors report

1. I am so sorry that the planning meeting we attended Wednesday 10th March did not listen to neighbour and PC concerns about the Whipps Farm application. Nick de Spon and everyone present gave a very good case, but the vote was three to two in favour of the officers' decision, so we lost.
2. I hope all residents are safe and have access to services and vaccines. As before please call 01508 533933 for help. South Norfolk Help Hub is now, with additional redeployed staff helping to volunteer at the NNUH and NHS vaccine centres, and deliver contact track and tracing in the community. Business and benefits problems are still being supported. Over £63 million pounds has gone through SNC from Government to residents already.
3. There have been complaints about the lack of diary cards for the bins this year. We are raising this as not all residents can access the website to obtain the collection days and prefer a visual reminder.
4. We are debating planning & flooding issues at the Scrutiny meeting on the 31st March. the public can apply to attend or watch on YouTube.
5. We attended an SNC planning enforcement update on 23rd Feb 21. We asked various questions you had raised. There is a session for PCs on the 17th March, I hope you have had an invite.
6. Government is expected to agree to hybrid council meeting from May 2021 once lockdown is eased so councils will be able to choose to have meetings in person, via IT or both. There has been greater public participation in council business since the access to Zoom, Teams, YouTube, FB etc.
7. Just to remind residents that the Census is happening on the 21st March. Information is coming out now.
8. You may have seen that the Judicial Review against two of the windfarm developments has been given permission to go ahead so there will be a delay to their progress.
9. We also attended the Thickthorn infrastructure project meeting last week to raise residents' concerns. Some amendments have been made and some attention to traffic movements. Local developers are obliged to contribute also.
10. The May County and PCC Elections are May 6th. It's a good idea to check your register entries and apply for a postal vote before 19th April which can be via the phone, SNC or Gov websites. Polling stations will be open but might be slow as the staff are taking extra hygiene precautions.

## Appendix 2. Village maintenance estimate.

1. Ashwellthorpe Village Sign - Estimate 3 hours to remove the moss from the plinth and small pathway.

2. R Tilbrook Bench - Estimate 2 hours to remove existing varnish and re-coat with wood finish

3. Seat at the Crescent - Estimate 3 hours to remove existing varnish and re-coat with wood finish

4. Fundenhall Village Sign/Map - Estimate 3 hours to replace both posts. The existing posts are 4 by 3 inches, difficult to source posts with these dimensions. Able to supply two brand new fence posts 75mm square@£10 each.

Cost breakdown

11 hours work at £14 per hour, total £154

2 tins of wood preserve/stain at £15 per tin, total £30

1 pack of sanding paper at £3.29

2 posts at £10 per post, total £20

2 bags of PostCrete at £4.82 per bag, total £9.64

Total cost £216.93