

ASHWELLTHORPE AND FUNDENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 22nd September 2021 at 7p.m

Present: J Ives (Chair)
Nick de Spon
Roy Burridge
Chris Eastwood
K Peake
Mrs T Higlett (Clerk)
District Cllr G Francis and County Cllr B Duffin

1) To consider apologies for absence.

J Leggett – unwell. District Cllrs V Clifford-Jackson and N Legg has sent apologies.

2) To co-opt new councillor.

G Williams signed declaration of acceptance and joined the meeting.

3) Declarations of interest for items on the agenda and to consider any requests for dispensations.

C Eastwood planning 2021/1343 and 2021/1344

4) To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 15th June 2021

These were approved and duly signed

5) To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20th July 2021.

These were approved and duly signed.

6) Public Open Forum

Update of new community centre was given by the developer. Hall is virtually complete and landscaping is now being carried out. Groundsman hut still to be delivered. It was proposed that his solicitor should be contacted to instruct the sale to the parish council. N de Spon advised he has spoken to the parish council’s insurance to ask for hall to be included. Council envisages taking on responsibility for hall from October 2021. Date to be set for official opening. Developer spoke of the additional affordable housing application which has been with South Norfolk Planning for 2 years. People have been asking when the decision will be made.

Cllr Duffin spoke of the Long Stratton bypass will now benefit from Government funding. Commence build 2023 with completion 2024. Report of flooding produced by Lord Dannatt will be reviewed.

Cllr Francis report (appendix 1)

Although not able to attend Cllr Legg sent a report (appendix 2)

7) Planning

a. Response to the following applications:

- i. 2021/1988: 106 The Street Ashwellthorpe. Proposal Erection of conservatory to rear evaluation, pitched roof with roof lights over former utility room. Addition of roof light to garage flat roof. Retention of oil tank to front of dwelling. Council could see no reason to object and therefore were in favour of the application.

Clerk: Tina Higlett
September 2021 Minutes

Chair.....
Ashwellthorpe & Fundenhall Parish Council

Proposed by K Peake – seconded by G Williams – all in favour.

II. 2021/2012: The Piggeries, Hall Farm the Street Ashwellthorpe. Proposal Erection of oak, timber framed double garage with room above. Council could see no reason to object and therefore were in favour of the application.

Proposed by K Peake – seconded by G Williams – all in favour.

Council discussed future responses to planning applications and the requirement to include more of a response rather than ‘No comment’.

b. To report on planning applications determined since last meeting.

I. 2021/1876: Land South of Wood Farm the Street Ashwellthorpe. Outline application for erection of single dwelling following demolition of existing Dutch barn, with all matters reserved except access. The planned new building would be in the character and scale of the current buildings on the Wood Farm estate. Fully supportive of the development

II. 2021/1875: The Oaks the Street Fundenhall. Proposal Replacement to create 1.5 storey dwelling with dormer windows to front and rear. This renovation will be a pleasing site on the Street alongside other residential properties. Fully supportive of the development

III. 2021/1343 Amended: Barn at The Grange Whipps Lane Fundenhall. Proposal Slight amendment to red line of the application (western boundary moved eastwards). Members stand by their previous comments on this application that it should be rejected, and that if any development has to go ahead, it should be to the conditions that were stipulated by the class Q permission.

IV. 2021/1344 Amended: Barn at The Grange Whipps Lane Fundenhall. Proposal alteration to existing curtilage listed outbuilding to form car port, as well as minor repairs/alterations to fabric of three other outbuildings. Members feel the application should be rejected as not lying within ‘Q’ boundaries.

V. 2021/1500: 121 The Street Ashwellthorpe. Proposal: Part retention side extension. Council had no comment to make, however were fully supportive.

8) Matters arising from previous minutes;

a) Update on highways maintenance in the Street, Ashwellthorpe

N de Spon advised a meeting with the southern NCC Highways Engineer is planned for the 25th September, to discuss further.

Culvert on New Road has been addressed by landowner.

9) Finance

a) To note councils current financial standing

Community Account £17,101.87

Business Account £3447.40

b) To approve payments

Payee	Method	Description	Amount
EON	Direct debit	Streetlight electricity	29.59
J Vincent-Bunn	Cheque	Footpath maintenance	394.63
Fundenhall PCC	Cheque	Hire of hall	30.00
T Higlett	Cheque	August Salary	259.44
T Higlett	Cheque	September Salary	259.44

Autela Payroll Service	Cheque	Payroll	52.20
Norse	Cheque	Printing of flyers	30.00

c) It was proposed that K Peake becomes an additional signatory on the council bank account. Clerk to become an authorised person to speak to the Bank on behalf of the council.

10) New community centre

A grant had been received from the National Lottery for £10,000. This will go towards staging, tennis equipment and sound system. Website has been challenging, particularly with incorporating a Pay Pal account. Pricing strategy is working well although there have been questions over the additional cost for hiring of the kitchen. Previously hiring of the old village hall included the use of the kitchen. So far received positive feedback although there has been concerns with the acoustics.

11) Reports:

- a) Footpaths- K Peake Farmer has ploughed the footpath again and will discuss reinstating. Council in the past has sent letter to farmer reminding them it is their responsibility to reinstate within 14 days of first being cultivated. Clerk was in possession of an email regarding the state of Hudmans Lane which recently has experienced damage due to heavy equipment using it to cut hedging. New members were uncertain of the location but will now take a look and report back accordingly. Question also regarding the ownership.
- b) Village maintenance – Chair advised she had spoken with J Leggett with regards to taking on this role. R Mardens will continue with maintenance tasks. The play equipment could do with attention but is the responsibility of South Norfolk Council. Cllr Francis said he would speak to South Norfolk on behalf of the parish council. C Eastwood advised he still had to obtain quotes for new noticeboards.
- c) Community Speed watch. – G Williams advised he would take on the role of overseeing Community speed watch and would make contact with I Bishop.

12) Consultations:

- a) Transport for Norwich Strategy – Council acknowledged
- b) Broadland & South Norfolk Accommodation Review – Council acknowledged

13) General Parish Issues

Nothing to report

14) To consider correspondence received

- a) The Queens Platinum Jubilee Beacons 2nd June 2022
South Norfolk Review of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Policy and Condition

15) To note date of next meeting: 19th October 2021 – to be held in Thorpe Hall

Meeting closed at 20:35

Appendix 1.

South Norfolk Council are now trying to get the office staff back to work in Long Stratton with a recruitment campaign to get vacant seats filled. They have made apologies to Parishes and members of the public for the lack of staffing in house but are promising to get back to more normal running and public access within the next few weeks.

Debates still in progress to determine a possible new home for the 2 joined Councils but it is not progressing too smoothly at the moment and this could lead to increased Council tax next year depending on the outcome.

The Cluster housing applications have increased with still no definite decisions being made as yet. Major Roadworks scheduled for A11 from Spooner Row to Tutttles Lane at Wymondham will cause more frustration for motorists after the ongoing work at Thickthorn etc. This will then continue on the A11 through to Norwich throughout next year.

Appendix 2.

District Councillors Report for Ashwellthorpe PC September 2021

Highways England are proposing to undertake major works on the A11 at short notice between Spooner Row and Thickthorn. The work is to commence in early 2022 and will take most of the year. There will be road closures and diversions. Although Ashwellthorpe is not directly affected, an increase in local traffic can be expected.

Staff at South Norfolk Council continue to “work from home”. It is becoming difficult to contact some staff. It was disappointing to find that there was nobody from the planning department in the office, when I visited but that some 400 people were able to attend a social function the week before.

The Village Clusters proposals continue to be open for new applications. At the last count there some 65 new applications. These will be considered in due course.

The joint accommodation review with Broadland Council awaits the final report from the consultants. It will be considered by the council next month.

The County Councils Flooding Report has been approved by South Norfolk’s Cabinet. Of the 16 sites recommended for work only the Long Stratton problem has been identified in South Norfolk. Any particular flooding issues experienced last Christmas should be reported to the LLFA. It is important that a comprehensive picture of the overall situation is obtained. The Council is in the process of appointing a replacement Flood official.

Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee of which I am a member is investigating local GP and Cancer Services both of which do not come up to scratch.

Nigel Legg