

ASHWELLTHORPE AND FUNDENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 15th November 2022 at 7pm
Meeting held at Thorpe Hall Ashwellthorpe

Present: J Ives (Chair)

N de Spon

G Williams

C Leggett

R Burrige

S Allen

S Engamba

A Arber Clerk

Two members of the public including County Councillor Barry Duffin, District Councillors Ian Spratt and Councillors Legg and Francis

- 1) Apologies for Absence
No apologies received
- 2) Declarations of Interest
All members of the village hall committee declared an interest
All agreed to accept.
- 3) Minutes of the Meetings on 4th October 2022
Agreed and signed by the Chairman as an accurate record of the meeting with one small change
Proposed. Cllr Despon Seconded Cllr Leggett
- 4) Public Open Forum
Councillor Barry Duffin gave the following report
Covid still prevalent and in a busy setting please wear a mask
Avian Flu is also prevalent and the new details are don't feed wild birds, pick up dead birds and take advice from Defra on this and Barry will forward this to the clerk for adding to the website. There has been a funding boost from the national lottery with over £185,000 for parishes with projects and £4 million pound for the 10 Museums in Norfolk to share.
Barry also commented that adult social care is struggling in Norfolk and there will be a consultation on this that Barry will send to the clerk to add to the website also. It was also reported that the waterstone's book appeal was up and running this year again for councils to purchase books to give to children in their parish in the coming months.
Finally, Barry reported that the small highways scheme round of funding is due in South Norfolk in 2023 and he urged councillors to think plans to submit to be part of this scheme.

Chair.....

Councillor Legg gave the following report

Long Stratton council offices are now closed and being mothballed until sold and all staff have moved to Broadland Offices on Yarmouth Road Norwich NR7 ODU.

There was a concern on homelessness situation and SNDC are looking at the possibility of purchasing 100 homes for people to rent and live in. There were also concerns reported on steam roller cottage in the area and that is was now looking very derelict and un-inhabitable.

Nigel then reported his members ward grant is still available if we had any schemes that needed help with funding.

The scrutiny committee have met and there are concerns on dentistry provision in the South Norfolk area and NHS England who should ensure there is enough capacity have not responded to the questions asked on the delay and a consultation will take place on this.

Finally, the deaths at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital are over the national average which is a worry as it is now the highest in the country.

Councillor Spratt made the following comments

The pylon scoping reports and other documents are coming out and he urged the Parish Council to respond asap to these. The clerk commented that he had not seen them yet. The councillor also commented that other countries such as Denmark can provide better options for undersea electricity and that we had the skills in Norfolk to make this happen and he questioned why this was not happening. He also wondered why no cross consultation had occurred on this.

A new recycling site will be built in Wymondham and it was hoped it would open in Autumn 2024.

Finally, the Ian reported that a consultation on how the Mardle will be done in the future needs adding to the agenda for the January meeting.

5). Planning

The following applications were noted for information only as the clerk had submitted the responses duly agreed by all councillors via email due to them not meeting before the time limit was up.

2022/1958 Support Application

2022/2078 Support Application

2022/2085 Support Application

Tim Ollett planning appeal is for his planning application is still ongoing.

6). Matters Arising from previous Minutes,

No matters arising

7). Finance

a) Payments Since Last Meeting

Chair.....

with the parish council moving forward. A discussion ensued on the need for more trustees for the Thorpe Hall and hopefully a younger amount of people.

8.2 The Pond, Outlet. Footpath. Village Green and fencing around the Pond to the Parish council

8.3 To Parish council for direct transfer to Ashwellthorpe and Fundenhall Charity the Hall, Tennis Courts, Car Park, Sports Pitch, Groundsman Hut, and grassed areas surrounding the hall.

As point 8.1

8.4 Update on the Lawyers work and formulate timescale

As 8.1

8.5 To discuss the need for Electric charging point at the village Hall and SNDC plans to provide these on their latest scheme

The clerk reported that he had registered the parish councils' interest in the scheme

8.6 To receive a report and to consider any necessary action regarding:

a) Footpaths

No report on this but a new footpath warden is needed. Serge Engamba agreed to take this over and he was thanked by the chair for doing this.

b) Village maintenance

New dog bins and new noticeboards need going up asap. It was agreed that these would be installed before the end of the year.

c) Community speed watch

No report and some more volunteers are in place to get the group trained and have our group working in January. The police are more visible in the village now weekly.

d) To receive the village hall report including the warm space and Christmas events

The warm space can offer free hot and cold drinks and a warm space 4 hours once a week but at our first one we had no takers. It was agreed it would be now done on a Tuesday. New banner made that is put up each day the warm space is open. Father Christmas will appear through the village along with a CAMEO event at the Thorpe Hall on Xmas eve and it was hoped to have a bar on the night too. It was discussed could we look to highways to provide a better sign. **The clerk to look at this.**

e) To discuss turning off the street lights from 11pm to 6am

The clerk had obtained a quote to put new photo cells on the lights to do this as the council had felt this was a waste of money to have them on during the night. It was agreed that although the initial cost was £454.52 plus vat it would save money in the long run. It was agreed that we would we would consult the parishioners in this area on this proposal by letter with a defined timescale for responses.

f) To agree the purchase of 2 life buoys for the pond area

The clerk has looked into this and each one would cost around £50 and the clerk would look at this

Proposer Cllr Williams Seconded Cllr Leggett

9). To note correspondence received

Chair.....

Planning applications detail previously in the meeting
Warm space grant received
Speeding issues
Enquiries on village signs and that they are overgrown (Highways Informed)
Quotes for Play area
TT jones Quote reference lighting
Budget sent to councillors
Email from Weller Hedley's on speed machine issues. (The clerk took the meeting through what had recently been discussed on this and it was agreed that the clerk would discuss with Westcotec on them looking at repair the devices in the first instance.

10) To discuss the budget proposals for 2022-2023

It was felt that in the current climate that we should try and keep the precept the same to aid our parishioners. The clerk had produced a good budget and it was agreed that councillors would look at this and report back in the January 2023 meeting their comments and agree the budget for the precept request to go in late January for 2023-2024

12). Items for the Next Meeting:

- Mardle
- Budget
- Clerks Appraisal
- Training moving forward for all
- Precept request
- Play area decision

Date and Place of the Next Meeting:

17th January 2023 at Thorpe Hall at 7pm

Meeting closed 20.25pm

Chair.....