



Newton Flotman Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 24 November 2020
(this meeting was held virtually using the GoToMeeting platform)

Present: David Gibbs (Chairman) Julie King (clerk)
Bob Kelf
Bob McKelvey
Jeff Billings
Paul Weeks

Members of the public – Two including Florence Ellis, District Councillor

- 1 Apologies for Absence
None.
- 2 Declaration of Interest for Items on the Agenda and Dispensations
Paul Weeks declared an interest in item 9b as he is a trustee of the Village Centre Management Committee and item 9d as he is a member of the Long Stratton Medical Partnership's Patient Participation Group.
- 3 Minutes of the Meeting held on 29 September 2020
These were agreed as a true record of proceedings with no amendments.
- 4 Councillor Vacancies
There had been no interest.
- 5 Public Participation
Florence Ellis spoke of the planning application for the grooming business at Corner House, Mill Lane; the Parish Council would consider this at a Planning Meeting in due course.

With regard to the proposed development east of the A140, Florence said that this had been submitted as part of the 'village clusters' and the applicant had been advised to consult with the Parish Council to help them strengthen their application.

Florence also said that Ben Burgess had been granted an extension until January to further develop the application north of Swainsthorpe.

- 6 Correspondence
The correspondence had been circulated.

Signed

Date

Page

7 Councillor Updates

David Gibbs had attended a virtual meeting regarding Norfolk County Council's budget consultation and offered to circulate the recording.

Paul Weeks had attended a Newton Flotman and Saxlingham Thorpe Heritage Group (NFaST) meeting where he had been asked to pass on their thanks to the Parish Council for the contribution to the hosting of the website. In addition Florence Ellis had offered financial support to assist with the publication of a book.

Paul Weeks had distributed some 'slow down' stickers for use on wheelie bins to some residents of Flordon Road.

Jeff Billings reported that he had inspected the accounts as part of the half yearly review.

8 Matters Arising

None

9 Regular Items

a Highway Issues

Nothing new to report.

b Newton Flotman Village Centre and Alan King Playing Field

Paul Weeks reported that the Management Committee were considering going out tender to secure a contractor to sort the ditch adjacent to the access road.

They were also speaking with the existing contractor about next year's ground management contract. They would be taking on the contract but would be approaching the Parish Council about paying the invoices once the quote had been received.

Pre-school continued to be the sole hirer of the Village Centre and it was anticipated that this would continue until the New Year. The only exception maybe the Football Club in light of the news that the ban on grass roots sport would be lifted the following week.

The tree planting session, due to have taken place the coming weekend, had been postponed due to lockdown restrictions until January.

Finally, Paul reported that UK Power Networks had complete some upgrading work on a pole near the bend in the access road to the car park. They had requested permission to cut back the vegetation in the area to provide a three metre clearance for wires. This had been granted subject to consultation on site before commencement of the work.

- c Church Activities
Paul Weeks reported that the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday had had to be changed due to Covid restrictions.
- d Patient Participation Group
Paul Weeks would be attending a meeting in the second week in December; the Surgery remained closed but prescriptions were being issued from the site.

10 Matters Arising

- a Flordon Road/A140 Junction Improvements
The proposed additional double-yellow lining along Flordon Road and extended speed limit restriction on Flordon Road to the junction with the A140 had been approved with a minor amendment which would see the section outside Seastars removed from the double yellow lining. A timescale for the work was awaited.

It was noted that more extensive work to the junction was yet to be secured and that it may be necessary to wait for the Long Stratton developments before this could be progressed.

- b Access to Smockmill Common and Land East of the A140
It was noted that there were plans to hold a further meeting over winter to look at the route, the Clerk would keep in contact with the Officer at South Norfolk Council regarding this.
- c Facebook Page
A Facebook page for the Parish Council had been created, it would now be necessary to publicise the page as much as possible.
- d Maintenance of Areas near the Allotments
The Clerk had approached the owner's Nephew but had not had a response, **it was agreed that there was nothing further that could be done.**

It was noted that part of a tree had fallen on an allotment holder's shed, Saffron were responsible had agreed to remove the tree and cut back some of the other overhanging vegetation.

11 New Items

- a St Mary's Newton Flotman PCC Donation Request
The PCC were seeking financial assistance towards the maintenance of the churchyard. It was noted that the total cost for the year, including some tree work and hedge cutting, was £2,510 and the amount that the Parish Council had budgeted was £1,325. **It was agreed to donate £1,325.**

12 Periodic Items

- a Asset Register
This was reviewed, no changes were made.

b Meeting Dates for 2020

It was agreed that the Parish Council would continue to meet bi-monthly on the last Tuesday of odd months, with the exception of March when the meeting would be held on 23 March and July when the meeting would be held on 20 July. The Annual Parish Meeting would be held on Tuesday 27 April and there would be an additional meeting to agree the budget and set the precept on Tuesday 12 January.

13 Consultations

a Norfolk County Council's Budget Consultation 2021/22

It was agreed that Councillors would respond individually.

b South Norfolk Council's Public Space Protection Order

It was agreed to respond supporting the proposed order.

14 Finance

a Half Year Accounts

The accounts had been circulated and were agreed.

b Requests for Donations

None.

c Receipts and Payments since the last meeting

The following receipts since the last meeting were noted:

South Norfolk Council	Precept	£6,230.66
Allotment holders	Allotment rent and subscription	£390.00

The following payments since the last meeting were noted:

Unity Trust Bank	Bank charges	£18.00
The CGM Group	Grounds maintenance	£115.42
The CGM Group	Grounds maintenance	£21.98
Anglian Water	Allotment Water	£12.00
The CGM Group	Grounds maintenance	£71.46
The CGM Group	Grounds maintenance	£285.87
Anglian Water	Allotment Water	£12.00

d Invoices for Payment

The following were approved for payment:

J King	Salary & expenses (Oct & Nov)	£473.73
Norfolk Pension Fund	Pension contribution	£130.80
South Norfolk Council	Dog bin emptying	£706.56
P Moyes	Bus shelter cleaning (Oct & Nov)	£50.00
Newton Flotman PCC	Churchyard maintenance	£1,325.00

15 Draft Budget and Precept

A draft budget had been circulated. The budget and resulting precept would be agreed at an extra meeting of the Parish Council to be held on Tuesday 12 January at 7.30pm.

Consideration was given to the need for a replacement laptop, the Clerk would bring a proposal to the January meeting.

It was agreed to retain the grass maintenance contract with CGM for the following year (subject to quote, to be obtained).

16 Planning

- a Premises Licence Application – 22 St Mary’s Close

It was agreed to make no objection.

- b Bloy’s Grove

A pre-application consultation for a proposed solar farm on land between Newton Flotman, Swainsthorpe and Mulbarton had been launched by the applicant, EDF Renewables.

Discussions concerned vehicular access during construction and the loss of countryside, along with the benefits of carbon neutral electricity production.

It was agreed to wait and respond once the planning application had been received.

- c Long Stratton Applications 2018/0111 & 2018/0112

It was noted that Norfolk County Council were progressing the by-pass but nothing further was known regarding the proposed housing developments.

- d Swainsthorpe – Ben Burgess Application 2018/2631

As previously noted the applicant had secured an extension until January. Swainsthorpe Parish Council had applied to the courts for a Judicial Review regarding Norfolk County Council’s cabinet’s decision to overturn Highways Officers’ advice and support the application.

- e Review of Planning Meeting Decisions

Those applications, along with the recommendations made at planning meeting/s were noted:

2020/2061 1 Rosemary Cottages, Flordon Road

It had been agreed to recommend approval

- f Planning Decisions taken by South Norfolk Council

2020/1645	27 Joy Avenue	Prior approval not required
2021760	New Cranes Farm (non-material amendments)	Approved, no conditions

- g Planning Appeals and Enforcements

None.

h Copies of Planning Applications

It was agreed that it was no longer necessary for printed copies of planning applications to be produced, councillors would view the applications online and the clerk would project plans once face-to-face meetings resumed.

17 Items for Next Agenda

Feedback on the re-routing of the bus route.

18 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 12 January 2021, 7.30pm to agree the budget and Tuesday 26 January 2021, 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.54pm.