

SOUTH WALSHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on **Monday 6th December 2021** at South Walsham Village Hall at 7.30pm

1. ATTENDANCE

Present: Darren Debbage, John Debbage, Malcolm Dennis, Roger Jones (Chair), Amanda Miller and Rod Russell.

Clerk: Aileen Beck 4 members of the public

Apologies: Malcolm Steward, County Councillor: Fran Whymark and District Councillor Justine Thomas.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Darren Debbage, John Debbage & Malcolm Dennis – Village Hall Trustees – items 11 and 15

Roger Jones – item 8

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st November 2021 confirmed as a true record by Council and signed by the Chair.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

4.1 County Councillor - Fran Whymark sent a report in his absence: Norfolk County Council budget consultation underway. Waterstones have teamed with Children's Services to provide a 'Giving Tree Appeal' whereby there is the opportunity to buy a book for a child for Christmas. Norfolk Libraries and supporting entrepreneurs – email bipcnorfolk@norfolk.gov.uk or call 01603 774708 for more information.

District Councillor - Justine Thomas sent apologies. No report available.

4.2 Speeding: road signs designed by children produced last year with support from Nigel Brennan and the next request is for vehicle activated signs within the village – see item 9.

Acle Medical Partnership: concerns that the Partnership are overloaded and will be unable to cope with the increased housing being built in the area. Residents feeling vulnerable as unable to obtain appointments. No complaints about the service received. Council RESOLVED that a letter be sent to the Partnership in support of the difficulties they are encountering with copies sent to our County Councillor and MP for information also enclosing the contents of the resident's email (permission granted).

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS – TO RECEIVE UPDATES

Anglian Water: overgrown hedge at School Road pumping station now cut back.

Churchyard Working Group: thanks to Cllr Jones for donation of a wheelbarrow.

Highways: all issues raised at last meeting reported.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Email	Voluntary Norfolk	Request for additional volunteers to support the NHS and vulnerable people in the community	Additional information requested – on website
Email	Norfolk County Council	Budget consultation for 2022/23 – www.norfolk.gov.uk/budget - closes 30th December 2021	Noted
Email	Broads Authority	Development boundaries consultation – deadline 22 nd December 2021	Noted

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Email	Resident	Concerns about Acle Medical Partnership	See 4.2
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7. FINANCIAL & ADMINISTRATION MATTERS

7.1 Council RESOLVED to authorise the following payments:

	Net £	VAT £	Gross £
Salaries	760.46	0.00	760.46
HP Instant Ink – November	2.91	0.58	3.49
Shred Station – confidential shredding	10.00	2.00	12.00
Paper	3.50	0.00	3.50
Phone case and screen protector	7.40	0.00	7.40
Ace of Spades – damage to neighbour’s fence	60.00	12.00	72.00
Reissued cheque re expenses M Steward	42.28	8.46	50.74

7.2 Council RESOLVED to accept bank reconciliation and budget monitoring statement as at 1st December 2021:

	£
Bank a/c no 00621042 Current	4,410.89
Bank a/c no 01647010 Deposit	21,424.29
Bank ac/no 01460751 cemetery & c/yard	34,772.23
Bank a/c no 07455911 Deposit Hewitt	2,066.64
Cash/cheques in hand	<u>145.00</u>
	62,819.05

7.2 Council noted mid-year VAT claim of £1,140.32 received from HMRC on 4th November.

7.4 Council noted internal transfers as follows: £1,382.35 from ‘insurance’ into ‘reserves’; £4,658.75 from ‘reserves’ into ‘village green’; £65 from ‘general fund’ to ‘village signs’ and £142.41 from ‘general fund’ to ‘ponds’. It was AGREED to transfer £2,286.61 from Treasurer's account into Cemetery & Churchyard account.

7.5 Council RESOLVED to submit precept request of £22,031 to Broadland District Council for 2022/23 which equates to £1.26 per week for a Band D property. Budget set at £20,671 therefore £1,360 to be transferred into reserves.

7.6 Council RESOLVED to adopt the Grant Awarding policy.

7.7 Council RESOLVED to adopt the revised Reserves policy.

8. PLANNING

Planning application 20211970: retrospective change of use from equestrian use to dog walking field at Low Farm, 9 Low Road, South Walsham NR13 6EQ – no objection.

9. SPEED SIGNS

Request received from resident for Council to purchase two vehicle activated signs for the village at a potential cost of between £9,335 and £13,067. RESOLVED: As Norfolk County Council are unlikely to provide funding under the Parish Partnership Schemes as it does not fit within their criteria, the Clerk to seek assistance and support from our County and District Councillors as insufficient funds to proceed at this time. Cllr D Debbage suggested to the resident that grant funding be sought to help fund any potential project. The existing SAM2 sign is moved between the three locations, as and when conditions at each site permit.

10. CEMETERY & CHURCHYARD

10.1 Council RESOLVED to agree the proposals of the Friends of the Cemetery group headed Cllr Steward

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subject to completion of a risk assessment in accordance with Council's Health and Safety policy. Noted that deemed preferable to refrain from cutting hedges March to August due to nesting birds: contractors cut the hedge at the start and end of each maintenance season (March to October).

- 10.2 It was noted the broken light within the churchyard has been removed by Cllr Steward for repair.
- 10.3 Council acknowledged Christmas tree to be erected within churchyard in accordance with insurance requirements.
- 10.4 Meeting with Garden Guardian arranged for Monday 13th December 2021; clerk, churchwarden, Cllr Miller and Cllr J Debbage to attend. Report next meeting.

11. VILLAGE HALL & PLAYGROUND

- 11.1 Clerk to send costings obtained by Cllr Steward onto the solicitors. Replacement shackles to be ordered for the swings, approximate cost £50.
- 11.2 No progress to report regarding lease and licence to Fairhaven CofE VA Primary School.
- 11.3 Bonfire night – Cllr D Debbage reported that the event was very successful. Car parking facilities had been increased, thanks to use of Fairhaven Gardens land, although unprecedented numbers meant capacity was reached within 40 minutes. An increased number of car park stewards allowed problems to be resolved as they arose. One complaint received by the Council which has been passed onto the Village Hall committee for information.

12. VILLAGE GREEN

- 12.1 Additional planters to be sorted in the spring. New planters required to encapsulate existing bulbs arrangements by village sign. To be considered at future meeting.
- 12.2 No progress to report regarding the transfer of ownership.
- 12.3 Trees at the Village Green made safe; a brace has been suggested by the contractor although no quote received yet. Clerk given names of local companies to contact.

13. MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

To be discussed in more detail next month.

14. MAINTENANCE & VILLAGE ISSUES

- 14.1 Trees – Contractor has applied for planning permission through Broadland District Council for all work identified by the report. Work likely to be carried out 21st and 22nd February 2022.
- 14.2 Benches – Thanks to Cllr Steward for arranging for George Taylor to set the base and then fixing the David Pooley Memorial bench within the Community woodland. Baker memorial bench at the cemetery due to be returned later this month, duly treated. The Parker memorial bench at the staithe requires attention; potential sources for a plank of wood to be investigated to build a replacement.
- 14.3 Footpath cutting/mower hire – awaiting confirmation from Upton Parish Council as to whether it would be possible to borrow their equipment and likely costs. Someone has kindly cut the inside of the School Road hedge but left cuttings laying on the footpath. Clerk to attempt to ascertain whether Norfolk County Council has a schedule for cutting the village footpaths.
- 14.4 Marsh Road Pumping station – Anglian Water notified that gate has collapsed; awaiting action from their grounds maintenance team.
- 14.5 Dog Fouling – ongoing issue around the village. An article for the next edition of The Mardler.
- 14.6 Thanks to Cllr Jones for cutting the School Road hedge.
- 14.7 Clerk to write to Mundy Ellis on behalf of the Parish council to thank her for her dedication to The Mardler which has been a wonderful source of information for the village.

Council may RESOLVE that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded during consideration of item 15 due to its confidential nature.

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15. LAND

Clerk to convey Council's thoughts to the parties involved.

16. ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEXT AGENDA

Next scheduled meeting: 10th January 2022

Policy reviews: Web Accessibility policy and Sickness policy

Meeting closed to public and press at 8.55pm

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