

HOLME-NEXT-THE-SEA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Kirkgate, on Tuesday 12th October 2021 at 7pm

Present: Lynn Devereux (Chair), Martin Crown, Robert Burton Stefan Seare, Michelle Cole, Ermine Amies

In Attendance: Bob Lawton (Borough Councillor), Dave Watkins (Parish Clerk) and 7 members of the public

Councillor Devereux informed the meeting that item 10 on the Agenda (**Standing Orders**) would be deferred to allow for further discussion by councillors.

1. Apologies for Absence and approval of reasons: To receive apologies and reasons for absence Wendy Norman (holiday), Andrew Jamieson (County Councillor-meeting with MP)

2. Declarations of Interest: To declare any personal or prejudicial interests

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 7 September 2021

3.1. Approval

These had been pre-circulated.

It was **RESOLVED** (unanimously) that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7 September 2021 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Chair.

3.2. Matters arising from the minutes (non-agenda items)

(3.2) Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) bid – Clerk reported that final confirmation had been received from the Borough Council on success of the bid for a £7800 contribution towards the restoration of two ditches in Beach Road. It was noted that the estimate for the works had increased to £9102 (inc. VAT) due to rising costs but that VAT could be reclaimed in 2022 / 2023.

Clerk to notify tenants at 27 Beach Road and issue a notice on the Village Information Network once definite dates are known

(3.2) 21/01210/F - Parish Council had not been asked to comment. Clerk reported that his email account had been hacked resulting in consultation email being lost.

(3.2) Music on Holme beach – Further letter sent but awaiting a response.

(4.3) Generic email addresses – The Chair informed councillors that Councillor Cole would be happy to install individual Parish Council email addresses on their computers

(5) River Hun project – Clerk reported that he had contacted the Norfolk Coast Partnership who had confirmed that i) specific amount of time, money and resources will be allocated to the project ii) they are currently in the process of recruiting a Project Manager iii) that once Project Manager is recruited they will organise public meetings.

(7.5.6.) - 20/01744/F - The Bungalow, 7 Beach Road, PE36 6LG – the Clerk had contacted Suzi Pimlott to express the Parish Council's thanks which she was very pleased to receive.

(10.1) DEFRA - Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) – Councillor Cole provided an update on the

Signed Chair

LS Devereux.

Date 9/11/21

government's current consultation on LNRS which are included in the Environment Bill as one strand of the ELMS Programme. When given Royal Assent, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) will split England into 50 areas, each roughly county sized. A responsible authority for each area (likely to be the County Council or Natural England) will be tasked to develop and produce a local strategy. Two main deliverables from each strategy will be a local habitat map and a statement of biodiversity priorities. Work carried out in connection with the NDP could feed into the LNRS.. Holme's SSSI not updated since 2010.

Councillor Cole to circulate a document for comment prior to submitting a response to the government consultation which closes on 2 November 2021.

(10.1) Repairs to Redwell bridge and Coastal Footpath – letter sent to Natural England and copied to James Wild MP.

4. Reports: To receive the following:

4.1. County Councillor and District Councillor reports

Councillor Lawton announced that "Natasha's Law" had now come into force requiring businesses who sell pre-packaged food to list the ingredients contained.

He now has a £1000 grant to share between the 5 parishes he represents.

New tranche of CIL grants from the Borough Council to be announced shortly.

4.2. Planning for Parish Councillors training (14 September) – Councillor Seare

Councillor Seare had attended this Norfolk Association of Local Councils (NALC) course which clarified some new developments in planning legislation and how this applied at a local level.

4.3. Being an Effective Councillor training (21 and 28 September) – Councillor Cole

attended, as part of her induction programme. This training, delivered by NALC, was found to be a very useful introduction and was supplemented by additional reading matter.

4.4. Saxon Shore Parish Forum (23 September) – Councillors Devereux and Crown

Discussion focussed on the Borough Council's Local Plan Review, coastal issues such as camping and caravanning, visitor pressure and the Community Infrastructure Levy.

5. Public participation: Resolution *To adjourn the meeting for up to 15 minutes for Public Participation*

A suggestion was made for the Parish Council to contact the Norfolk Wildlife Trust (NWT) about removing unsightly plastic fencing on Holme Dunes outside the breeding season. It was acknowledged that although the fences may be unsightly they offer an important year-round refuge and resting place for birds.

A member of the public, on hearing about the Visitor Management Plan for Holme Dunes, expressed their concern that the NWT were contradicting their statutory duty by restricting access to parts of the Dunes. Councillor Devereux suggested that a Working Party might be set up to incorporate skills, knowledge and experience that existed within the village to look some of the issues covered by the VMP and this might be linked to the LNRS.

The Parish Council was asked if they could intervene with regard to a floodlight, located at the White Horse caravan site, which shines across Redwell Marsh. Member of the public is concerned how the

light is affecting habitats and conflicts with the aims of the Dark Skies initiative. Noted that the Norfolk Ornithological Association are already in touch with the owners.

The Parish Council was asked about the prospect of introducing 20mph speed limits particularly in Beach Road where there are bends and the placing of a sign warning motorists of the narrow bridge across the River Hun. Councillor Devereux gave the background to previous discussions about the 20mph speed limit and the Parish Council's intention to convene a public consultation to discuss the implications. Councillor Crown confirmed that signs were already in place on both sides of the bridge. Concern was expressed about the welfare of someone seen camping out on Green Bank

Clerk to notify local Police for information

6. Visitor Management Plan for Holme Dunes

The main areas covered by the Visitor Management Plan (VMP) for Holme Dunes were outlined by Councillor Devereux pending a formal response from the Parish Council. Key issues identified were those of visitor pressure – specifically parking, conflicts between different user activities, impact on sea defences and disturbance of wildlife. It was acknowledged that consideration needs to be given to education initiatives targeting users of the beach, effective management of traffic and people in moving around the village.

7. Planning matters

7.1. Applications received subsequent to this agenda

7.1.1. - **21/01902/CU** - Change of use of land to permissive footpath and equine path at Land South of 60 and South East of 71 Beach Road. Deadline for response 1 November 2021.

Parish Council noted that the field has been subject to two recent planning applications for development - 19/00433/F (withdrawn) and 20/01081/FM (refused). The field is currently subject to an Enforcement Enquiry 21/00286/UNAUTU and a Court Order dated 9 July 2021. In terms of relevant planning policy, the following were taken into consideration - Core Strategy CS11, SADMP DM19, NDP Policy HNTS25, NDP Policy HNTS 8 and NDP Policy HNTS7. The Parish Council found the Application unclear in regard to the area it refers to and ownership. Noted that a permissive path can be withdrawn by the landowner at any time.

The Parish Council were concerned on a number of issues relating to the Application not stating the proposed use class or giving details of access points, increased pressure on Protected Sites and its status as a permissive path in the long-term.

Decision: Object – unanimous

It was suggested that given the number of mistakes and inconsistencies in the Application the Parish Council should also send a letter to the Borough Council asking how it had been validated.

Clerk to contact Borough Council for an explanation

7.2. Applications for comment

7.2.1. - – **21/01394/F** – First floor extension and alterations to dwelling at Terns, 49 Peddars Way, PE36 6LD. Deadline for response 15 October 2021

Parish Council acknowledged that its concerns regarding the original Application had received a positive response from the Applicant which was reflected in this revised Application. Concerns that had been expressed by the Parish Council and neighbours regarding size/first floor extension have

now been addressed and the plans now meet the requirements of HNTS17 and HNTS11. Noted rooflights remain which create the possibility of a subsequent loft conversion under PDR.

No objection but will request a condition to control for the impact of the Velux windows on light pollution.

7.3. Other Applications for information

7.3.1. - **21/00188/TREECA** - T1 - T3 Self seeded Sycamores - Crown lift approximately from 5 feet to 8 feet. T4 Sycamore - Crown lift from (approx) 4 feet to 10 feet. T5 Yew - Limb removal. H1 Large Yew Hedge - Re-shape and crown reduction within a conservation area Church of St Mary, Kirkgate

7.3.2. – **21/00205/TREECA** - 1. Reduce height of mixed hedging to 2.5m and thin the planting on the western boundary adjacent to the caravan park to reduce shading effect on the Caravans. 2. Deadwood and crown clean the trees in the park adjacent to the house and those in the woodland to the front of the property. 3. Crown reduce by 1.5m and crown clean 5 field maples at the side of the property and crown reduce by 1.5m one fruit tree in the walled garden, within a Conservation Area. Whitehall Farm, 26 Kirkgate, PE36 6LH

7.4. Comments made on applications

7.4.1. - **21/00457/F** - Demolition of existing bungalow, construction of detached two-storey dwelling with garage and garden room. Westfield, 27 Peddars Way, PE36 6LE

Parish Council maintained its previous objections regarding the size of the proposal and had concerns over how the Borough Council were calculating the size.

Councillor Lawton to contact Borough Council planners to ask them to arrange a site visit

7.5. Decisions reported

7.5.1. - **21/00173/F** - Gurneys Fish Box, 1 Drove Orchards, Thornham Road, PE36 6LS - Extension on to retail unit (Use Class A1) for restaurant area (Use Class A3), storage and WCs including parking and drainage. Application Permitted. *Delegated Decision*

7.5.2. - **21/00188/TREECA** - T1 - T3 Self seeded Sycamores - Crown lift approximately from 5 feet to 8 feet. T4 Sycamore - Crown lift from (approx) 4 feet to 10 feet. T5 Yew - Limb removal. H1 Large Yew Hedge - Re-shape and crown reduction within a conservation area Church of St Mary, Kirkgate. *No objection*

7.5.3. - **21/00494/F** - Prospect House, 39 Westgate, PE36 6LF - Erection of closeboard wooden fence 2m high x 16.8m long inside existing 1.1m high brick and chalk front boundary wall. *Withdrawn Application*

7.6. Appeals and Enforcement

7.6.1. - Borough Council is looking at Article 3 designations to prevent any development under the Permitted Development 28/56 Day legislation for the Poplars, Inglenook and Beach Road sites which would stop any camping activities.

Field on east side of Beach Road – Enforcement have confirmed their satisfaction that the High Court Order made on 9 July 2021 has been complied with. They have been made aware of gates erected and a “track.” The Borough Council are following up on a previous enforcement notice regarding an advertising sign.

20/00356/UNOPDE - Land on The West Side of Beach Road and South of 71 Beach Road. Enforcement

have confirmed that the siting of a horse shelter at the above location is not considered to be operational development and therefore is not considered to be development requiring planning permission. A legal case in Dorset was quoted as precedent.

Councillor Devereux to write to Geoff Hall (Borough Council) expressing the Parish Council's concern over the pace at which Enforcement matters are progressed

8. Village matters

8.1. Park Piece

The Fields in Trust website displays a statement on Park Piece's status as an open space and the Parish Council's intentions (at the time of adoption in 2012) to provide access, maintain the area, provide information, establish a children's play area, landscape a silted pond area on the southern boundary, provide pathways including disabled access, a new entrance from Westgate and plant fruit and nut trees.

The Parish Council has been informed of an outbreak of *crassula helmsii* on Park Piece, a non-native invasive species which is harmful to other plants and can be spread by people's feet and animals after walking on affected areas. The Clerk had attended a meeting with the NWT who were accompanied by the NOA, both of whom have had experience of treating and eliminating *crassula helmsii*. The following advice was given:

- the area of the scrape and a metre wide strip around it, should be cordoned off with notices explaining why, and that dogs should be kept on a lead to stop the spread and additional notices at entrances to Park Piece as well for information.
- the scrape should be sprayed with Roundup made up to the recommended concentration for *crassula helmsii*. Footwear of sprayer to be removed before walking on other parts of Park Piece and cleaned off.
- heavy duty opaque plastic to be tightly and securely placed on top of the scrape after spraying Roundup to ensure no light penetrates to the *crassula helmsii* and this should be in place for a minimum of 12 months

Matters of consideration:

- Costs – cordoning materials, signs, Roundup, heavy duty plastic and method of keeping it in place, time and labour (depending on who undertakes the work)
- Presentation of Park Piece – sight of a large piece of heavy duty plastic would not present the space at its best
- Effect on other plant life on the scrape – the use of Roundup will kill off all the plant life here and will have to re-establish itself once *crassula helmsii* has been eradicated

Another option considered was to fill in the scrape with soil

Parish Council agreed to look at the options and decide at next meeting

8.1.1. Donation

The County Council's Tree Officer was not keen on supporting oaks as part of the *Million Trees in Norfolk* scheme as they require lots of attention to get established and take time to make an impact. Preference is for clumping of younger trees.

Councillor Burton recounted previous experience of planting oaks on Park Piece which did not require much attention.

Parish Council to agree by circulation and report at next meeting

8.2. Beach Road traffic and Golf Club Car Park (Councillor Amies)

Councillor Amies reported that the Golf Club will be taking back control of the car park once the lease expires next summer. Not clear at this point how the car park will be managed. Clarification required on whether parishioners are able to obtain free parking permits.

Clerk to contact Golf Club Secretary regarding free parking permits for parishioners

8.3. Defibrillator

8.3.1. New registration procedure (Councillor Crown)

Councillor Crown reported that he had registered the Parish Council's defibrillator on the new national database which emergency services use to inform callers of the location of devices

8.3.2. Signs (Councillor Burton)

Councillor Burton's suggestion that the Parish Council buys some 'your nearest defibrillator' signs to post at strategic sites around the village was supported.

Clerk to purchase signs

9. Monthly Report from RFO

9.1. Report

Monthly internal financial check for August conducted by Councillor Crown 25 September 2021 with a recommendation that all invoices from April 2021 to date be checked and signed by one of the bank signatories. This was undertaken by Councillor Burton prior to the meeting.

9.2. 2nd Quarter Accounts

These had been previously circulated to councillors. Points noted:

- Most budget codes were on target
- Slight under-estimate for VAT Return - £200
- Income from electricity meter down but hope to increase now that activities resumed
- 100% increase in auditor's fees for AGAR
- Balances built up partly due to pandemic but also due to some expenditure being annual / quarterly and not yet invoiced

9.3. Payments for authorisation

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PAYEE	REASON	AMOUNT	PAYMENT METHOD
BT plc	Telephone and broadband (September)	£44.94	Direct Debit
BT plc	Emergency telephone	£45.46	Direct Debit
NALC	Training	£36.00	Bank Transfer
NALC	Training	£72.00	Bank Transfer
British Gas	VH electricity	£97.28	Direct Debit
Payroll	Staff salaries	£540.93	Bank Transfer
HMRC	PAYE on staff salaries	£135.20	Bank Transfer
BT plc	Telephone and broadband (October)	£57.28	Direct Debit
Westcotec	Annual street lighting maintenance	£125.28	Bank transfer
Eon	Street lighting	£95.34	Direct Debit

Agreed unanimously

10. Standing Orders (Councillor Amies) Deferred

11. Correspondence

11.1. Any correspondence not otherwise on the Agenda

- **King's Lynn & The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons June 2022**
- **Complaint that parking sign at toilet block too low** – Clerk reported this to Highways who have now raised the sign
- **Complaint about "Fly sign posting" along the A149** - Highways responded to enquiry to say that permission should always be sought and that powers could be delegated to Parish Councils to remove offending signs
- **Public Space Protection Order (Dog Control Order) - Renewal consultation** – 12 November deadline – covers dog fouling clean-up (excludes blind and disabled) and dogs on leads plus offences / fines under sections 67-68 of Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. No response regarded as agreement. Therefore, Parish Council will not respond.
- **Highway and Community Ranger Visit to Holme-Next-the-Sea (November 2021)** – requests to Clerk by 22 October 2021
- **Redwell Marsh** – information passed to Parish Council about a resident who felt intimidated by herd of cows and a request to improve access via boardwalks on part of Redwell. NOA asked NCC to re-route path 10 years ago and were discouraged by cost and legal complexities. Parish Council asked to speak to NOA about improving access. Noted that NOA have agreed to re-locate salt licks away from Busseys Lane entry point. Parish Council felt this was a matter for the NOA to discuss with NCC.
- **Letter from Buckingham Palace** – on behalf of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth thanking the PC for its letter of condolence following the death of HRH Prince Philip.

12. Date of next meeting of the Parish Council Tuesday 9 November 2021

Signed Chair

LS Devereux.

Date 9/11/21