

STOKE BY NAYLAND PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 12 JULY 2016 AT 7.30 PM

- Present:** Stevie Bezencenet (SB)
Jeremy Bloomfield - Vice Chairman (JB)
Vivienne Klimowicz (VK) - part
Martin Nielsen (MN)
Isabelle Reece - Chairman (IR)
Adam Sedgwick (AS)
- Jane Cryer - Clerk (JC)
- Apologies:** Nicki Bray (NB)
Julia Louch (JL)
- In attendance:** Melanie Barrett, Babergh District Council (MB)
Andrew Collins - Parishioner (AC)
James Finch, Suffolk CC
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16.7.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

See above.

16.7.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

16.7.3 PUBLIC FORUM

MB noted that several of the road signs were covered in verdigris.

16.7.4 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

16.7.4.1 Babergh DC

MB said that four councils did not vote in favour of adopting the proposals for devolution, but it would still go ahead; the period of public consultation would run until 23 August and would include an Ipsos Mori survey. With regard to the footpath issue raised at the last meeting, MB had spoken to Heather Walton at Babergh and a site inspection would take place on Wednesday 20 July at 2.30pm. JB would attend, but as he had an interest as a co-owner of the boundary fence, AS would also attend on behalf of the PC. BDC had now published their Strategic Plan 2016-20, which was available on the website.

16.7.4.2 Suffolk CC

A written report had been submitted, a copy of which is filed with these minutes.

Devolution

With regard to devolution, JF said parish councils would be able to be more involved in decision making in future. He said that Suffolk CC was keen that the mayor should be elected from amongst the chairmen of the local authorities, but the Minister would make that decision. In response to a question from MN, JF confirmed that district and county councils would continue to exist. The key proposals voted on were:

- A single pot of £25m a year of new money for the next 30 years (£750m) to support economic growth, development of local infrastructure and jobs. 40% of the 'single pot' will be revenue, which can support capital borrowing;

- £100m, over five years, of new money to support the building of new homes across Norfolk and Suffolk. Recognising the housing market conditions in Norwich and Ipswich, Government will also provide the Combined Authority with an additional £30m over five years, split equally for Norwich City and Ipswich Borough, to meet its housing needs;
- A guaranteed £225m transport budget for the next four years;
- Control of an existing c£20m a year Adult skills funding to ensure the training offer matches the needs of local businesses and the local labour market;
- Control of an existing c£2m Apprenticeship Grant for Employers (AGE grant) to enable funding to better meet the needs of local Norfolk and Suffolk employers;
- Greater control over who delivers transport services in Norfolk and Suffolk, and how they are delivered, rather than it being imposed on us by Central Government.

Other matters

IR said that the PC had paid for the VASs last year in order that it did not lose out on funding. However, due to time wasted trying to adhere to SCC guidelines and waiting for permission to proceed, the PC had missed the opportunity to obtain funding for the poles - £150 each.

VK had sent a list of outstanding issues to JF. With regard to the resurfacing of School Street, JF said there was concern about resurfacing alongside historical buildings and the whole road needed to be made homogenous and be surface dressed. The road would, therefore, be temporarily mended and the main work carried out during 2017.

The 20mph zone had been approved - in addition to this, JF said a Traffic Regulation Order had been made for a 30mph speed limit in Scotland Street, which now needed to be approved by the Speed Limit Panel. Both these actions would be combined into one project; JF would send the final plan to JC.

16.7.4.3 Police

VK said the SNT newsletters were incomplete. Regular Police reports were no longer circulated, although information was available from the website. AS suggested asking NB to look into this issue and it would be an agenda item for the next meeting.

16.7.5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was proposed by VK, seconded by AS and agreed unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14 June 2016 should be accepted as an accurate record, and signed accordingly.

16.7.6 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR

IR confirmed that only one application had been received for the vacant post. It was proposed by VK, seconded by SB and agreed unanimously that Andrew Collins should be co-opted. The Clerk would send him Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Register of Member's Interests forms to complete.

16.7.7 FINANCIAL MATTERS

16.7.7.1 RFO's report

The report was noted. It was proposed by MN, seconded by JB and agreed unanimously that payments of £648.55 should be authorised. It was also agreed that the Clerk should ask Babergh DC to pay the second tranche of the precept into the current account, rather than the savings account.

16.7.8 REVIEW OF ASSETS REGISTER

It was agreed that the Asset and Risk Assessment Report required updating; AC said he would be happy to take the lead on this and JB volunteered to assist.

With regard to the Asset Register, JC would add the following items:

- VASs and speed gun
- Village green

- Cones and signs *
- Laptop (when purchased)
- Noticeboard (£450)
- 17 'dragons' teeth' at Clipt Bush Corner

* Before adding these, JC would write to the PCC, the Village Hall and the Recreation Ground to explain that, due to the VAT position, the items needed to be in the ownership of the PC, otherwise part-owners would be liable for VAT.

16.7.9 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

16.7.9.1 Planning Committee

The Planning Committee had met earlier in the evening. One planning application had been received, for Listed Building Consent to repair and secure the structure of The Portico, Tendring Hall Park; the Committee had not objected.

AS had circulated a summary of actions from the last Community Engagement meeting; it had been agreed that a representative should be appointed to the AONB Board and AS was looking into the mechanism for doing so. Nayland, Polstead and Stoke had all agreed that planning training would be useful and would investigate this with SALC. No one had been able to attend the recent meeting on 'Building a Sustainable Future', but AS would ask Sue Calver for feedback. With regard to Horkesley Park, one of the main issues was covenants to protect against further development; AS would attend the next meeting.

16.7.9.2 Street light working party

JB reported on the meeting a few weeks ago when the outcome of the consultation held in June had been presented; it had been agreed to adopt the original proposal unamended. JB had asked Richard Webster to cost the work and was awaiting his quote; a final proposal would be brought to the Working Party in time to be presented to the September PC meeting. JB stressed that the PC could choose to use the SCC contractor, but was not obliged to do so.

A confidential discussion followed; the public were asked to withdraw for this item.

16.7.9.3 Road Safety Action Group

Training had now taken place; Speedwatch was almost up and running.

16.7.9.4 War Memorial

One quote had been received so far, from Luxstone - JC would ask Neil Luxton for further information concerning his research. AS was in the process of obtaining further quotes. IR said funding was available from the Heritage Lottery Fund and also the War Memorial Trust; it was agreed to approach the WMT first.

16.7.9.5 Other Parish bodies

VK said the Recreation Ground grass had now been cut by Suffolk CC and would be maintained as before from now on.

16.7.10 HIGHWAYS

SB said the group had met at the end of June and had discussed parking restrictions etc. She had written to JF with a list of possible solutions and had received a response from Steve Merry, following which she had raised further questions. She had requested a response to these in time for the next meeting of the Parking Group, on Monday 18 July.

AS observed that the cutting of verges appeared to be carried out randomly. It was hoped that SCC would enforce the cutting of overhanging hedges etc by residents.

16.7.11 FOOTPATHS

MN said growth had been faster than usual owing to the weather; he had asked SCC to return as the footpaths had been cut so early in the year.

16.7.12 GRIT BINS

VK had obtained an estimate for repairing the bin at the entrance to the Recreation Ground - the cost would be £30. It was proposed by JB, seconded by SB and agreed unanimously to go ahead with the repairs; VK would contact Mr Baalham. Other grit bins had grass growing in them and the one by the church was full of cuttings. IR suggested asking the Anglia in Bloom volunteers to address these issues. JB suggested that if any bins needed replacing, plastic ones which looked like wood should be considered. JB would draft a piece for the newsletter about the illegal dumping of garden waste, and send it to JC. With regard to bonfires, IR would look at this later in the year.

16.7.13 ANGLIA IN BLOOM

IR's report had been circulated and was noted. Judging had taken place on Monday 11 July and the results would be announced on 13 September, at the awards ceremony in Gorleston. Certificates had been produced for everyone who had helped, including the school. JB thanked IR on behalf of the PC for her hard work.

16.7.14 CORRESPONDENCE

JC had received a letter from Barclays to say the St Johns branch in Colchester was closing; this would not affect the High Street branch where the PC's accounts were held. However, it was agreed that JC should make enquiries about moving the accounts to the Hadleigh branch.

16.7.15 COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Items for the next issue:

- Anglia in Bloom
- Garden waste
- Co-option of Andrew Collins

16.7.16 OUTSTANDING ISSUES / FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

It was agreed that the Clerk's review should be carried out by IR and JB, date to be confirmed.

16.7.17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7.30pm on Tuesday 13 September 2016, preceded by Planning Committee meeting at 7pm.

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