

HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 10th September 2013 at 7:30pm in The Mill Centre

ACTION

Present

Chairman Mr Geoffrey Moulton, Mr David Hook, Mrs Liz Allen, Mrs Debbie Ashford, Kevin Cunningham, Mr Richard Delf, Mr David Pointer, Mr Mike Turner, and the Clerk Mr Ian Nelson.

Members of the public present

County Councillor Alison Thomas, Mr Michael Haslam, Mr John Hollis, Mrs Miranda Moss, Mr Derek Maslen, Mrs Liz Maslen, Mr Theodore Newstead, Mrs Jill Turner, Mrs Julie Parker, Mrs Melanie Hook, Mr Barrie Masterson, Mr Roger Parker, Mr Paul Blyth, Mr Chris Laxton, Mrs Jeannette Franks, Mr Richard Benjamin, Mr Roger Eagle, Mrs Sue Eagle, Mrs Barbara Jeffrey, Mrs Lesley Mitchenhall, Mr Trevor Shurmer, Mr Garrod, Mrs Garrod, Mr Bernard Smith, Mrs Sarah Smith, Ms Mary Taylor, Dr David Taylor, Mrs Jenifer Ashcroft, Mrs Sheila Budd, Mrs Susan Woodward.

Apologies

Apologies were received from, District Councillor Michael Windridge and Mr Peter Workman.

Declarations of Interest

Mr Moulton declared an interest in the wind turbine matter.

Mrs Allen declared a prejudicial interest in the Wind Turbine, Swan Meadow Footpath and Long Stratton Area Action Plan matters.

Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 21st August 2013 were approved and signed.

Public Participation

Wind Turbines

Mrs M Hook was very concerned that the village is being asked to respond to a change in the planning application in such a short timescale.

Mr Robin Smith asked whether repeated applications constitute harassment and said that there must be a legal way of stopping this happening.

Mrs Mary Taylor suggested that people must accept that applications will keep coming for years unless the landowner withdraws their interest in the development. She also asked if the parish poll would still be valid. Mr Moulton responded that it was still valid, as are the letters of objection from parishioners because it is a revised application and not a new one. However it is possible that TCI may discredit the strength of some of those letters and the poll as they refer to 4 and not 3 turbines, so it would be best for everybody to write to SNC again. Mr Hook added that it would therefore probably be necessary to hold another Parish Poll.

County/District Councillor updates

Mrs Thomas referred to the Putting People First consultation and encouraged engagement.

There is a budget simulator on the NCC website to help people understand the effect of cuts etc. She would like to take back the views of the parish council following the next meeting, for example on footpaths, buses etc.

The broadband improvement scheme should be completed for the whole of Norfolk by Autumn 2015. This will give a minimum of 2Mb speed up to 24Mb depending on your

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area. The clerk to email Mrs Thomas a postcode for this area so that she can check the likely speed for Hempnall. **ACTION
IN**

Mr Hook took the chair.

Mrs Allen left the meeting.

Wind Turbines - Application 2013/0105 - revised

General Update

Mr Hook indicated that TCI had changed their application and reduced the number of turbines from 4 to 3. The deadline for comments is set at 27 September. TCI environmental statement and other documentation had been amended to take this into account.

Mr Hook indicated that TCI must have been aware of the revision for weeks due to the amount of work involved in revising their submission, however the parish council was unaware of the revision until now, and in fact it had not even received any notification or the revised planning application documentation from SNC. County Councillor Thomas said that she would send an email to SNC to say she attended the meeting tonight and was disappointed, especially due to the strength of public concern expressed by attendees, that the matter could not be considered as the plans had not been delivered.

Mrs Mellors, SNC Development Manager, had said to Mr Hook that the applicants have been guided by comments in the SNC landscape architect's report.

With parishioners support a lot of money has been spent on visualisations –

The parish council will now need to consider :

- The revisions.
- Commissioning new visualisations.
- Holding a new parish poll.
- The effect on bats which were still a significant factor.
- Revisiting Natural England opinion re the ornithological survey.
- Many other aspects would need to be reviewed and responded to.

It was agreed that reasonable time for consultation should be afforded to the parish council and that 21 days was not reasonable in the circumstances. Upon review, one may even find that the change to the application is such that it should be treated as a new application. Mr Hook proposed, Mr Turner seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the clerk should write a letter to SNC requesting more time and explaining why this is necessary and requesting a response by 16 September. **IN**

If SNC did not grant sufficient extension consideration would be given to taking legal advice on the matter.

Mr Haslam, a former chief planning officer for SNC, considered the amended application warranted substantial proper open consultation and it was agreed to seek support for this from District and County councillors and MPs. **IN**

It was agreed that parishioners still needed to write in to SNC to state their views as there are now 3 turbines instead of 4.

Dr Tim Reed had reviewed Francesca Shapland's letter and suggested a response which had been sent to Natural England & SNC.

The clerk had the written to Mr Bacon again and this time received a definitive response

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that the 'new guidelines' (Planning practice guidance for renewable and low carbon energy) do apply retrospectively to the planning application for wind turbines close to Hempnall. The response had stated that they do apply. **ACTION**

Mr Hook reported that the MoD had objected on the grounds that turbines interfere with radar.

It was agreed that a special meeting to consider the amended application should be held on meeting 16 September at 7.30 at the Mill Centre. The clerk to arrange. **IN/ALL**

It was noted that Richard Bacon MP was holding surgery in Long Stratton on 23 September at the bank and parishioners were encouraged to attend to let him know their views.

Mr Hook proposed, Mr Delf seconded and it was unanimously agreed that a letter be sent requesting the support of Richard Bacon MP, County Councillor Alison Thomas, District Councillors Michael Windridge, Murray Gray and Florence Ellis and surrounding parish councils for a longer period of consultation in respect of the amended application.

Mr Moulton re-took the chair.

Mrs Allen re-joined the meeting.

Planning Applications

New applications since the last meeting:

Mr J Hollis, Springwood Spring Lane Hempnall Norfolk NR15 2NT - Retrospective application for change of use of land to retain existing forestry accommodation (2 no caravans) and develop four traveller pitches to enable stationing of a maximum of 8 no caravans.

Mr Hollis said that two of the traveller pitches are intended for family members, one for a sub-contractor and one for a friend who is also in the forestry industry. He indicated that the pitches would be leased out for 50 years.

Mr Moulton proposed, Mr Pointer seconded and it was agreed 5 votes for and 3 abstentions that the application be refused, primarily as it was outside the development area. **IN**

Applications approved since the last meeting:

Mr M Rudling, Meadow Farm Silver Green Hempnall Norfolk NR15 2NL - Proposed detached car port, wood store and play room.

Mrs K Irvine, The White Bungalow Fairstead Lane Farm Pymars Lane Hempnall Norfolk NR15 2RG - Certificate of existing lawful use for breach of condition for continuous use of persons who are not employed and not last employed in agriculture.

Matters arising from previous parish council meetings – completed

Hempnall School

The Clerk had written to the Head to congratulate re the Ofsted report. The clerk had noted to raise funding for the school at the precept meeting.

Parish Council Computer

The Clerk had replaced the computer within budget.

Get well card

The Clerk had sent a card to Mr Windridge.

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Back Lane Cutting

The Clerk had contacted PROW to indicate that it needed cutting.

ACTION

Contract for School Road Safety Scheme

The Clerk had received the relevant undertakings from the school and thus signed and submitted the contract to NCC.

Long Stratton Area Action Plan - Preferred Options Consultation

The clerk had emailed all the councils and others as requested. To date no interest had been shown in holding a meeting.

Matters arising from previous parish council meetings – awaiting others

Relocation of Queen's Head Recycling Unit

We await confirmation from SNC that envelopes and glass would be allowed in the green wheelie bins from next spring.

IN

Matters arising from previous parish council meetings – for discussion

Autumn Newsletter

The clerk had drafted, however it was agreed to change the articles to include the revised wind turbine application and parking issues in Old Market Way.

IN

Local Area Flood Map

The parish council had been asked by the Environment Agency to identify properties that were flooded in the 1968 flood and those marked at risk of flooding on the flood area map but which were not flooded in 1968.

It was agreed that Mrs Allen, Mr Cunningham and Mr Pointer should consider the maps with the photographic evidence and their local knowledge and provide a suggested response to the October parish council meeting.

LA/KC
/DP

The clerk to contact Mr Day for permission to hold on to his photo album to accommodate the above.

IN

Swan Meadow Footpath

Mrs Allen left the meeting.

The Clerk had written to PROW again. Mr Hook stated that and Mr Edwards of PROW has reported that the path had been correctly located. Mr Hook reported that more people had complained to him about difficulties using the newly fenced off route and that they had requested that the long established route that is further away from the hedge should be reinstated.

It was agreed to walk the path before the next meeting and re agenda.

ALL

Mrs Allen returned to the meeting.

Re-turf swing area

Mr Delf requested this matter to be carried forward.

RD

Notice Boards

Mr Delf requested this matter to be carried forward.

PW/RD

Repair of Play Unit

Mr Delf requested this matter to be carried forward.

RD

ROSPA report

Mr Delf requested this matter to be carried forward.

RD

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Youth Shelter on playing field

Mr Delf requested this matter to be carried forward.

ACTION
RD

Dog Bin – Busseys Loke

Mrs Bennett and Mrs Jackson (as school governor) had written to state that there is an increasing issue with dog mess, and more specifically dog mess being left bagged on the school boundary. She requested that the parish council purchase an additional dog bin to be located along Busseys Loke. The clerk indicated that it would cost circa £140 for a bin plus installation costs and a further £60 per annum to have it emptied.

It was agreed to monitor the situation. The clerk to respond accordingly.

IN

Parking Old Market Way

Mrs Ashford stated that concern was expressed about residents parking on the road instead of their own driveways causing possible impedance to emergency vehicles.

Mrs Allen proposed, Mrs Ashford seconded and it was unanimously agreed that this matter be referred to in the newsletter.

IN

Footpath Maintenance

Mr Pointer reported that Mr John Ellis kindly voluntarily cut one of the footpaths. It was agreed to register the parish council's opinion that NCC recommences its full footpath maintenance programme. The clerk to inform County Councillor Thomas.

IN

Moles - Old Church Yard

The Clerk had chased the existing grass cutting contractor again and received a quotation. He had also obtained an alternate quote on a per mole basis. It was agreed that alternative quotations would be obtained for an annual contract.

Mr Cunningham to liaise with Mr Jackson.

KC

Mr Moulton to liaise with his contact.

GM

Nobbs Lane Hedge

The Clerk had written to Mr Taylor resulting in Mr Hook having a site meeting with him. Mr Taylor is now going to meet with Mr Dunning to agree an appropriate hedge management plan. The Parish Council has not received a response from NCC regarding the ownership of the lane, the clerk to chase.

IN

Length of meetings

Mrs Allen had suggested that the length of parish council meetings was too long and should be restricted to 2.5 hours.

It was generally felt that councillors had a duty of care to consider every matter properly, however the chair would bear in mind fatigue. The situation to be monitored.

School Involvement with parish council

As before, it was agreed to carry this forward to the precept meeting.

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Correspondence

ACTION

Information Pack

The items placed in the information pack envelope circulated to all Councillors on 10th September:

Norfolk Link issue 191
Clerks and Councils Direct issue 88
Norfolk Link issue 192
NRCC Signpost
Clerks and Councils Direct issue 89

No further matters were raised from the above.

Items given directly to Councillors or representatives since the last main meeting were:

Various police crime summaries
South Norfolk big switch and save
The Rural Fair Share Petition
Highway Boundaries and costs

No further matters were raised from the above.

Items placed directly onto the parish notice boards were:

Notice/Agenda for parish council meeting 21st August 2013.
Notice/Agenda for parish council meeting 10th September 2013.
Notice of audit completion

No further matters were raised from the above.

Website

The following changes had been made since the last main meeting:

Added Parish Council draft minutes of 21st August 2013.
Added Parish Council minutes of 11th June 2013.
Added Parish Council draft minutes of 16th July 2013.
Added Parish Council minutes of 16th July 2013.
Added Notice/Agenda for parish council meeting 21st August 2013
Added Notice/Agenda for parish council meeting 10th September 2013.
Added various planning application details
Added Annual return 2013 and auditors report

No further matters were raised from the above.

Correspondence from Parishioners

Items not covered under other headings are as follows:

Hempnall Village Hall Car Park

Hempnall Village Hall Committee letter dated 8th September was received today, indicating they would like to repair the car park in the next 12 months.

Councillors to inspect the car park for the next main meeting.

ALL

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Financial Statements

ACTION

Movements since last meeting

The Clerk presented the financial statement attached to these minutes showing the movements from 17 July to 10th September 2013. The statement was in line with the annual budget. Mr Delf proposed, Mrs Allen seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the statement be approved.

External Audit of accounts to 31/03/13

The clerk reported that a clean audit report had been received and the appropriate notices had been displayed on the parish council notice board.

Clerk's Salary Review

The clerk left the room.

Mr Pointer proposed, Mrs Ashford seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the clerk's salary be increased by 3.5% to take effect from 1st July 2013 his annual salary review date. The clerk was thanked for his services over the last year and in recognition of all the extra work undertaken Mr Cunningham proposed, Mr Turner seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the clerk be paid a one off non contractual sum of £500.

The clerk returned to the room.

The clerk expressed his gratitude for the above.

Play Area & Playing Field

Mr Delf said that there was nothing to report.

Nobb's Lane Footpath Creation

Mr Hook indicated that for many years there is a track that provides a circular walk just off the permissive way and that recently "No public right of way" signs had been erected at either end.

Mr Hook proposed, Mr Pointer seconded and it was agreed 6 votes for, and 2 abstentions that the process is started to register the track as a public right of way.

IN

Right to Roam

Mr Hook indicated that with reference to the above matter, the public do have a right to roam as the path had not been ploughed for over a year.

Dates for next year's meetings

It was unanimously agreed that that the following dates be set for next year's meetings. The clerk to make the relevant hall bookings.

IN

14/01/2014	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting - Full
11/02/2014P	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting - Planning
11/03/2014	7.00pm	Parish Meeting
11/03/2014	8.00pm	Parish Council Meeting - Full
15/04/14 P	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting - Planning
13/05/2014	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting - Full - Annual Meeting
10/06/14 P	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting - Planning
08/07/2014	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting - Full
05/08/14 P	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting - Planning
09/09/2014	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting - Full
14/10/14P	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting - Planning

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11/11/2014	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting - Full	ACTION
09/12/14 P	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting - Planning	

Items for Newsletter

The following items were identified for the next newsletter:

- Wind Turbines
 - Parking in and around Old Market Way
- IN

Items for next meeting

Mrs Allen reported that there had been an accident as a result of the sunken road surface on Broaden Rd. It was agreed that as this was a matter of public safety, the clerk should report this to NCC Highways immediately.

IN

Date of next meeting

There will be a special meeting to consider the revised wind turbine application on 16 September at 7.30pm.

The following meeting (subject to receipt of applications) will be primarily planning at 7:30pm on 8th October 2013

The next Parish Council main meeting will take place at 7.30pm on 12th November 2013.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 22.22pm.

Signed _____ Date 16th September 2013

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Presented to meeting on 10 September 2013

Current Account

(Payments)/Receipts since last meeting :		£
24/07/2013	CGM (Norwich) Ltd - Grass cutting	(56.68)
04/08/2013	tr BPA to C/a	500.00
04/08/2013	Playsafe Ltd - ROSPA report	(92.40)
06/08/2013	tr BPA to C/a	900.00
06/08/2013	Ecotext Ltd - Ornithological report	(840.00)
12/08/2013	Eon - Electricity	(10.51)
05/08/2013	NSIB Interest	7.43
21/08/2013	CGM (Norwich) Ltd - Grass cutting	(56.68)
31/08/2013	Mazars – Auditors	(240.00)
10/09/2013	Eon - Electricity	(10.51)
10/09/2013	CGM (Norwich) Ltd - Grass cutting	(56.68)
10/09/2013	I Nelson expenses - post / card	(12.94)
		<u>31.03</u>
	Closing Balance	<u>137.14</u>

Business Premium Account

(Payments)/Receipts since last meeting :		£
04/08/2013	tr BPA to C/a	(500.00)
06/08/2013	tr BPA to C/a	(900.00)
		<u>(1,400.00)</u>
	Closing Balance	<u>33,767.68</u>