

HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 30 March 2021 at 7:00pm
virtually via Zoom

Present

Chairman Mr David Hook, Vice Chair Mr Richard Delf, Mrs Liz Allen, Mrs Joan Cann, Mr Andy Driver, Mr Hamish Rose, Mr Mike Turner, Mr Peter Workman and the Clerk Mr Ian Nelson.

Members of the public present

Mr Simon Carver to end of planning application 2021/0325.

Apologies

There were none.

Declarations of Interest

Mrs Allen & Mr Hook declared an interest in the football club net matter.

Minutes of the previous meeting

Mrs Cann proposed, Mr Delf seconded, and it was unanimously agreed the minutes of the meeting on 16 March 2021 be approved.

Public Participation

Mr Carver provided details in regard to his planning application – see below.

Planning Applications

New applications since the last meeting:

2021/0325 - Mr Simon Carver, Pear Tree Farm, Alburgh Road Hempnall NR15 2NS - Extension, refurbishment and re-modelling of design to existing detached dwelling – Mr Delf proposed, Mr Turner seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the application be approved. IN

2021/0367 - Mr Adam Austin, 21 Alburgh Road Hempnall - Erection of rear garage – Mr Workman proposed, Mr Turner seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the application be refused as the plans presented contained inadequate information and were poorly drawn and therefore were not up to the standard needed to arrive at a fair conclusion. Concern was also expressed that the domestic residence may be turned into a builder's yard with 3 garages and 2 entrances. IN

2021/0518 - Mr Rob Neil, Scots Bungalow Field Lane Hempnall NR15 2PB - Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of three bungalows – Mr Workman proposed, Mr Hook seconded, and it was agreed with one abstention that the application be refused as it is outside the village development area, thereby contravening Hempnall Parish Council policy, and because the 3 bungalows were too closely spaced and out of keeping with surrounding existing homes. Concerns were also expressed about potential access issues. IN

2021/0552 - Mr Rob Webb, Nelson House, The Street, Hempnall NR15 2AD - Paving of front forecourt, boundary walling, garage and garden store – Mr Driver proposed, Mrs Cann seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the application be approved subject to the retention of the front hedge and railings along the roadside pavement rather than the building of a new wall for that section of the boundary. IN

2021/0515 - Mr Sam Drummond, Poultry Farm, Road Green, Hempnall - Demolition of 8 No. existing poultry sheds and erection of 6 No. replacement poultry sheds, together with control rooms, feed bins, concrete apron, dirty water tanks and drainage attenuation pond.

The Clerk had circulated letters from Mr & Mrs Dye and Mr Whiting.

Concern was expressed about greater vehicle movements along a very narrow rural lane. Mr Hook said the agent had told him that the lorry movements would only increase by 1/3

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despite doubling of the poultry capacity. This would be achieved by the use of larger vehicles. Councillors felt this is still not acceptable given the nature of the local rural road which would be used to access the site which is already in a damaged condition. It was noted that similar poultry house developments at Grange Farm, Hempnall had necessitated the provision of passing places along Field Lane. Councillors felt that Road Green would need to be resurfaced and provided with passing places in order to facilitate the extra and heavier traffic movements were the development to go ahead.

Concern was also expressed that the agent had not responded in detail to the issues raised by the parishioners who had written to the parish council. These issues were in regard to: the clearing the sheds at night and the disturbance this causes to residents; the smell and flies associated with such a large number of extra poultry and the inadequacy of the local road network to accommodate such a large scale development. However it was acknowledged that modern poultry huts were likely to be more efficient at odour management than the existing sheds and that the replacement of existing dusk to dawn low pressure sodium lighting by movement sensor downward facing LED lighting would reduce light pollution from the site significantly.

Mr Delf proposed, Mr Turner seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the application be refused on the grounds that the local roads were inadequate to deal with the increase in the size and number of lorries and that the concerns of local parishioners especially re smell, flies and noise disturbance had not been addressed.

IN

Applications approved since the last meeting:

There were none.

Applications refused since the last meeting:

There were none.

Applications outside the parish boundary since the last meeting:

There were none.

Football Club Nets

Mr Workman proposed, Mr Hook seconded, and it was unanimously agreed the Clerk should liaise with Mr Shurmer to agree a site meeting between councillors and the football club to take forward the idea of moving the main pitch north eastwards and repositioning the dug outs. Councillors were minded to financially contribute to the moving of the dugouts as an alternative to the provision of ball netting at the southern end of the playing field.

IN

Millfields Exception Site

We await progress. The Clerk chased up Saffron on the 22nd, March and offered to meet Richard Browse. It was agreed with Richard to wait for a decision from SNC as to how they proposed to proceed in regard to this site before holding a meeting. The Clerk to monitor.

IN

Planning enforcement

The Clerk & Mr Rose had attended the training session and the Clerk had circulated course material to councillors.

The Deals / TPOs.

We await news from SNC. It was noted SNC had granted the applicant until 26 April to submit revised plans.

DH/IN

Mr Delf reported that the Deals is now occupied.

Bungay Road Closure

Mr Turner reported that a Lundy Green resident had asked why NCC could not have used traffic lights instead of closing the road as vehicles using the diversion route were causing so much damage to the road/verges. Mr Rose pointed out that Bungay road was not wide enough to allow the use of lights and the relevant safety zone around the works.

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It was noted that County Councillor Thomas had today asked NCC Highways for better signage.

Mr Hook proposed, Mrs Allen seconded, and it was unanimously agreed the Clerk should write to NCC and copy in Mrs Thomas to make the general point that motorists found it difficult to know where a road was closed as there are many repeater signs and none of them state the location of the closure. In addition, NCC should take note that often road closed signs are erected when the road is in fact still open, so people do not believe the signs when they see them. NCC should ensure information regarding the location of the closure is given on the signs and signs are only erected when the road is actually closed.

IN

Vandalism on play area

The Clerk and Mrs Allen had attended the play area with the police and the vandals. The vandals were suitably contrite and spent 3 hours cleaning off some of the paint.

The Clerk had researched the insurance position and a claim is possible with an excess of £100. The police have told the culprits there may be costs to pay.

It was agreed the Clerk should arrange with the insurance company to have the damage repaired and that the excess be billed to the culprits.

IN

Play Area Repairs & ROSPA report

The following work requirements are outstanding:

- The fibre glass slide was starting to chip off and needed replacing.
- A bolt at the bottom of the slide needs replacing.
- The rocking horse may need replacing.
- The bark supplier has promised to be in touch as soon as supplies of bark are available.

It was agreed as the Covid pandemic was abating Mr Delf could obtain quotes for the replacement of the fibre glass slide unit, the springy horse and associated rubber matting. Other repairs would be carried out post Covid.

RD

A parishioner had requested and been supplied with a copy of the latest ROSPA report and directed to the minutes for a summary of councillors' inspection outcomes.

More parishioners had expressed an interest in joining Mr Webb to take forward the play area development / restoration. The Clerk to encourage this and will ask for a progress report.

IN

Footpath 12

The Clerk had liaised with Mr Dye and discovered the contractor used by Mr Dye had repaired the wrong bridge despite an accurate location map being provided with the invitation to tender.

It was unanimously agreed that given the good quality of the repair of the bridge and the speed at which it had been completed compared to the likely time it would have taken NCC to undertake the work, payment would be made. Mr Dye to also repair the correct bridge and 2 other bridges which are part funded via the Parish Partnership.

IN

Re-wilding

Mr Hook offered to discuss with the Hempnall Town Estate Property Charity the possibility of initiating a re-wilding project.

It was noted that although the parish council puts forward people to act as parish council representatives on various charities in the village, as trustees of those charities, the individuals should act in a way which fulfils their duties as trustees.

Hugmore Pond Trees

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Mr Driver reported that 2 small trees had fallen into Hugmore pond. These were not causing a danger to the public, but it was agreed to ask Mr Dye to remove them. IN

Items for next newsletter

The Clerk to draft and published when appropriate articles on the following:

- Polite parking IN

Items for next main meeting

- Mr Delf to find out who installed fibre broadband in Fritton. RD
- County Broadband to be invited to the 8 June meeting. IN

Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council planning meeting will take place on 20 April virtually at 7.00pm and the next main meeting on 4 May virtually at 7:00pm. IN

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 21:50

Signed _____ Date 20 April 2021