

HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 19 October 2021 at 7:00pm in the Mill Centre.

Present

Chairman Mr David Hook, Vice Chair Mr Richard Delf, 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

District Councillor Michael Edney.

Apologies

Apologies were received from County Councillor Alison Thomas, Mrs Liz Allen.

Declarations of Interest

There were none.

Minutes of the previous meeting

Mr Driver proposed, Mr Delf seconded, and it was unanimously agreed the minutes of the meeting on 21 September be approved.

Public Participation

Mr Edney spoke about the proposed potential move of SNC offices to Broadband Business Park. He was against this for various practical and financial reasons and would vote accordingly in the free voted due to take place in November. The matter is out for public consultation and responses can be made by individuals and the as the parish council.

HPC light pollution policy revision

Mr Hook proposed, Mr Turner seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the following be attached to each planning application response by the parish council:

Lighting Policy

To be attached to every planning application response:

The following information / comments are also relevant to the consideration of the application: -

Hempnall Parish Council has adopted Norfolk County Council's Environmental Lighting Zones' Policy, which classifies Hempnall as a Rural Dark Landscape. Furthermore, the Parish Council conducts its business within the requirements of NPPF statement 185c (2021) and SNC policy DM 3.13. NPPF clause 185c states that: "*planning policies and decisions should limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation.*" Therefore, in the event that this application is approved, Hempnall Parish Council asks South Norfolk Council to ensure, in order to limit light pollution, that any exterior lighting associated with the development is kept to a minimum and that outdoor lights are fully shielded in full cut off, flat glass fittings pointing directly downwards and switched on only when needed (no dusk to dawn sodium lamps for example – white LED movement sensor lights are preferred).

In addition, the wording of policy 2c should be amended to:

2c) Settlement Limit (Development Boundary)

HPC opposes any development of the village outside the Settlement Limit (*), other than affordable/social housing on a small rural exception site. We support infill of small groups of dwellings and small-scale businesses and services inside the Settlement Limit but oppose large scale housing estates.

(* NB The location of the settlement limit, as it applies in HPC policy, is identical to the development boundary in The Site Specific Allocations and Policies Document of the adopted South Norfolk Local Plan (i.e. as currently displayed on September 21st 2021 in

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SSAPD Section 5 - Service Villages – Appendix B4 - Map 039 on page 192 - at the web address www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/current-local-plan/adopted-south-norfolk-local-plan)

The Clerk to amend the standard policy document.

IN

Planning Applications

New applications since the last meeting:

2021/2201 - Mr Andrew Cruickshank, 18 Coronation Crescent Hempnall - Erection of cart shed to rear of dwelling. (retrospective) – Mr Delf proposed, Mr Turner seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the application be approved.

IN

Applications approved since the last meeting:

2021/1938 - Mr P Bates, Bramber House, Mill Road Hempnall - Erection of porch and single storey side extension replacing conservatory and associated roof alterations.

2021/2064 - Mr Dan Grey, Field House Stud Field Lane Hempnall - Discharge of condition 3 of planning permission 2019/2078 - Materials.

2021/1585 - Mr Grant Keys, Land South Of, Bungay Road, Hempnall - Discharge of conditions 15, 19 and 20 of permission 2019/0864 - Condition 15 - external lighting, Condition 19 - landscape management plan, Condition 20 - energy requirement.

Applications withdrawn 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.

Millfields Exception Site

The Clerk had arranged a meeting between Paul Harris the SNC Place Shaping Manager of the SNC policy team and Richard Bowes of Saffron Housing on 19/10 at 10am. Messrs Hook, Driver and Rose attended.

Mr Hook reported that the concerns of the parish council were understood, and the meeting had been helpful. A valuation of the site had recently been undertaken and discussions were in progress between Saffron and SNC. The plan at present is to construct 15 dwellings.

Mr Edney said that he would talk to Mr Stuart Bisley to ascertain the current position and report back to the Clerk who would pass on the information to councillors.

It was useful that SNC was so local and approachable. Mr Edney referred to his comments under public participation re the potential move of SNC, a matter which had been brought up previously as part of correspondence. Mr Driver proposed, Mrs Cann seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should respond to the consultation regarding the proposed move to state that the parish council opposed the move and valued the current local accessibility and saw no reason to change something which had worked well for so long. Not moving would also avoid great cost and disruption to SNC staff and the public they serve.

IN

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The Deals

The Clerk had responded to the application. Mr Edney stated he had made his position clear that the applicant should reinstate the damage caused. Mr Edney said he would find out the current position and report to the Clerk. He said that if officers were minded to approve it, he would call it in to be considered at Development Management Committee at which the parish council could speak. The Clerk will forward Mr Edney's report to councillors when received.

IN

Mr Delf pointed out that one of the trees now proposed for removal has a TPO. Mr Hook will contact Imogen Mole, the tree preservation officer at SNC, to investigate this matter and secure the future of the tree in question. Mr Hook pointed out to the meeting that if the development was to go ahead most of the hedging and trees west of the Deals (between The Deals and Field Lane) would be lost.

DH

Planning permissions & Business Rates

Andy Baines, SNC enforcement officer is still to investigate businesses at Villa Farm. The Clerk to monitor.

IN

Tree Preservation orders for Playing Field

One of the oak trees on the west boundary of the playingfield is not protected by a TPO. The other 2 oak trees are subject to TPOs.

Mr Hook proposed, Mr Workman seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that a TPO be applied for on the unprotected oak tree.

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Matters arising from previous Parish Council meetings – for discussion.

Flooding

The Clerk had written to the Environment Agency ("EA") on 14/03 to invite them to a site meeting and had followed up this request twice, so that our local knowledge could be used to help develop an accurate report with meaningful recommendations. No response had been received so the Clerk spoke to Will Todd, FCRM Senior Advisor – East Anglia. Partnership & Strategic Overview team – Norfolk & Suffolk of the Environment Agency. Mr Todd indicated that the EA would only be looking at prevention matters at the individual properties which were flooded and not the general cause of the flooding.

The Clerk reported that recently The Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance (NSFA) has formally adopted an overall Strategy, designed to enable county wide responses to flooding across all agencies involved. The Alliance's Strategy is also accompanied by an Action Plan that identifies what steps the NSFA and its members are taking to address the risk of flooding. This includes work on individual sites across Norfolk, looking at working out costed solutions to address flood risk on each site and identify potential funding for each one: this work is already underway on an initial selection of sixteen flood sites in Norfolk, with a second tranche of sites being considered.

Mr Driver proposed, Mr Workman seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the Clerk write to NCC copying in County Councillor Thomas asking for a meeting with a representative of the Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance with a view to arriving at solutions to prevent flooding occurring in the first place. Historically major floods have occurred roughly every 25 years with the last 3 taking place in 1968, 1993 and 2020 and scores of houses have been affected.

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Mr Delf and Mr Hook reported to the meeting the comment made by Mr Rust (the owner of a cottage flooded in 1968, 1993 and 2020) that the bank south of the watercourse near his property was lower than the opposite bank and that a possible mitigation measure, which might prevent his house being flooded in the future, would be for a wall to be constructed on the south side to level up bank heights.

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Play area development

Mr Delf gave a report of progress to date and an overview of the proposed plan. A tender had been sent out to 3 suppliers and responses are awaited. Grant applications have also been made. A junior football team may also be formed. Mr Delf to remind the secretary of the requirement to send the Clerk minutes.

RD

It was noted that the sub-committee were not intending to include any adult equipment as part of the project, their research had shown such equipment is generally only used when it's sited away from the children's area. This of course does not preclude the provision of adult equipment elsewhere on the playing field if a keen group of residents were to oversee such a project.

It was noted space would need to be found to house the roller when the concrete garage is removed. It may be possible to loan this to Tasburgh Cricket Club.

The Clerk to contact the developers to ask them when they intend to make available the funds mentioned in their planning application, namely: £13k towards football pitches and £17k for the play area.

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Countdown markers on the approach to the 30mph limit on Broaden Lane

As NCC would not move the 30mph limit towards Saxlingham, Mr Driver proposed, Mr Delf seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should ask NCC Highways to consider erecting countdown markers instead.

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Footpath and bridleway cutting

The Clerk had written to NCC Highways on 17/08 to request that Lower Lane Bridleway be added to the cutting list and awaits a response.

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Due to the inadequacy of NCC cutting consideration is to be given to the parish council arranging its own cutting programme. Mr Rose will review the cutting schedule and report at the next meeting.

HR

B1527 Declassification

The Clerk had made enquires with NCC about the process for declassification and had chased up a response on several occasions, but a response is still awaited.

Mr John Ellis had written with details of a long list of traffic incidents at the junction near his bungalow at Road Green, many of which resulted in damage to the railings protecting the stream.

Mr Cundy had written to complain about a number of issues including of the lack of street cleaning outside the new development off Bungay Road and the road sinking where the mains facilities had been connected to the site. Mr Edney said that he would mention the sunken road to Mrs Thomas. Mr Rose stated it should be the developer's responsibility to clean the road.

Mr Edney thought he would be able to support an application to declassify.

Mr Turner proposed, Mr Hook seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the parish council pursue declassification of the B1527. This was considered the best way forward in order to secure traffic calming measures and possibly removal of the road from its listing as a lorry route. The Clerk to inform NCC accordingly.

IN

Mr Hook proposed, Mr Turner seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should forward Mr Ellis's letter to NCC Highways and state that councillors share his concerns asking them to consider reengineering the junction, for example, the railings could be moved back, and the junction made wider to accommodate the longer lorries. The cost of this would be paid back as repairs would not be necessary in future. The Clerk to also notify NCC that details of the vehicle involved in the most recent incident are available from Mr Ellis should they wish to pursue a damages claim. The Clerk to also inform Mr Ellis of the action taken.

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The Clerk to also pass on to NCC Highways & SNC Mr Cundy's email to ask them to deal with the issues with the developer as necessary. The Clerk inform Mr Cundy of the action taken. IN
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Concern was also expressed about who would maintain the water catchment area of the new development off Bungay Road, for example will it be a resident's association? The Clerk to contact Sarah Everard, SNC planning officer to establish the facts. IN

Parking on the road on the corner of The Street near Broaden Lane

Mr Delf proposed, Mrs Cann seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should ask NCC Highways for double yellow lines either side of the road. IN

Parish Partnership

The Parish Partnerships scheme for local highway improvements is being repeated in 2022/23. All bids to be submitted by 10 December 2021. Councillors to consider suitable projects by the next parish council meeting. The Clerk will send round a letter showing the type of projects which can be considered. ALL
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Crime & Anti-social activity

There had recently been a spate of criminal activity in the village, for example:

Kilbourn's Garage - 3 cars scratched

Butchers - attempted break in

Villa Farm – disturbed an intruder

Mr Delf - digger stolen

Resident's car window smashed attempting to break in

Parishioners were advised to remain vigilant.

Defibrillator Pads

Mrs Paula Bailey, who is responsible for inspecting the defibrillator, had written to inform the council that the defibrillator pads were due to go out of date next month and asked if the council would consider paying for replacements at a cost of £40 per set of adult pads, which last about 1 year before they need replacing. They are also single use, so may need replacing sooner.

Mr Delf proposed, Mr Driver seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the Clerk make suitable arrangements with Mrs Bailey for the council to pay a donation for the cost of the replacement pads and write to the Village Hall Committee to ask them to consider paying half the cost now and ongoing as the unit serves the village hall primarily as well as the rest of the village. Mrs Cann to ensure the matter is considered at the Village Hall Committee next week. IN
JC

Hempnall Art Club Container

Christine Tunmore the secretary of Hempnall Art Club had reported that the container on the playing field which holds their assets was found to be damp caused (she thought) by a leak in the roof. Mr Delf said that he was inspecting the container later in the week with the club representatives. RD

Items for next newsletter

There were no new items.

Items for next main meeting

- D Cracknell
 - Village Hall AGM
- IN

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Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council planning meeting will take place on 14th December at 7.00pm in the Mill Centre and the next main meeting on 16 November at the Mill Centre at 7:00pm.

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There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 21:30.

Signed _____ Date 16 November 2021