

Minutes of Hardingham Parish Council meeting held on 11th November 2019 at 7.00pm at Hardingham Village Memorial Hall

Present: Cllrs Tim Barrett (TB), Richard Burke (RB), Henry Edwards (HE), D George (DG) and Virginia Lenihan (VL).

In attendance: H Frary (Clerk), DC Martin, CC Connolly and one member of the public

OPEN FORUM

DC Martin had previously shared his report which was circulated to Councillors and is available on the website. He highlighted grant schemes that are available for village groups. He also explained that there is now a 'Chairman's Panel' within the planning system to consider applications that would otherwise have been addressed by the full Planning Committee. This change will allow time for the Planning Committee to focus on a smaller number of contentious applications in more depth. The Parish Council were advised to contact the District Councillors within 23 days of receipt of application if they feel that an application should be 'called in' for committee consideration.

A resident asked if the council felt they should attempt to re-route FP1 as a hedge has been planted by households in Low Street which forces walkers to go use a different route than that indicated on the definitive map. There was discussion and it was agreed that the Parish Council would not support any action at this time.

1) Apologies for absence. Cllrs Glen Gower and Jane Strudwick

2) Declarations of Interest. HE is the fabric officer for Hardingham Church and declared an interest in item 5 regarding churchyard cutting.

3) Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th September 2019 were circulated prior to the meeting. They were initialled and signed by the Chairman.

4) Matters Arising from the minutes of the last meeting (not already on the agenda):-

Meadow Barn. There has been no update from Breckland Planning despite the Clerk chasing. This will be carried forward to next agenda until there is a response from Breckland Planning Enforcement. DC Martin confirmed that he is also aware of the situation and is working on behalf of the Parish Council to obtain an update from the enforcement team. **Clerk to add to next agenda**

5) Financial Matters

- Payment of Accounts and precept update
 - Clerks Wages (November) s/o £162.32
 - Clerks Wages (December) s/o £162.32
 - Norfolk Pension Fund (November) chq 642 £60.12
 - Norfolk Pension Fund (December) chq 643 £60.12
 - Clerks reimbursements (September / October) chq 644 £30.48
 - HMRC chq 645 £121.60
 - Village Hall Hire (July, Aug, Sept & Nov) chq 646 £68.00
 - Mr C Cowles (village maintenance) chq 647 £50.00
 - Stationery chq 648 £13.49
 - Hardingham PCC (Grass cutting) chq 649 £250.00

Proposed: TB, seconded: VL

- To begin the process of setting the budget and discussing the precept for 2020/21. The Clerk circulated initial draft figures for the budget and explained the financial impact of no increase in precept, a 2% increase and a 5% increase. A final decision to be made at the January meeting. **Clerk to circulate revised figures and add to the January agenda.**

6) To consider the view of the Council about the following planning issues

- Any time limited planning issues: None
- Planning responses by delegated powers: None

- Any Planning Notifications:
 - 3PL/2019/0912/HOU: 75 Manson Green, Dereham Road – Two storey side and single storey front extension to dwelling plus detached garage building. APPROVED by Breckland Council
 - 3PL/2019/0910/VAR: Land to the East of Hardingham – Variation to conditions 5 & 6 on 3PL/2014/0545/F. APPROVED by Breckland Council
 - 3PL/2019/0909/VAR: Land to the East of Hardingham – Variation of condition 5 of 3PL/2014/0057/F. NO PRIOR APPROVAL REQUIRED

7) Correspondence

- Breckland Council: Notification of Receipt of the Inspectors Report into the Breckland Local Plan. DC Martin explained that the Local Plan will now be going the District Council meeting on 28th November and is highly unlikely to be rejected. He explained that a plan can be used as the standard against which to judge applications, and should this not be accepted the standard would be National Planning Policy & Guidelines which would not include local issues. He noted that one of the conditions set by the Planning Inspectorate is that there must be a full review of the plan to begin immediately and it must be completed within the next three years. DG noted that the Parish Council submitted two comments that were ignored which is very frustrating.
- NCC – Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service draft integrated risk assessment consultation. Retained by the Clerk.

8) To consider any Highways and footpath issues

- Moving of Low Street Post box update (if any). CC Connolly reported that he has contacted Royal Mail Chief Engineer who states that the paperwork is still in Leeds which must be finalised before the box can be moved. He will continue to chase. HE gave thanks on behalf of the Parish Council for CC Connolly's continued support in this matter.
- A resident asked if the Parish Council would please ask Highways to include the area next to the new development in Low Street within their cutting schedule. It was agreed that this would be supported. Proposed: TB, seconded: VL. **Clerk to contact Highways**
- To consider an email from John Cotton, Highways Engineer about the Low Street Drainage issues. CC Connolly reported that a resident had contacted him to complain about the drainage of surface water along Low Street. Investigation has revealed that the system on the northside of Low Street is completely blocked due to an electric cable laid to The Smithy 'smashing' through the highway drainage pipework. John Cotton, Highways Engineer, has submitted a bid for works to be completed to improve this situation. Other Low Street residents have not complained about the water, but the member of the public present confirmed that there can be standing water in this area, however it does not cross the road. She suggested that the drainage system that drains into the river should be tested for a blockage as the main area that floods is further north than the area being investigated.
- To consider speeding issues including Low Street speed limits and a Parish Partnership Bid to purchase a SAM2 sign at a cost of £3,350 + VAT. DG reported that there are currently two issues at Low Street, firstly enforcement of the 40mph limit, and secondly that a 30 mph limit would be a more suitable limit. CC Connolly explained that there are strict criteria for lowering speed limits, and that Highways would not support this along Low Street. There was discussion around the project and CC Connolly offered a sum of £2,000 from his members allowance for the next financial year to be used for any Highways issues. It was agreed that a Parish Partnership bid be submitted to match fund a SAM2 sign, with the remaining funds being supplied by CC Connolly through his members allowance. Councillors thanked CC Connolly for his kind offer. Proposed: DG, seconded: VL. **Clerk to submit a bid.**
- FP3 has been cleared. FP4 is due to be reinstated with signs / gates installed in the near future. Thanks were recorded to DG for his hard work in pursuing this.
- The patching request to the side of the Sandy Lane in the area south of the entrance to Gresham Farm has not been completed. **Clerk to chase**
- The 'Welcome to Hardingham' sign has still not been installed by Mill Road bridge. **Clerk to chase**
- The spotlight at Hill Farm, Watton Road, Barford appears to be have been lowered but is still shining towards the main road. The Clerk reported that Barford & Wramplingham Parish Council have written to the land owner to request this and will report back if there is any update.

10) Date of Next Meetings

13 January, 9 March, 11 May (AGM), 27 May – Annual Parish Meeting, 13 July, 14 September and 9 November all at 7pm, Hardingham Village Hall

11) Feedback from Councillors and items for the next agenda.

RB – explained that he would like to include a bus timetable within the bus shelter if there is a service in the village. It was agreed that the Clerk should investigate and report back.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm