

RINGLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the meeting on Monday 14th March at 7.30pm At Ringland Village Hall.

Present:-Nick Adams, Lindy Cooper, Malcolm Turner,

WELCOME

1. **Apologies** – Simon Addington and Jill Baker.
2. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations** - None
3. **Approval of minutes** of the meeting held on 15th November 2021 – These were signed by chairman Nick Adams as a true copy
4. **Matters arising** - from the previous meeting **not** covered elsewhere in this agenda. *All matters arising were covered later in the agenda.*
5. **Police communications** – **NA** – There was 1 Burglary of a digger which has since been recovered.
6. **Correspondence from County & District Councillors** – Cllrs Greg Peck and Peter Bulman were in attendance.
 - Cllr Peter Bulman reported that Broadland District Council would not be increasing Council Tax in the New Financial year.
 - Cllr Greg Peck reported that Norfolk County Council increased Council Tax by 1.99%, the contribution to Adult Social Care was increased by 1% and the budget for Norfolk Police was increased by 3.6%. As a result the budget was balanced and work has begun on next years budget.
7. **Planning applications and Enforcement Notices**
 - Application Number 20220034 Norfolk Dinosaur Park, Morton Lane, Weston Longville, NR9 5JW. Change of use of a former Deer Park to provide an extension to the Roarr Dinosaur Attraction.
Cllr Peter Bulman is concerned about noise and increased traffic and is requesting that full planning permission be required.
NA to contact Weston- Longville Council and offer support.
 - Application Number 20220100 - Address 2 Breck Barn Cottage, Weston Road, Ringland, NR8 6JL
Erection of single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory. **The Council has no cause for objection**
 - Land at Costessey Lane Ringland – 17 years ago planning permission was granted for 5 log cabins that would be fully clad in Red Cedarwood. The current building work appears to be in Brick with the potential for a second storey. **NA** – will examine the permissions and request the Planning Dept confirm it will be single story only. **Cllr P Bulman** will elevate matters if deemed necessary

8. Finance

- The bank reconciliation as at 4th March 2022 was approved
- The Schedules of Receipts and Payments were approved
- Bank Account for reserves – **Lindy C.** – in progress
- **NA** queried which Parish Councils had contributed to the cost of repairing the speed cameras. **LC** will check this and report to **NA** who will chase the outstanding payments
- The Vat refund for the Village Hall work will be reclaimed at the end of the current financial year. – **LC**

9. Parish correspondence/administration - action and/or response to:-

- **A47** - See separate minutes for a meeting discussing the A47 that was held immediately prior to this Parish Council Meeting. **NA** to continue monitoring progress
- **NWL** – A meeting was held on the morning of the 14th March between **NA** and Mark Kemp, project manager for the NWL and Susie Lockwood Stakeholder and engagement manager for the NWL. **NA** was shown a detailed plan for the revised route of the NWL around the Low Farm area and agrees that in material terms the changes to the route will have little additional impact on the village. Noise levels on the footpath across Royal Hill to Low Farm will increase as the distance from the road will halve adjacent to Low Farm. Low Farm is likely to be subject to a blight claim due to the revised proximity of the road. Discussions around the importance of noise mitigation measures on the road and the viaduct were held and the NWL team members committed to the projects objectives being a very high level of mitigation. It was stated that there will be significant noise mitigation fencing along the entire length of the viaduct as well as tree screening and earth berms where appropriate. The NWL team emphasised that contrary to claims made by protest groups there is only one route for the NWL under consideration. It was agreed that, once plans for the various noise mitigation features have been better defined Mark and Susie will attend a village meeting to present the plans and discuss them with the villagers. **NA** to monitor progress and report as necessary
- **The Parish Clerk as account signatory/ Internet Banking - LC**
- **The Commemorative Plaque** – The Plaque has been received and will hung in the Village Hall - **NA**
- **Offshore Windfarm Project** – A Perfect Storm. 3 individual cables will be laid around the perimeter of the Parish next to each other in a partially open shallow ditch. Construction traffic will not be permitted to travel through the village and there will be no road closures. Ringland will continue to support the campaign for an offshore cable network to reduce the number of cross country cables needed in the future but this will

happen too late to affect the three cables already planned. **NA** to continue to monitor and report.

- **Transport for Norwich/Electric Vehicle Strategy** – awaiting grant application date information.
- **Time machine Performance - AH** – to circulate promotion material via e-mail to residents and extend an invite to nearby parishes.
- **Council Website** – 2 quotes have been received. **LC and NA** to review and progress.

10. Commons Management Matters

- **The Environmental Stewardship Scheme/ Schedule of Inspections – SA**
Difficulties have been encountered with the Rural Payments Agency (RPA). The initial request to extend the scheme had not included approval from Natural England (required as the River Wensum is an SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) and therefore connected to the scheme covering Low Common). Despite advising the RPA that this consent had been sought from Natural England, they (RPA) have turned down the extension request. An appeal against this decision has been submitted and we are waiting on the outcome from this. Natural England have now given SSSI consent and this has also been provided to the RPA.
- **Scrub and bracken clearing dates – SA** no update
- **Himalayan Balsam removal – SA** no update
- **Volunteer litter picking day – SA** – This took place on 19th February. Despite only a handful of people turning up a number of bags were collected and disposed of. Included were several bags of equipment for growing Marijuana. These were taken to be disposed of with the aid of Local Police.
- **Sheep Dip and Peggy's pastures boundary survey – SA** – The boundaries need further investigation. **SA** will contact Land Registry.

10a. Grass cutting on Church Common and the Ringland Hills

- **Ringland Hills. NA/ SA** no solutions to date
- **Grass cutting** within the Village. Mark Andrews Gardening will commence grass cutting on 24th March.
- **Sale of Grasscutter - NA** has received quotes for the purchase of the grass cutter. It was agreed that the cutter would be privately advertised before accepting the best bid.

11. Highways and Parking Matters

- **River green parking update- MT** - Planning permission has been granted to increase the parking area at the river green. Work should commence in April. The original parking area will be repaired at the same time. The Council extended thanks to Martin and Kirsty Potter for their donation of two and a half tons of gravel.
- **Recycling bins** will need to be moved and it was noted that the paper recycling bin is rotten. **AH** – to determine who is responsible for moving the bins and arrange for this to take place
- **Bridge Railing Repair – Cllr Peck** advised that the Highways dept is still waiting for material to be delivered. The road closure application then requires a six week notice period . **Cllr Peck** will liaise with Richard Pearson (Highways Dept) and arrange a meeting with NA to discuss all outstanding highway issues.
- **Re-painting of the slow sign and Junction Lines** – This has been partially completed. **NA and Cllr Peck to discuss with Richard Pearson**
- **Mud on the Village streets** – Mr Ian Alston has agreed to excavate the entrances to the fields and fill them with ballast to reduce the amount of mud dragged onto the roads during wet weather He has already erected 15MPH signs for the Agricultural vehicles passing through the village, the effectiveness of these will be monitored by parishioners and reported to Mr Alston.

12. Village Hall Matters

- **Village hall working party** – A request was made to close The Street adjacent to the village green for a few hours for a few hours during a Jubilee celebration. **Louise George** to advise AH of the chosen date. **AH** to apply for a road closure or diversion.
- **Time Machine** – Louise and Margaret George have already posted promotion materials to residents. **AH** – to circulate a reminder via e-mail and extend an invite to nearby parishes.

13. General Parish Matters

- **Councillor Vacancies.** **AH** to advertise 2 vacancies
- **Recycling Revenue** – Although there was a deficit for the Council to pay of approximately £47 in 2021 the decision was made to continue providing a commercial waste and recycling service. – **AH** has contacted Norfolk County Council and claimed for outstanding paper waste and bottle bank payments.

14. **Public Participation** - questions and comments from the public. There were no questions that have not been dealt with elsewhere in the minutes
15. **Byelaws Working Group** – NA and SA – nothing to report.
16. **Environmental Policy** – update following councillors review – LC
17. **Exchange of Information and any other business.**
- **The offer of a standard oak** to plant to commemorate the 70th Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11, could not be taken up as Ringland does not have a tree warden. The Friends of Ringland have offered to pay for a commemorative tree. **NA** to liaise.
 - A tree that fell during the high winds will be dealt with on 30th March 2022 between 0900 and 1100 hrs when the power supply to the village will be interrupted.
 - **Jubilee Souvenirs** – **Louise George** to establish how many children to purchase a commemorative souvenir for.
 - **Village Bench** – **Louise George** advised this has been removed for repair and repainting.
 - **Church common curtilage** – The disputed fence is on common land but it was voted to allow it to remain following a detailed investigation and report by **SA**. **NA** seconded by **MT**
18. **Time and venue of next council meeting –**
Monday 16th May 2022 at 7.30pm

Andrea Hendrick..... Dated 28th March

Clerk to the Council

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