

RINGLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting on Monday 10th January 2022 at 7.30pm

WELCOME

1. **Apologies** - Cllrs Lou Cooper and Sophie Baker. Both have resigned their posts due to time pressures. **AH** to advertise the vacancies
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 were 6 crimes reported in Drayton Ward during November
6. **Correspondence from County & District Councillors** – No new correspondence received. Cllr Peter Bulman was in attendance.
7. **Planning applications and Enforcement Notices**

Application 20211750 – Weston Covert, Field Road, Weston Longville, NR9 5JN

A change of use of part of an existing enclosure of agricultural land to a camp site for five non-permanent glamping pods to be used in conjunction with the dwelling and leisure centre.

This application is outside the parish boundary and was included for information only as it might have a small impact on traffic volumes through Ringland. Cllr Peter Bulman is opposed to the application and will be contacting Broadland District Council Planning Department to raise objections.

8. Finance

- The bank reconciliation as at 15th December 2021 was approved
- The Schedules of Receipts and Payments were approved
- Bank Account for reserves – **Lindy C**. The reserves have been depleted by necessary expenditure on the Village Hall parking area, speed camera repairs, general maintenance etc. **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
- 2022 Precept request – **Lindy C and NA** - The 2022/2023 Budget has been prepared and there is more significant spending required this

financial year. An increase of 2.5% in Parish Precepts was proposed by **LC** Seconded by **NA** and Voted all in Favour

- A Vat refund for the Village Hall work was queried and will be reclaimed when the yearly claim is made, action **LC**

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

- **A47** The plans for the dualling of the A47 continue and should be breaking ground this year. **NA** to monitor progress and contact residents about the potential change from a temporary to a permanent closure of Honingham Lane
- **NWL** Norwich City Council remain opposed to the completion, but the County council remain confident that it will proceed - **NA** to monitor progress and report as necessary
- **The Parish Clerk as account signatory/ Internet Banking** - **LC** No progress to date. LC made a formal complaint before Christmas. To try and resolve the problem – **NA** will visit the Bank in person.
- **The Commemorative Plaque** – The Plaque will be posted and placed on the exterior of the Village Hall.
- **Offshore Windfarm Project** – A Perfect Storm. 3 cables will be laid near Ringland. The Secretary of State has given permission for this part of the project to go ahead, the proposed offshore ring main will probably happen but too late to catch these 3 cables routes– **NA** will continue to liaise.
- **Invitation to bid for Parish Partnership** – **MT** – The bid for Parish Partnership Scheme was successful and £4500 is available to be used to improve car parking facilities. The funds will be split between the new parking spaces in the recycling layby and the Village Hall parking facilities which have already been completed. **MT** will continue to liaise with the appropriate authorities and obtain the necessary permissions and quotes for the layby parking works.
- **Transport for Norwich/Electric Vehicle Strategy** – awaiting grant application date information from Greg Peck

10. Commons Management Matters

- **The Environmental Stewardship Scheme/ Schedule of Inspections** – **SA** – the application form has been completed and posted.

- **Scrub and bracken clearing dates** – SA will organise “Bracken Bashing” dates between May and August. Scrub clearing will be arranged in October after the nesting season.
- **Himalayan Balsam removal** – SA will liaise with the Wensum Valley Campaign organisers to arrange clearing dates in June.
- **Volunteer litter picking day** – SA – 19th February is proposed SA will draft a volunteer request – AH will circulate
- **Sheep Dip and Peggy’s pastures boundary survey** – SA – The boundaries will be surveyed using a satellite based system organised by Chris Cooper.
- **Environmental Improvements – Tree Scheme - SA** – the species available for the 1 million trees for Norfolk scheme are not suited to wetland areas where the Parish wished to plant. The Parish will therefore not apply for the scheme.

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

- Ringland Estates have agreed to cut the grass on Church Common two or three times a year when requested by the Parish Council. They are not able to cut on the Ringland Hills due to the distance involved. NA and SA to discuss alternative solutions
- **Grass cutting within the Village : Commercial contract v volunteers/storage/maintenance and insurance** – There have only been a limited number of volunteers to take on the grass cutting around the village. This, linked to the loss of a secure storage place for the grass-cutter and the significant costs of maintaining and insuring the grass-cutter has forced the parish council to seek an alternative solution. Two quotes for commercial gardeners to maintain the grass have been obtained and after some discussion at the meeting it was decided to offer the contract to Mark Andrews Gardening. Proposed by LC and seconded by SA . NA to inform both of the companies who quoted and also to seek the best sale price for the village grass cutter

11. Highways and Parking Matters

- **Bridge Railing Repair** – NA – Despite repeated requests to Highways Department this work has still not been undertaken. **Cllr: Peter Bulman will write to Cllr: Greg Peck on behalf of RPC**
- **Re-painting of the slow sign and Junction Lines - NA** – request noted by Highways Department - awaiting date for the work to be carried out.
- **River Green parking update** – MT - It is not necessary to put in a new bid for creating parking spaces in the recycling layby. This is providing

the existing finances that are in place are committed to the project by the end of the 2021 Financial year. **NA** proposed and **LC** seconded the decision to proceed with the works subject to the necessary permissions being obtained. **MT** will continue to liaise with the appropriate authorities and obtain quotations for the works.

12. Village Hall Matters

- **Electrics upgrade.** – **NA** – All works have been completed.
- **Re-instating the village hall committee** – With the resignation of **Lou C** the Council will be seeking a new member to take on this responsibility. The next meeting of the Committee will be the 9th February at 7.30. **AH** to circulate to residents.
- **Time Machine – Roving Theatre Company Enquiry 1st April 2022** – **NA** - will request promotion materials from the Company, the Hall committee will arrange advertising .
- **Craft Fayre - Hall Committee** - £191.50 was raised and remaining tombola prizes were donated to the Tesco food bank. Thanks were offered to all involved in the organisation of the event.

13. General Parish Matters

- **Recycling Revenue** – cost and revenue figures - **AH** - contact Council and claim for outstanding paper waste and bottle bank payments
- **Parish Council / Village Hall Website** – **SB** - 2 quotes were obtained by **SB** but are now out of date. With the resignation of **SB** the Council will be seeking a new member to take on this responsibility.

14. Public Participation - questions and comments from the public. No questions raised

15. Byelaws Working Group – **NA** and **SA** – nothing to report.

16. Environmental Policy – update following councillors review – **LindyC**

17. Exchange of Information and any other business.

- The Parish Council will accept the offer the offer of a standard oak to plant in commemoration of to commemorate the 70th Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11. It will be planted on the Village green. Action **AH** to accept the offer and liaise.
- The decision was made not to make a donation to Norfolk Citizens Advice. However The Parish Council is happy to promote their work- **NA** respond to the request.

- 20th January next Aylsham and Taverham, Hellesdon area Police Community Forum – information e-mailed to Residents.
- Police Budget consultation - Have Your Say – Information e-mailed to Residents

18. Time and venue of next council meeting –

14th march 2022 at 7.30pm

Andrea Hendrick..... Dated 06-01-2022

Clerk to Clerk to the Council & Responsible Financial Officer

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