



Holkham Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Keith Leesmith
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2015/01

Minutes of meeting held at the Estate Office Tuesday 13 January 2015 at 1900

Present Jane Berwick, Harvey Gunhouse, Derek Jarvis (Chairman), and Emma Sargent
Keith Leesmith (Clerk), Marie (& Mike) Strong (NCC) Peter Terrington (NNDC), PCSO Sarah Kirby

- 1) **Apologies** Paul Bloomfield, Jonathan Savory (NNDC)
- 2) **Declarations of Interest** None
- 3) **Minutes of the Meeting held 11 November 2014** Agreed and signed

4) **Reports**

b) North Norfolk District Council

The *Big Society Fund* is currently open until 16 February for the next round of applications, to be considered in March. NNDC Civil Contingencies Team have given a report on the response to the December 2013 Surge Flood. They believe that the response was good, although PT has personal misgivings about some of the defences.

A review will be carried out into CAB funding. CAB Norfolk has been funded for a further six months, but after that it is likely that any competent group will be able to bid for the funding. The new housing allocations scheme has resulted in more homes being made available to local people. Fees on Council services in the next year will rise by approximately 2.5%. There is some concern that a scheme for on-street parking charges being considered by the County Council for Sheringham, may be extended to other coastal towns later, including Wells.

a) Norfolk County Council

The Wells flood barrier will be tested on Wednesday 14 January. With regard to the closure of the Dry Road, negotiations are continuing between NCC and Hopkins Homes as well as other interested parties including Anglian Water. The *Better Broadband* campaign is "ahead" throughout the county although there are delays locally. The first phase of the Wells area should have completed by now, however, it is hoped that the other two phases will be completed earlier than expected. The Mobile Phone companies are jointly proposing to spend £5bn to improve the service to rural areas. The NCC budget is still being debated, with some Councillors believing that a small increase is justified, but with others proposing that the current level of council tax be held.

c) Safer Neighbourhood Team

There had been no recorded crimes or calls to police in the Parish since the last meeting in November. However, there had been several household burglaries in the Blakeney, Holt and Sheringham areas recently and therefore people were advised to be vigilant.

d) Parish Clerk

A letter had been received from the Borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk concerning the consultation to the latest phase of their Local Plan. There are Police Authority open budget meetings in Norwich on 19 January and King's Lynn on 21 January. A further letter from the police authority invites Parishes to pay 50% of the salaries of new PCSOs to increase their numbers. KL attended an NNDC meeting at Bodham on 24 November at which planning matters were discussed. It is intended in future that where Parishes object to a proposal that is subsequently agreed, the Parish will be informed the reason why, (and presumably vice-versa).

5) To discuss any Planning issues to hand.

There were no planning matters for discussion

6) To discuss CPRE *Dark Skies* campaign

The questionnaire sent by the CPRE was considered and the questions answered. Whilst the Council were generally in favour of "dark skies" they questioned whether it was appropriate for a Parish to respond in this way to a pressure group.

7) To discuss letter regarding NNDC leisure facilities

The questionnaire sent by consultants acting for NNDC was answered. However, there was a level of cynicism as to whether this was likely to lead to an increase in leisure facilities in the current financial climate.

8) To consider the May election

The forms for proposed candidates are likely to be required soon after the next meeting in March. In view of the fact that one Councillor is unlikely to stand again, and we have one vacancy, we need two additional candidates. JB believes that she knows of one possible candidate and EM knows another. They would both speak to these people before the next meeting.

9) Financial Report and Accounts for Settlement

A copy of the current bank statement and spreadsheet had been circulated and was approved.

The following payments were agreed:

Keith Leesmith	Clerk's 4 th quarter salary and contribution to expenses	£470.00
HMRC	PAYE on the above	£113.80

10) Minor Matters

HG had found a syringe on the beach between Sheringham and Weybourne, and put it into a used drinks bottle but then decided that it was not a good idea to put it into a litter bin. He questioned where such items should be disposed of. Other Councillors advised that a doctor's surgery or pharmacy was the best place, although various other people including *Pinewoods* often had "sharps boxes" for such disposals.

11) To confirm date of next meeting

Tuesday 10 March 2015 – 1900 at The Estate Office.

The meeting closed at 2019