



Holkham Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Keith Leesmith
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2016/08

Minutes of meeting held at the Estate Office Tuesday 12 July 2016 at 1900

Present Jane Berwick, Paul Bloomfield, Harvey Gunhouse, John Hall, Derek Jarvis (Chairman), Emma Sargent & Jo Stapleton
Keith Leesmith (Clerk), Marie (& Mike) Strong (NCC)

- 1) **Apologies** Vincent Fitzpatrick (NNDC), Police
- 2) **Declarations of Interest** None
- 3) **Minutes of the Meeting held 10 May 2016** Agreed and signed

4) **Reports**

a) **Norfolk County Council**

MS believed that there were parts of the main village of Holkham that could not receive fibre broadband, although they should be able to. She would like to hear of any such instances. Because of the excessive rainfall this year various roadside verges would receive a second cut to improve visibility, particularly at junctions. It has been decided to engage all Norfolk's and Suffolk's residents in a consultation on devolution to take place from 4 July to 19 August. The outcome of the consultation will be submitted to the Secretary of State in early September to consider whether to proceed with the establishment of a Mayoral Combined Authority for the two counties. If you would like more information on what is on offer in terms of power and money please go to eastangliadevo.co.uk. You can also listen to the debate on the proposal, which took place on Monday 27 June with 74 of Norfolk's 84 councillors. Whilst the debate and therefore the recording is lengthy you can 'skip' through sections unrelated to devolution and focus on Councillors' support and also concerns. The latter include potential ministerial changes; a mayor, deputy mayor and 'cabinet' creating an extra tier of local government. To listen go to NCC Committees Page on Vimeo <https://vimeo.com/user8603574>.

EDP/Norfolk County Council "Write On Norfolk" competition: aims to encourage Norfolk's youngest residents to keep up writing and literacy skills over the long summer holiday and complements the county's Big Read challenge run during the summer in all of Norfolk's libraries. Open to Norfolk children between five and 13 years old the competition calls for an original piece of creative writing. Entries can be submitted now and until 31 August. Prizes of Jarrold book tokens worth £75, £50 and £25 and the winning entries will be published in the EDP and used as part of Norfolk County Council Libraries' autumn storytelling festival. Details can be found on www.norfolk.gov.uk/writeon. **Parish Partnership:** I am repeating details regarding this very useful partnership because there is a long list of Parishes, which have not applied in the past. It is the scheme whereby a town or Parish council puts forward an application for a project and the county matches the funding. The SAM2 speed warning system has been popular and other ideas include trods (simple footway), small lengths of formal footways, improved crossing facilities, street furniture (cycle racks/benches at bus stops),

improvements to Public rights of Way. As well as councils getting their thinking caps on there is no reason why residents could not put ideas to their Parish council. The 2016/17 successful schemes are now underway and invitations to make bids for 2017/18 have been issued with a bid deadline of December with approvals next March.

b) North Norfolk District Council

VF had sent a report which KL read and is appended to these minutes and is available on the website. Items mentioned included devolution, the ward boundary review, Fakenham Sports/Fitness Centre, Flytipping and the Big Society Fund.

c) Safer Neighbourhood Team

PCSO Sarah Kirby had sent a report, which KL read. One recorded crime since the last meeting – theft of items from a garden. In the wider area batteries are being stolen, due to their high scrap value. Police advise people to spray batteries (particularly on tractors and other “outside equipment”) fluorescent pink as a deterrent. This makes their resale value less, and scrap yards will report any attempts to sell such items.

d) Parish Clerk

NCC had supplied many copies of posters and leaflets, both to KL and DJ for their “Speak Up” campaign against the abuse of adults. Anyone who knows of such a case, or their suspicions of one, should report it to appropriate authorities. Wells Town Council had written because they are carrying out a campaign to get a roundabout at the junction of the Dry Road and the Fakenham bypass. They would like adjacent Parishes to write to MS if they agree. Holkham PC would do so. An update had been received on the work of the North Norfolk Forum of Town and Parish Councils. Their main concern is that at least some of the money received as “second homes tax” should be remitted to Parishes. They had discovered that last year NCC received £3.3m and NNDC received £453k. Of this latter amount £160k was redistributed as part of the *Big Society Fund*. This is limited by the number of applications received. It was agreed that we endorse this initiative. KL thought the timing of the recent “Outlaw” Triathlon was ill-advised and several Councillors agreed with him. MS said that she had also argued at County that a thousand cyclists taking precedence on the Dry Road on a July Sunday morning could cause considerable traffic problems. As it happened, indifferent weather saved the situation from being as bad as it might have been. It was agreed to write to the county in the hope of preventing such action in the future.

5) Planning Matters

Councillors agreed unanimously to support the application to replace the cricket pavilion in the Park. Permission has been given for the conversion of an office at Longlands to a residential flat.

6) To discuss the registration of Public Rights of Way

KL had had discussions with Peter Terrington and David Hissey. David is the local representative of the *Local Access Forum*. It is believed that officials of Norfolk County Council are in talks with the Estate. Whilst everyone understands the problems of Holkham Councillors, they believe that the Parish Council may be able to assist by advising on historic footpaths and routes.

7) Financial Report and Accounts for Settlement

A copy of the current bank statement and spreadsheet had been circulated and was approved. No payments were required.

8) Minor Matters

The entrances to the car park at New Holkham need some attention. JB to speak to the Estate.

9) To confirm date of next meeting

Tuesday 13 September 2016 – 1900 at The Estate Office.