



LEZIATE & ASHWICKEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF LEZIATE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 13th JUNE 2022 FROM 7.30PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL.

PRESENT: Cllr Jason Ess (JE) – Chair. Cllr. Adrian Bramwell (AB), Cllr Andy Blatch (ABL), Cllr Jon Large (JL), Cllr G Mathias (GM) and Stuart Dickerson (SD)
County Councillor Jim Moriarty (JM), Borough Cllrs & Michael de Whalley (MdW), & Colin Manning (CM)

No members of the public present.

1. WELCOME TO ALL FROM THE CHAIR

2. PARISHIONERS 15 MINUTE FORUM:

None

3. a. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –

None

b. COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST -

None

4. Approval of the circulated minutes from the meeting held on the 11th of April 2022

Proposed GM, seconded JL and all in favour.

5. MATTERS ARISING:

5.1 Ashwicken Lakes:

MdW reported that all information and details were now on the portal and an extension to the 9th of September 2022 was requested. The Clerk had also spoken to the planning officer who advised that a further consultation would take place and further opportunities for submissions could be made. Due to the size of the application, this will have its own planning committee meeting and 2 members of the public are allowed to speak for 3 minutes with no limit to the Borough Councillors speaking.

JM advised that as a County Councillor, if possible, he will look at taking this on with Highways.

5.2 Traffic Project– JM advised no update from Andy Wallace as yet and he had raised almost £1,500.

JM also advised that Highways were preparing another temporary closure of Sandy Lane.

6. PLANNING:

Planning to consider: -

6.1 Ref: C/2/2018/2017 Grandcourt Quarry, Leziate Works – nothing to add to this

6.2 The news release from Borough was raised regarding the comprehensive restructure of the Planning Department was discussed and it is hoped that the recruitment proposed will bring in the required number of officers.

7. REPORTS FROM BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

7.1 Cllr Manning:

Future council meetings have been arranged , ALL now back at the town hall but still have the 4.30pm start instead of the traditional 6.30pm

The next planning committee meeting is Wednesday 15 June and the following one Wednesday 20 July both 0930 start , no meeting in August but returns to a Monday on 5 September.

You are all aware of the difficult national situation re shortage of experienced planning staff and am pleased at the next Corporate Performance Panel on 16 June there will be an item on a cabinet report resourcing development management team (planning) and revised planning structure. As this was changed from the 15th I cannot attend CPP as had already accepted an event on 16th. This looks at more planning officers and revised planning structure, also proposed amendments to current planning scheme of delegation, includes councillor call-in and sifting panel process. Would allow councillors extra time to call in to committee and for parish councils to have comments considered by sifting panel in relation to re consultation of amended / revised development proposals. Also changes to bring scheme up to date and clarify issues and into line with other policy guidance. The sifting panel is proposed to remain key part of process and will be reviewed in Summer 2023.

The new bin collection arrangements seem to be working ok , I've had just two complaints , both regarding a revised collection over the bank holiday, a full green bin in Pott Row Grimston was only partially emptied and a fair amount of its recycled items fell onto the wet road and were left for the resident to clear up. Also it seems in Roydon some bagged food waste from the "pod" fell onto the road surface in Church Lane and was cleared up by the chair of the local PC to save the likely unpleasant mess! I've reported both incidents to Serco directly and they are speaking to the crew ,trying to ensure it doesn't re occur.

Congratulations to all the organisers of the Platinum Jubilee events throughout the borough as have had very positive feedback from residents appreciative of what was arranged. Unfortunately I seemed to have caught a cold and cough with a sore throat that lasted from the previous weekend until after the bank holiday. Fortunately I was ok on the previous Friday 27 May when with my fellow ward member , attended Holly Meadows school to present the pupils with their Jubilee coins from the borough council on behalf of the Mayor.

This week will be visiting the St George's guildhall in King Street Lynn prior to a Regeneration and Development panel to consider this item as now ranked number 1 on Town Deal (is owned by NT but on long lease to the BC).

Also of interest is the likely resisting of the library to the old Argos building with the present Carnegie site kept for public community use **** NO PLANS BY NCC TO SELL IT !!!!! ****

I was also pleased that the borough is now committed when it has a staff vacancy to guarantee it will offer an interview (obviously applicant must have required qualifications/ skill set etc to do the job) to veterans and care leavers.

A veteran is defined by the DWP as person served in regular armed forces within last 3 years and shows that the forces were their last substantive employer and no more that 3 years elapsed since leaving the force.

Care leaver is someone aged 16-25 years old meeting the criteria (skills / educational standard) for the job role they have applied.

This week I'm looking forward to accompanying the Mayor on Tuesday to Flag Raising in Tower Gardens Lynn, along with members of the RBL , Bridge for Heroes etc ., to commemorate the ending of the Falkland War . Later in the week will accompany her to the Corn Exchange Cinema to see a heritage film made by local students and then as a bonus for them (et moi !) watch a screening of Top Gun Maverick .

7.2 Cllr de Whalley –

CdW gave an update on the next CIL applications due in July and advised that changes would be bought in for the January 2023 applications.

The Town Fund will be discussed tomorrow (14th) including the Guildhall business case to be sent to the Government in July, with the cases for the multiuser hub and riverfront in September. He now has £1k for community funding but anticipates this will be used up quickly.

7.3 Cllr Moriarty -

NCC AGM 10th May 2022

The County voted to oppose any new incinerator on borders of West Norfolk and Fenland. In seconding the vote Cllr Stuart Dark, leader of the Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council praised the efforts of Independent councillor Alexandra Kemp and Green Borough Councillor Michael DeWhalley.

The Council again refused to declare a Climate Emergency. Some councillors looked uncomfortable voting against something they had recently voted 'For' at their Borough Councils.

There was only one change in the cabinet. King Canute turned down the job of Environment portfolio holder. There is one woman on the cabinet – again.

The government is considering ending charges for taking DIY waste to the local recycling centre, so watch this space.

SIBELCO

Liaison meeting at the end of the month. No sign yet of the new Minerals and Waste Policy. Met with Rights of Way Officer and walked much of the Grandcourt area and he has written to Sibelco listing concerns.

The Norfolk Cost of Living Support Scheme

What is the Norfolk Cost of Living Support Scheme?

It is a £7.7m package of hardship support offering increased flexibility and choice in the way a broader range of households can access help.

The council is topping up £6.7m of Government funding from the Household Support Fund with a further £1m to create the scheme to help households struggling to pay for food, , energy and water bills, and other essentials.

Why is it different to the hardship help we have been offering to date?

Previously the focus of our support has been on helping those facing hardship as the economy recovers from the pandemic and providing a bridge between the end of furlough and the Universal Credit top-up.

Now the main challenge we face is the spiralling cost of living crisis which is hitting a far wider number of households hard who cannot increase their income through employment.

So, over the last month, we have reassessed the way we offer support and created this flexible and broad-based scheme using best practice from the hardship

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support we've been providing over the last year and following the Government guidance of aiming our support at a broader range of people including families, older people, and other vulnerable households.

What else are we doing?

To ensure part of the support the council is offering is sustainable for the longer term, in addition to the £7.7 million Cost of Living Support Scheme, we are also investing a further £225,000 capital into our partnership with the Norfolk Community Foundation Nourish Norfolk food hub offer, bringing the total investment over the last year to £500,000.

How will the £7.7 million be spent?

- **Cost of living vouchers**
£3.6m to support families with seven monthly cost of living vouchers for children eligible for means-tested free school meals. The payments will total £120 per child over the seven months of the scheme and will be in the form of supermarket vouchers which can be spent on food, clothing (in larger supermarkets), and other household essentials. The vouchers will be paid from April (backdated) up to and including October. Payments will be £15 per child per month, with a £30 enhanced payment for August, recognising the increased pressures families face over the summer holiday.

This approach gives families flexibility and choice by allowing them to budget monthly and offset vouchers against other financial pressures on their household bills and activities. It also means families will have payments during and outside school holidays with the option of saving them to use only in the school holidays if they prefer

- **NAS**
£1m allocated to the council's Norfolk Assistance Scheme (NAS) to support families in hardship, where there isn't eligibility for free school meals. This support is available to families with very young children, young carers, and families caring for children with disabilities, many of whom may be facing significantly higher energy bills
- **Vouchers and cash for older people**
£2.2m, a third of the Government funding, to support those aged 65 or over by providing cash and voucher awards through the voluntary sector and other partners such district, borough and city council, including a specific collaboration with Anglian Water, as well as support through NAS. The work with Anglian Water will support customers aged 65 or over who are on Anglian Water's social tariffs, because they are in financial difficulty, providing a package of support to reduce and prevent debt. The Norfolk Assistance Scheme will also have specific provision of £900k for this group.
- **Funding for district, borough and city councils**
£840,000 to support others in need, including funding for district, borough and city councils to meet immediate housing concerns. This part of the scheme will also mean that voluntary sector agencies can refer those they are working with to the council for support. As with the other two groups, specific provision, totalling £500k has been made within the Norfolk Assistance scheme.

Norfolk County Council to help schools extend ‘warm welcome’ to Ukrainian refugees as they begin to provide support

Norfolk County Council is providing an extensive package of support to help schools to welcome children fleeing the war in Ukraine.

The council is supplying schools across the county with much needed provisions so that educational resources and places of sanctuary can be given to child refugees.

This includes

- Funding towards laptops, bi-lingual resources, extra tutoring and a range of English as an Additional Language resources
- Opportunities for teachers to access trauma informed workshops to help understand the experiences and support children may need.
- Language support training, guidance and strategies and free translation services
- Guidance and support to help schools discuss the conflict in Ukraine
- [NCC's fully funded Young Interpreters' Scheme](#)

The council will adapt and evolve what's on offer as more information about children's needs emerges.

Recreation Road Infant School in Norwich are one of the establishments who have welcomed their first pupil. They were recently awarded ‘School of Sanctuary’ status, a national network of over 300 primary and secondary schools all committed to creating a culture of welcome and inclusion for refugees and people seeking asylum.

Michael Bunting, Head Teacher at Recreation Road Infant School said, “Our community is delighted to welcome our first arrival from Ukraine. We have organised a tour of the school and their classmates have been keen to be part of a buddying system, aimed at providing support and reassurance throughout the day. The class have also made some thoughtful changes – for example, they've translated the class's visual timetable into Ukrainian.

Norfolk County Council have helped tremendously with our preparation, and staff have been able to access useful training and will have ongoing specialist support.

The school's been given some additional funding to support our new arrival's learning which we'll be using to fund an iPad with language support apps and special translation pens. These will help our new pupil access learning more easily. We hope that she'll fulfil her potential, alongside making new friends”.

More information about the Homes for Ukraine scheme in Norfolk is available at www.norfolk.gov.uk/ukraine. There are specific pages to help [those arriving](#), information and advice [for hosts](#) and details of face-to-face [Community Help events](#).

[Cabinet to discuss drive to improve quality of care in Norfolk](#)

Proposals for a new Board to drive up the quality of privately provided Adult Social Care across Norfolk are due to be discussed by the County Council's Cabinet.

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In the wake of the Covid 19 Pandemic, which placed unprecedented pressures on the care sector, councillors are discussing ways to help providers improve from a position in which only 71.1% of care providers in Norfolk are rated Good or Outstanding. The County Council is looking at how it can help providers improve the quality of care they provide, and what form that support can take.

The new Programme Board will operate within the Interrelated Care System (ICS) framework being put in place in Norfolk.

A new Care Quality Programme Board will work to deliver a Norfolk wide care quality strategic framework. This will enable all partners, including care providers, to work together to coordinate and direct action to improve care quality.

Local Transport Plan for Norfolk

The Local Transport Plan (LTP) was agreed at a meeting of Norfolk County Council's cabinet on 6 June and will now need to be signed off by the full council.

The Local Transport Plan (LTP) sets out the county council's overall approach to transport, showing how transport can deliver wider ambitions including a growing economy, strong communities and reducing the impact on the environment.

Transport is now the biggest emitter of carbon of any sector in the UK and this plan is important in setting out the council's policy framework for achieving carbon reduction of the transport network.

The plan includes the council's vision for improving transport between now and 2036 and is intended to encourage walking, cycling, bus and rail use as well as deliver major projects like the Western Link and Long Stratton bypass.

As part of the plan, the county council wants to investigate the possibility that the network of abandoned railway lines, many of which were closed in the 1960s, could become 'greenways', for use as walking and cycling routes, or even see the return of trains. Parts of several former Norfolk railway lines have already been converted into footpaths and cycle routes, such as the Marriott's Way, Weavers' Way and Lakenham Way. However, there are other stretches, particularly in rural areas, that the council believes should be protected from development, to allow them to eventually be revived for transport use.

The LTP does not have the power to stop developers building on the routes, but the council hopes that by including the possibility of greenways and even future rail use in the plan, it could help to deter them and keep the options open.

Councillor Jim Moriarty,

Division: Gayton and Nar Valley
Jim.Moriarty.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk

8. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

8.1 The Voice – items for the next edition to include thanks to Sibelco for the work they undertook to the entrance and car park at the Village Hall, an update from Julian on the bird box programme and a reminder of the parish councillor vacancy. A request for volunteers to re-start the Neighbourhood Watch to also be included.

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- 8.2 Driveway repairs as under 8.1 and the clerk had sent a formal thank you to Silbelco.
- 8.3 CIL applications – as discussed under 7.2 and it was decided to wait until Jan 23 for the driveway and start putting our application together in October 22.
- 8.4 Local Plan Review is now awaiting full consultation
- 8.5 Bird Box update – now on the website and 44 birds have been ringed to date in May.
- 8.6 Community Policing Meetings – GM raised this in relation to the SNAP meetings and a representative attending a meeting. Clerk to send list of our 2022 meeting dates to Paula. JM suggested we invite the Crime Commissioner.
- 8.7 RRT Global – request from Tom Lister to attend a meeting. It was agreed that he should be invited to attend the July meeting with a 10 minute slot.
- 8.8 Brass Plate for George Solly – JL advised he could not get one and clerk to research.

9. REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS AND CLERK:

- 9.1 JE - SAM & Speedwatch – SAM now on Brow of the Hill and will relocate to East Winch Road next. AB asked if the unit could be placed closer to the faster sections of the road.
Speedwatch – JE advised that training for ABL and any other new volunteer can take place in the parish. JL advised that he had another interested party who was familiar with the role. Suggested times for sessions 07.39 to 08.45 and 15.45 to 18.00. It was suggested that a 19.00 time would be good and make the most of the long days.
- 9.2 JE – Village Hall – nothing to report and risk assessments sent to the clerk.
- 9.3 JE/ABL- Play Areas – No problems at either area.
- 9.4 GM – Bus Shelters – Nothing to report and GM asked that councillors advise him of any issues they may notice.
- 9.5 SD– Fen & Brands Wood – SD advised that new fencing had been put up and to a high standard.
- 9.6 JL – Footpaths – No issues other than litter and overgrowth.
- 9.7 JL – Highways – Road signage requires cleaning and clerk to ask highways to add to their programme.
- 9.8 CB – Clerk update – advised that new Standing Orders and Code of Conduct due.
- 9.9 AB advised that the Neighbourhood Watch scheme was sending out more information now and it was agreed to put a note in the Voice for volunteers.

10. FINANCE

- 10.1 The May 22 Bank Reconciliation, payments & receipts, bank statements had been sent out to all councillors. Approval proposed by GM and seconded by JL. Approved by all present. Current total is £ 15,550.25
- 10.2 Payments for June (to date) proposed AB, seconded ABL and approved by all present.
- 10.3 A VAT refund of £1,452.85 had been received.

11. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- a. Updates on the Ashwicken Lakes planning application
- b. Receive any updates on the Traffic Project.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING- The next Meeting will start at 7.30pm on the 11th of July 2022, at the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 20.44