



LEZIATE & ASHWICKEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF LEZIATE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON FRIDAY 12th JANUARY 2024 FROM 18.30PM AT THE VILLAGE HALL.

PRESENT: Cllrs. Bal Anota (BA), David Collis (DC), Victoria Kempley (VK) and Michael de Whalley (MdW)

The Parish Clerk (CB)

Borough Councillors Michael de Whalley and Bal Anota

Three members of the public present.

CHAIRMAN – Cllr Anota was proposed as Chairman by DC, seconded by VK and all in favour.

1. WELCOME TO ALL FROM THE CHAIRMAN

2. PARISHIONERS 15 MINUTE FORUM:

- a. A short presentation was made by a member of the public regarding the grassed area next to the play area at Glosthorpe Manor for a community garden including fruit trees etc. Funding is available and BA advised to contact the Open Spaces Team at Borough. Details to be emailed to BA to follow up. This would be subject to agreement from the local residents and commitment from the community. It was agreed that basic details to be added to the Voice article due next Monday.
- b. Roland Wood from the Rapid Relief Team explained that they can provide support at events with refreshments and supply food boxes to schools both in the UK and abroad.
- c. Bawsey lakes private events are causing more parking issues.

3. a. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –

Cllrs Blatch, Bramwell, Mathias and Moriarty

b. COUNCILLORS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

4. Approval of the circulated minutes from the Annual Parish Council meeting held on the 10th of November 2023. Proposed VK, seconded DC and all in favour who attended this meeting.

5. MATTERS ARISING:

5.1 Traffic Project update – Cllr Moriarty advised the work has been issued to our local designer Alex Copeman, It has been agreed to install a seasonal waiting restriction (single yellows 1st April to 30th September) from the B1145 junction to and including the junction of RB9. Plan as appendix 1.

If all parties i.e. the parish and Cllr Moriarty are in agreement with the proposal Alex will start the consultation process which will mean notices posted on site and adverts in the press etc. If no objections are received, we can move swiftly on to the next phase where the order is drawn up and sealed before erecting the signs and painting the required lines.

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I have no definitive time scales at present, but rest assured we will be dealing now as a matter of urgency. This is excellent news and thanks to Highways and Cllr Moriarty were given.

6. PLANNING: to consider: -

6.1 Applications –

18/00053/DISC_A | DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS 6, 11 AND 12 OF PLANNING PERMISSION 18/00053/O: Outline application for the development of 7 dwellings & garages, and provision of replacement clubhouse, following demolition of existing structures. | Leziate Park Country Club Brow of The Hill Leziate King's Lynn Norfolk
The clerk has been in touch with the planning department and the Technical Support Technician who have been very helpful and advised that conditions 11 and 12 are fine but condition 6 is related to foul and surface water drainage which planning are not happy about and immediate action is needed. There are a number of mature trees that post pipework threats with roots and a failure at the treatment plant could lead to foul water entering the lake.

6.2 Decisions:

23/01729/F | Variation of condition 2 attached to planning permission 21/01810/F: Two storey side and rear extension | Highleigh 16 Brow of The Hill Leziate – Application Permitted.

**6.3 Enforcements – 23/00637/UNOPDE – Elm Tree Farm, 167 Leziate Drove, Ashwicken
Breach: alleged unauthorised operational development.**

11. REPORTS FROM BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

Cllr de Whalley -

Has attended a meeting with Norfolk Wildlife Trust regarding the purchase of some “free land” from Sibelco to increase their presence in our area and they would be willing to make a presentation to the Parish Council. This was agreed and MdW to arrange. ACTION MdW
The Sibelco stakeholders need a meeting as it has been two years since the last one.

Consultations for the Local Plan Gypsy and Traveller policy begins at the end of January until the 8th of March, then it goes to the inspectorate March/April 24. This should then be adopted early 2025.

An air quality action plan consultation will be starting Jan- March to include key areas on London Road, Town Centre and the Gaywood clock area. Car parking, buses, quarrying and wood burning are also included. DC asked about woodburners and MdW advised that the Government are looking for more homes to use air source in built up areas.

Cllr Moriarty –

See appendix 2

8. Correspondence/Communications:

8.1 Clerks Report: The new signage for the Village Hall playground has been collected and needs installation.

Emails have been received regarding the removal of trees relating to the Leziate lakes area behind the school and it is thought this relates to the 6.1

The defibrillator has been delivered and the village hall will be paying for its installation. DC asked if any training would be available for members of the public and the clerk advised this would be arranged with the village hall committee.

The Biodiversity Policy is now complete and ready for approval. This will be updated throughout the year. All in favour.

8.2 SAM unit – No update

8.3 Play Areas – VK is sending regular reports to the clerk and the area is in good condition.

8.4 Bus Shelters – No update

8.5 Fen & Brand's Wood – no report and it was agreed to remove this from future agendas.

8.6 Footpaths – No update

8.7 Highways – Cllr Mathias had emailed a report of increased HGV traffic on East Winch Road.

9. Finance:

9.1 Bank reconciliations, approval of payments, bank statements and payments/receipts for November and December 23. Proposed VK, seconded MdW and all in favour. £17,629.94 in the bank accounts.

9.2 Payments for January 24 to approve. Proposed BA, seconded by VK with all in favour.

9.3 Third quarter review was discussed and approved by all.

9.4 The second draft budget/precept for 2024/25 was discussed and a 5% increase in the precept was agreed, proposed DC, seconded VK and all in favour.

10. Correspondence/Communications

10.1 Items for the next edition of The Voice – community garden, Biodiversity Policy and Highways update to be included.

10.2 Leziate Fen ownership – it is thought that this might have changed hands recently and MdW to check. ACTION: MdW

10.3. Email from a resident regarding speeding on the Brow of the Hill. Unfortunately, deer can be killed at speeds of 30mph and it is hoped that once the SAM units are back, we can get new data for this road.

10.4 NALC membership – it was agreed to accept the quotation.

10.5 The quote to install the memorial bench in the playground was approved and clerk to ask if the installation of the signage can be added. ACTION: clerk

11. Items for next agenda:

Speeding and churchyard grass cutting.

12. The next Meeting will start at 6.30pm on the 8th of March 2024

The meeting closed at 19.49

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Payments for December 23:

C Boyden	Salary	252.16
HMRC	PAYE	164.00
ECS	October invoice	16.50
C Boyden	November/December expenses	59.90
NPTS	Planning Training	48.00

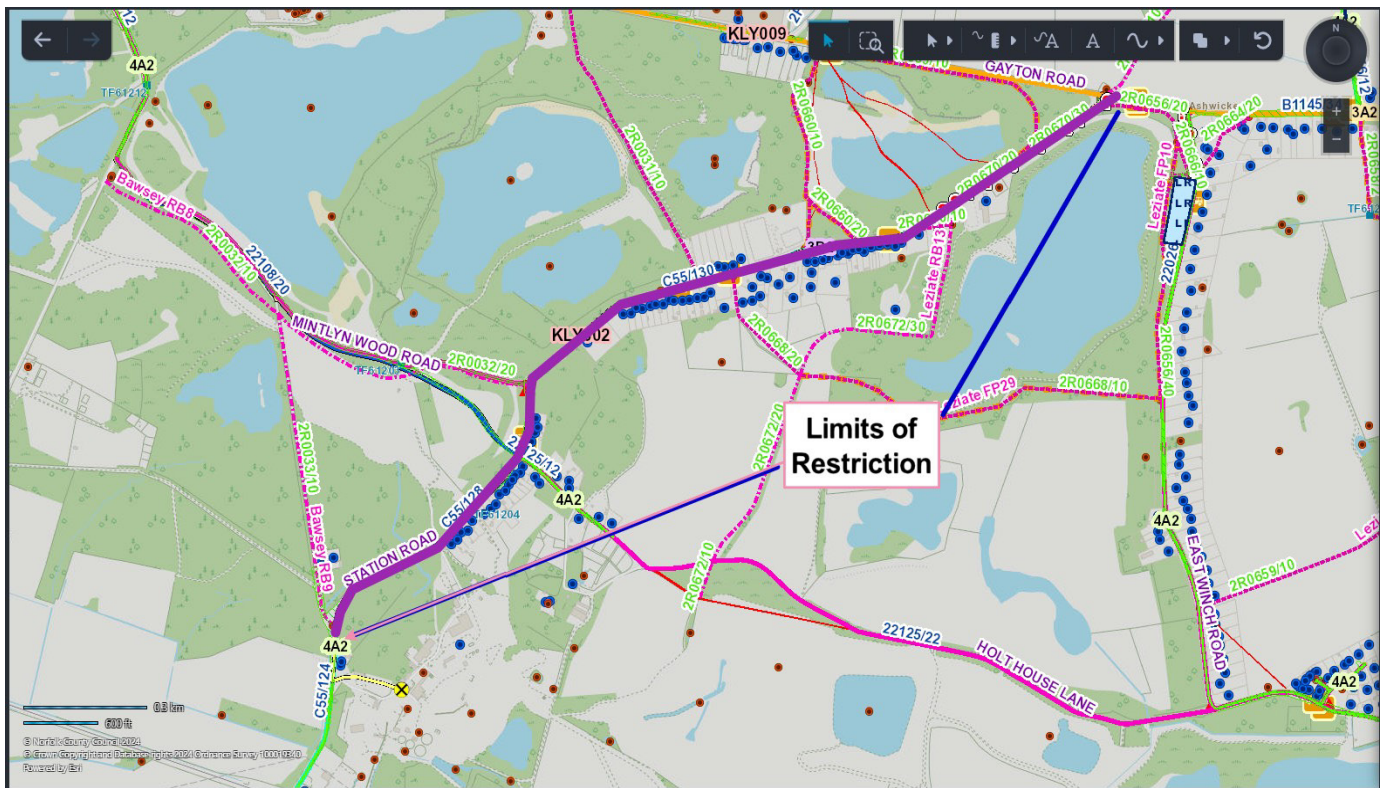
Payments for January 24:

C Boyden	Salary	252.16
HMRC	PAYE	164.00
ECS	January invoice	16.50
Village Hall	January payment	16.00
C Boyden	January expenses	34.90

Signature

Date

APPENDIX 1



APPENDIX 2 – County Councillor Report:

Councillors accept £600 million devolution deal

County councillors have voted to accept a county deal devolution agreement with the Government, to transfer significant funding and powers to Norfolk.

Government funding will start transferring to Norfolk next summer, if councillors vote in July 2024 to stage the first election for a leader in May 2025. The deal will mean that decisions can be taken in Norfolk, for Norfolk.

[Watch a video statement from Cllr Mason Billig via YouTube.](#)

The full council agreed the following recommendations:

Council:

- Recognises the work carried out during 2023 to consult with the public, inform Members and prepare plans in relation to the 'in-principle' County Deal brought to Council in January this year
- Commends the work undertaken by the Leader and Officers to secure additional benefits for the Norfolk County Deal and resolves that the Deal should be accepted

Signature

Date

- Agrees that the election for the Directly Elected Leader should be held alongside the county council elections in May 2025 to enable the widest possible engagement with the electorate
- Agrees that the resolution adopting the new governance arrangements should be brought to the Full Council meeting on 23 July 2024 to facilitate that election date

For further details go to www.norfolk.gov.uk/norfolkcountydeal.

Background – what would a county deal mean?

Norfolk faces a major opportunity to gain new powers and funding from the Government, through an agreement called the County Deal.

We could make more decisions in Norfolk, for Norfolk and secure investment of more than £600m over 30 years. If councillors agree the in-principle deal, it will enable us to invest in areas such as transport, skills and job opportunities, housing and regeneration, tailored to the needs of local people.

A County Deal would mean:

- Having a Council Leader who is directly elected by the public, enabling Norfolk's voice to be heard by the Government
- Targeting funding and resources to Norfolk's own priorities
- Unlocking housing and employment sites
- Investing in the skills we need and attracting and retaining key businesses
- Opening the door to more – further powers and funding in future

Householders to get free DIY waste for small projects

Norfolk residents will be able to dispose of small amounts of DIY waste at Norfolk's Recycling Centres free of charge from 31 December following changes made by Norfolk County Council.

The change applies to small-scale projects carried out by householders on their own home, allowing them to bring a maximum 100 litres (must fit into 2 x 50l bags) for free or one single item (maximum size of 200cm x 70cm x 75cm). Each household is allowed four free visits with DIY waste every four weeks. Anything beyond this will still be charged at normal rates.

The change in policy follows Government abolishing charges for the disposal of limited amounts and types of DIY waste at recycling centres across the UK.

Prior to 31 December, customers with DIY-type construction and demolition waste will continue to be directed to the 'Pay as you throw service' which is available at all centres.

Traders must continue to pay for DIY waste.

For more information visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/DIYwaste

Award-winning Adult Learning service rated 'Good' by Ofsted

Norfolk County Council's Adult Learning has been rated as 'Good' following their latest Ofsted inspection.

The inspection report praised the ambition of the service, which provides community-based and online learning for around 6,000 adults a year. The service achieved a 'Good' rating across all six areas that were inspected, alongside the overall 'Good' rating.

Inspectors commented that learners are 'highly motivated' and committed to their studies. They praised the number of people who have a 'clear plan' for their future careers and that they want to improve their economic prospects.

In particular, inspectors highlighted the work with residents of retirement homes who have increased their confidence, self-care and resilience after completing courses in basic cookery. They commented how, following the course, learners felt less isolated and 'excited to prepare and eat their own meals'.

It was also recognised that the service has responded effectively to the growing demand for English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) courses.

There was praise for the work with Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service apprentices. The inspectors saw how the course helps them to work safely while learning about the importance of health and nutrition. The report concluded that the 'apprenticeship is well matched to the needs of the fire service.'

This inspection result comes on the back of Norfolk County Council Adult Learning being named 'Further or Higher Education Provider of the Year' at this year's Norfolk Education Awards. This followed national recognition in 2021 where the service was named adult and community learning provider of the year at the Tes Further Education Awards.

Norfolk County Council Adult Learning offers a wide range of courses for adults of all levels and interests. Whether you want to change your career, improve your skills, or pursue your passion.

Find out more about Adult Learning and browse the course catalogue at www.norfolk.gov.uk/adultlearning.

New year, New you. Norfolk gears up for a healthy 2024

More than half of Norfolk's residents are planning to make a New Year's resolution this year, with losing weight and healthier eating topping the list, according to a survey* carried out by Public Health at Norfolk County Council.

Fifty-eight per cent of respondents said they would make a resolution this year, with 34% saying that they would like to lose weight and 27% saying that want to eat healthier in January and onwards. Reducing stress (18%) and drinking less alcohol (11%) were also high on the priority list for 2024.

It should be a successful start to the county-wide health kick, as 42% residents claim that previous resolutions have been kept to for six months or more and just 7% slipping in the first week.

Fortunately, for anyone who's looking to make a change but struggles to stick to goals, Ready to Change is a great free online tool with lots of support. Those looking to reach a healthy weight, drink less or give up smoking can go online and there are quizzes to help you understand what you might need to improve as well as loads of tips and information about free support in Norfolk.

Professor of health psychology Felix Naughton, a behaviour change expert from the University of East Anglia said: "Planning is key to successfully achieving your goal. Write down your goal, including how and when you will achieve it, get the support of friends and family, and think about anything that might get in the way and how you will get around it."

Visit www.readytochange.co.uk for help setting your goals and action plans to get you the success you deserve in 2024.

*Online survey of 153 Norfolk residents carried out from 11 – 18 December.

Multi-million pound investment proposed to modernise Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service buildings

A multi million pound proposal to modernise fire and rescue buildings across the county is set to be considered by Norfolk County Council's Cabinet.

The work is part of the council's ongoing infrastructure investment to improve the inclusivity of Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS) buildings to ensure they are fit for the future as the service recruits more women and looks to improve and standardise the layouts of its buildings for the health, safety and wellbeing of staff.

NFRS has looked at the equity of facilities at its fire stations, as well as what more it can do to minimise contamination of potentially harmful substances and recommended a range of changes to station layouts and facilities. These aim to create more purpose-built facilities for women and improve zoning to minimise the risk of contaminant spread.

To date cabinet has approved a £1.2m investment in a new logistics hub in Wymondham and wide-ranging improvements at Sprowston and Thetford fire stations.

Cabinet has now been asked to approve a three-stage approach to prioritising the modernisation of stations which requires an allocation of £2m from existing capital for 2024-25; with a follow-on £2m bid expected for 2025-26.

More modern fire stations, such as Carrow in Norwich will require minimum interventions, with the majority of the improvements focused at on-call stations. If agreed, the timetable will be realigned to other initiatives such as decarbonisation of the wider county council estate to ensure best value for money.

Signature

Date

NFRS also asked for cabinet acknowledgement of an estimated further £4.5m requirement for work beyond 2026 for improvements to its remaining estate.

The bid fits with the council's Strategic Property Asset Management Framework 2021/22 to 2026/27 to provide the right property, fit for purpose, in the right place, to meet current service delivery needs and to plan for the future.

24/7 free travel to all disabled bus pass holders in Norfolk

From 1 February 2024 all Norfolk residents who hold a disabled concessionary travel pass will be eligible for free bus travel 24 hours a day, seven days a week when travelling within the county.

The decision, which was published today by Norfolk County Council, means that more than 14,500 people across the county who hold a concessionary bus pass due to disability, and their eligible companions, will now be able to travel on any bus at any time free of charge across Norfolk.

Previously concessionary pass holders with a disability were only able to travel for free on buses off-peak (all day on Saturdays and Sundays but only from 09:30 Monday to Friday) except for those registered blind or visually impaired.

Offering free travel at all times is over and above the minimum requirement set by government, and is something that a local authority can choose to do but doesn't have to do. The change was recommended following an updated equality impact assessment of the scheme which concluded that it is now unfair to offer a discretionary enhancement to just one group of disabled people (i.e. those who are blind or visually impaired).

The recommendation agreed by the individual cabinet member was to 'extend the concessionary travel discretion of free travel at all times to all eligible disabled passholders and eligible companions, from 1 February 2024.'

The cost of providing this enhancement is estimated at £50,000 which will be funded by the Council's ring-fenced public transport budget provided by the Department for Transport.

Norfolk County Council's emergency team has busiest Christmas on record

Social workers in Norfolk had a busier Christmas and New Year than ever, with more than 800 calls coming in over the festive period.

The council's Emergency Duty Team, which helps respond to out of hours social care emergencies, was available 24/7 over the holiday period, supporting some of the county's most vulnerable people.

Signature

Date

Christmas day was the busiest on record with 71 calls. The previous record was 50 calls in 2021, due to the pressures of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Over the Christmas bank holiday weekend, the team dealt with 414 calls and the New Year bank holiday weekend saw the team deal with 377 calls.

Requests ranged from formal mental health assessments, safeguarding children referrals and community care calls, such as elderly residents needed an increase in care or night visits.