

**Minutes of the Meeting of Winterton-on-Sea Parish Council  
Wednesday 22nd August 2019 7.30pm Winterton-on-Sea Village Hall**

**Present:** Eric Lund (Chairman)  
John Allen  
Mark Bobby  
Nigel Coe  
Marie Hartley (from 7.50pm)  
Roger Jarvis  
Catherine Moore (Parish Clerk)

**Also attended:** Borough Councillors Noel Galer and James Bensley, County Councillor Ron Hanton and 21 members of the public.

**1. Apologies**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2. Declarations of Interest and Applications for Dispensation**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th July 2019 were considered. The word 'District' on page 1 was amended to 'Borough' and the line on page 2 'b) Borough Councillors' and 'Not present' was deleted. With these amendments the minutes were **agreed** and signed by the Chairman.

**4. Update on matters arising from the minutes**

**a) Grass and Weeds on Allotment Access**

It had been clarified that the access path was the responsibility of the Parish Council. The path had been cleared, and would be maintained on a monthly basis.

**b) Hazardous Pavements**

The affected areas had been reported to the Highways Engineer and would be inspected.

**5. Public Participation**

*Standing orders were suspended to allow Borough and County Councillors, and members of the public to speak.*

**a) Borough Councillors**

Noel Galer reported that toilets in the borough would shortly be refurbished. The Venetian Waterways had reopened following their renovation. A £1.1M budget for creative arts had been set up, but it was understood that this was only for urban areas. The second draft of the Local Plan was out for consultation, however there were no proposals for Winterton. A cross-channel markets project was underway in partnership with France. Suggestions were welcomed for growth and investment as part of a new strategic planning document. Noel addressed the Council on the invitation to join the Flegg Community Land Trust, noting that all parishes in the northern part of the Borough were included. The CLT could acquire land and build affordable homes, with clauses around rental in perpetuity for local people as well as keeping re-sale prices at an affordable level. The target for the Flegg CLT was to develop and rent 30 properties in the CLT area.

It was **agreed** to keep an interested watch on this initiative, but not to join at this time.

James Bensley noted that the Council could apply to the Great Yarmouth BID for funding for the replacement bench at the Green, and that In Bloom could also benefit from some funding. He noted that the upkeep of the Waterways was paid for from the income from the cafe and boat hire, and the facilities were maintained by people who were developing skills in college. The organisation was a registered charity.

*Marie Hartley joined the meeting at 7.50pm.*

James had been working with the school to install a partition wall to create a sensory room, and to improve disabled access.

#### County Councillor

Ron Hanton reported that Great Yarmouth would be holding an Open Day at the fire station on 14th September. A Hazardous Waste Amnesty would be taking place at Caister Recycling Centre on 5th & 6th October. Ron had agreed to fund the dropped kerb at the Playing Field from his divisional budget.

The Chairman reported that the new position for the SAM2 sign on Somerton Road had been agreed and would shortly be deployed.

#### **b) Public Participation**

A member of the public asked whether the weeds on Back Path to the Dunes steps could be cut back. The Clerk was asked to refer this to the handyman for action.

**Clerk**

A member of the public asked whether there was any progress on the path through Winterton Valley Estate. The Chairman replied that this was with Norfolk County Council, however this was not an easy process due to the number of owners involved. A member of the public noted that the Parish Council was not the applicant, and that this matter had been with the Legal Orders Team since 2015 - the speaker confirmed that she had taken over as the applicant.

A member of the public wished to raise points regarding the Village Hall Committee meeting the previous day. The speaker was referred to the complaints policy as the matters raised had been exhausted at the previous days meeting, however he subsequently decided to allow a statement to be made. The speaker noted that she had never witnessed behaviour such as this at a meeting and felt that the Chairman had been rude to a member of the public who attended, and refused to give a public apology for comments made in a notice published on behalf of the Village Hall Committee. She felt that the village was being torn apart resulting in stress, hurt and anger. She said that councillors needed to earn respect, and lessons needed to be learned otherwise tensions would escalate.

The Chairman thanked the speaker for her comments and noted that the apology was requested due to the notice that had been published cancelling the Garage Sale in September, however the Village Hall Committee had fully supported that an apology for that notice was not required. A clarification statement had been issued, and there had been no breach of protocol in making the statement.

A member of the public asked if it was correct that ten electors could sign to request the removal of councillors. The Clerk replied that ten electors could

demand an election for a casual vacancy, but could not request the removal of councillors. In response to further questioning, the Clerk confirmed that there was no mechanism by which the public could remove councillors except by standing at an ordinary election, and that the next opportunity to do this would be in May 2023.

In response to questioning as to the reasons for the departure of some groups from the Village Hall, the Clerk highlighted the following reasons given:

- Foot Clinic - increase in hire charges, and did not want to engage in conversation about the increase
- Royal British Legion - inadequate parking
- Carers - outgrown the Hall, needed better disabled access and parking
- Prayer & Praise - no reason stated
- Friendship Club - offence taken to the email asking the Club to move their equipment from the kitchen to the cupboard.

The Chairman was asked again to make an apology to the organiser of the alternative garage sale, which he reiterated was not required.

*The meeting was adjourned at 8.15pm and reconvened at 8.25pm.*

The Clerk was asked to read an excerpt of the draft minutes of the Village Hall meeting, and it was noted that this had been said after the individual requesting the apology had left the meeting:

" The Chairman apologised on behalf of the Committee if anyone had taken offence to recent communications, but felt that this was due to misunderstandings and that there was no intention to cause offence."

The Vice Chairman stated that he would contact the individual concerned and make sure she had a copy of the draft minutes showing that the Chairman had apologised if any unintended offence was taken, with a covering letter noting that she had not been present at that time.

**MB**

A member of the public asked what would be done to get the groups back to the Village Hall. The Chairman confirmed that he had discussed the 901 Troop's future at the Hall, and it was absolutely clear that they were fully supported and would not be leaving. The Hall would be marketed to attract new hirers, and further updates would be given regularly. The Acting Commander of the 901 Troop confirmed that they had no intention to leave.

It was noted that there were two vacancies on the Village Hall Committee for members of the public to contribute to the running of the Hall. There was also two vacancies on the Council to assist with decision making in the whole parish. One volunteer from a user group stepped forward for the Village Hall Committee, and there were no volunteers to become councillors.

*Standing orders were reinstated.*

**6. Co-option to two vacancies**  
There were no co-options made.

**7. Planning**

**a) Applications Received**

- i)** 06/19/0422/F Sea Gem, The Holway: Demolition of existing single storey dwellinghouse and replacement with new 1.5 storey dwellinghouse.

John Allen had viewed the plans, visited the site and spoken to neighbours. The back of the property overlooked the Dunes, and while the proposal looked different, it was part of a village that was visually developing. It was **agreed** to support the proposal.

**Clerk**

- b) Planning Decisions**  
None.

**8. Correspondence and Consultations**

**a) Review of Polling Stations and Districts**

The five-yearly review of polling arrangements was out to consultation. It was **agreed** that the current polling arrangements for Winterton were fit for purpose.

**b) Thank You for event at Duffles Pond**

A 'thank you' had been received in relating to the memorial for Peter Barnes at Duffles Pond.

**c) RAFA Battle of Britain Service**

Councillors had been invited to attend the Battle of Britain Service at Great Yarmouth Minster on Sunday 15th September.

**9. Finance**

**a) Receipts, Payments, and Bank Reconciliation**

The bank balances at 31st July 2019 were:

- Current account - £2,951.66
- Deposit account - £57,720.60

This included the ring-fenced Village Hall balance of £20,578.15 and earmarked reserves of £20,848.97. Free funds were £16,528.69.

**b) Accounts for Payment**

It was **agreed** to pay the following accounts:

C Moore	Salary August 2019	£989.11
HMRC	PAYE & NIC	£96.84
Norfolk Pension Fund	Superannuation	£306.42
K Brown	Bus Shelter Cleaning	£40.00
P Lynham	Bus Shelter Cleaning	£40.00
K Jones	Maintenance	£445.00
Norse Eastern Ltd	Newsletter Printing	£314.00
P Carver	Beach Cleaning	£691.90
C Moore	Expenses	£123.80
Vortex	Grounds Maintenance	£255.00
Norse Eastern Ltd	Playground Maintenance	£97.20
K Jones	Decoration Village Hall	£371.00
K Jones	Allotment Maintenance	£210.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£3,980.27</b>

**10. Committees and Advisory Groups**

**a) Village Hall Committee**

Eric Lund reported that improvements to the Village Hall continued, and new

flooring was scheduled for installation in the toilet, kitchen and entrance lobby shortly. The Hall would be closed for 4 days for this. Two applications had been received for the position of Caretaker, and the interview panel had been agreed. It was **agreed** to delegate the decision on appointment of the caretaker to the interview panel.

It was **agreed** to appoint Rachel Tooke to the Village Hall Committee.

**b) Safer Neighbourhood Action Group**

John Allen reported that he had attended the meeting in Caister, and the set priorities were speeding; anti-social behaviour; and drugs.

**c) Patient Participation Group**

John Allen reported that he had not been able to attend the meeting as it was in Beccles and clashed with another commitment. The next meeting was scheduled for 28th October in Great Yarmouth.

**d) Allotment Advisory Group**

Nigel Coe reported that there had been positive feedback about the tidying of the access path. Some allotment holders had been sent letters asking them to cut back weeds and nettles on their allotments. One allotment holder had been asked to remove a piece of play equipment from their plot. There were two vacant plots, with two potential tenants on the waiting list.

**e) Playing Field Management Committee**

The Chairman reported that specifications and indicative prices had been received for pre-fabricated solutions. Early indications were that grant funding was unlikely, however the Council needed to decide whether ultimately, if grant funding could not be secured, they would be willing for the precept to pay for the project. If the changing rooms were not replaced, the Cricket Club would not be able to play at Winterton. It was suggested that a fundraiser could be engaged, whose fee would be wholly a percentage of the funds they successfully secured.

*Marie Hartley declared an interest as a member of Winterton Cricket Club.*

It was felt that there was a moral obligation to provide facilities, and that the Council should continue to seek quotes for the works as well as grant funding for the project.

**f) Neighbourhood Plan Steering Advisory Group**

A Steering Group meeting had been scheduled for 4th September, where the comments on the draft Plan from statutory agencies would be considered. A further round of consultation would be taking place.

**11. Other Matters**

**a) Erosion Update**

The Chairman reported that the sand level was good but the width was narrow in front of the cafe. The ness appeared to be moving.

**b) Road Markings Junction with Back Path**

John Allen noted that the markings were not correct and gave the impression that three cars could be parked. It was noted that the concrete plinth was the road boundary. The Chairman agreed to speak with Highways about this.

**EL**

**c) Inconsiderate Parking; and Road Safety**

Correspondence had been received expressing concerns about parking in the village which blocked emergency vehicle access. It was noted that this should be reported to the police or parking enforcement at the time it was happening. An email had been received regarding a number of road safety concerns, the Clerk

Clerk

was asked to pass this to Highways. Parking problems on Beach Road were highlighted as it was breaking up the road and destroying the wildlife habitat, and it was suggested that more bollards could be put in to prevent access to the Dunes, or the car park could be opened for longer. It was noted that this was a decision for the owner of the land.

d) Deer Warning Signs

The Chairman reported that there were a lot of deer around the village, and concerns had been expressed about these being hit by cars. Signage had been suggested. It was felt that drivers should drive appropriately for the road conditions and should abide by the Highway Code.

e) Weed Killing in The Lane

It was noted that In Bloom used to carry out this work but now didn't. The Chairman agreed to speak with Highways about this matter.

f) Play Equipment Inspections

The people who undertook the weekly inspections would no longer be doing so. The Clerk had confirmed with Great Yarmouth Borough Council that they already undertook visual and operational inspections which included the parish equipment.

g) Social Media Account and Policy

It was suggested that the Parish Council needed to have a presence on Facebook as the Clerk was having to use her own personal account in relation to Parish Council matters, and it would not be appropriate to ask a third party to post. A Facebook account could be used to promote activities of the Council. It was **agreed** to set up a Facebook presence, and the Social Media Policy was **agreed**.

h) Bench on The Green

This was being investigated.

EL

i) Flegg Community Land Trust

Covered earlier

j) No Cold Calling Zones

It was felt that this was not a major problem, so the situation would be monitored.

k) Twinning Opportunity with Camperduin, Netherlands

The Chairman would be attending a meeting in September, as this matter was being progressed with ENDURE. Any twinning arrangement would be on a social basis, and the Chairman would report back at the next meeting.

EL

12. **Action Log**

The action log was noted. The Chairman had two actions to take forward. It was suggested that the church gates and shop area could be considered for white lining, the Chairman asked for these suggestions to be submitted in writing with pictures.

**13. Councillor Feedback and Items for Next Meeting**

Mark Bobby reported that there had been recent instances of fireworks being let off on the Dunes by a holiday home owner. It was suggested that the complainant should ring 999 at the time of the incident, asking for the police unless they had caused a fire in which case asking for the fire service. Environmental Health at Great Yarmouth Borough Council could also be contacted about this.

Mark Bobby reported that he had been approached about Dogs on Leads signs,. He was asked to find a suitable location so that permission could be requested.

**MB**

Nigel Coe reported that the path on Beach Road had been broken up where the bollards were. The Chairman would discuss this with Highways.

**EL**

A member of the public reported that dog fouling on The Green in Winmer Avenue was a problem, it was noted that this was Borough Council land however signs could be considered.

**14. Date of next meeting:**

- Wednesday 18th September 2019 7.30pm Winterton Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm.

**CHAIRMAN**