



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE DAVID MYHILL ROOM, YAXHAM VILLAGE HALL
at 7.30pm on Thursday 22nd November 2018**

Present Cllrs Lowing, Martin, Crummet, Harvey, Bennett and Dimoglou

In attendance Mrs K Wilson (Locum Clerk), and 15 members of the public.

1. Chairman's opening remarks. The Chairman welcomed the public to the meeting and Mrs Kristine Wilson, the locum clerk. The Chairman spoke about the huge success of the WW1 event and thanked everyone involved and especially Katy Marczewski who headed up the working group and made it such a memorable event. The Chairman also advised that both he and Cllr Martin has attended a two day leadership skills course.

2. Apologies. Cllr Goldsmith gave apologies for non-attendance due to illness which absence was approved. Apologies also received from District Councillor Ed Connelly due to a prior engagement.

3. Declarations of Interest. None received.

4. Public Session. Bob Gust of the YVAA requested assistance with litter picking as he had an injured shoulder. It was agreed that a request for help would be placed on the Yaxham website.

Cllr Dimoglou said that he had been approached by several villagers who had expressed dissatisfaction with the way the Social Club was progressing. According to Cllr Dimoglou when they raised these issues they were given 'short shrift'. He understood that the YVAA were no longer involved in bookings or maintenance and suggested that the running of the Social Club should be taken over by the Parish Council. Bob Gust said the YVAA would respond in writing at the next meeting. Cllr Martin advised that the Social Club was not the responsibility of the Parish Council. A member of the public stated that Parish Councillors should turn up for meetings and not just when they felt like it. He pointed out that Cllr Dimoglou had not attended meetings for over 6 months and now seemingly wanted to complain about everything and everyone.

Cllr Dimoglou was asked to report to the meeting as District Councillor. He stated that there was much going on at Breckland but he was not at liberty to discuss any of it so therefore had nothing to report. He said that he felt there should be more openness and transparency at Breckland Council as he felt it was not 'sufficient grounds to deprive 135,000 people in Breckland of the information they deserved'. He said what was going on in Breckland was an 'open secret'. He was asked why he failed to disclose information about the proposed Garden Village to the Parish Council. Cllr Dimoglou then stated that there was a second option from Lanpro under consideration called "The Railway Village" involving the amalgamation of Yaxham, Mattishall and Garvestone. In defending his position of non-disclosure he stated said that George Freeman MP had had personal meetings with the developer which he also did not disclose.

5. Minutes of the previous meeting. A minor amendment was suggested to item 9.4 for the sake of accuracy in that it should read that "the YVAA had waived room charges for *the Parish Council* for five years". This amendment was agreed. The amended Minutes were then unanimously AGREED and duly signed by the Vice-Chairman (due to the incapacity of the Chairman's writing hand).

5.2. Matters Arising.

5.2.1 WW1 Working Group. Katy Marczewski gave a report on the events and activities.

5.2.2 Other Matters. Cllr Martin reported that:

- the WW1 costs of £1,632.27 came in well under the original budget of £2,500, that the new benches have been added to the insurance at no extra premium; and that the time capsule had arrived and discussions were ongoing as to how to proceed.
- that the Litter Pick that took place at the beginning of November had been a great success and he expressed thanks to The Woodlands Group for providing refreshments to the 36 people who attended the event. It was also noted that Ward Cllr Paul Claussen attended the event.
- the Clint Green Post Box is being returned and will be sited on an area of grass in front of the school. Cllr Martin expressed thanks to George Freeman MP, who had been instrumental in achieving this.
- the new dog waste bin had arrived and thanks were expressed to Cllr Harvey for his assistance in this matter. It is situated on the junction of Paper Street/Cutthroat Lane. Cllr Harvey was also thanked for re-locating the dog waste bin from the Old Post Office to the bottom of Well Hill.
- the potholes by Swallowtail Barn which had been recently reported to Highways have been filled.
- some tyres that had been dumped in the village and it was reported that these had now been removed.
- an issue had arisen at St Peters Close following the death of a resident. The bungalow had remained empty for a while and possible rodent activity was reported to Flagship who have cleared the bungalow and dealt with the rodent problem.
- the Yaxham.com website has been updated and feedback from residents would be appreciated.

6. Planning matters.

6.1 To receive and consider the following new planning applications. None

6.2 To receive and consider any additional information on current planning applications:

3PL/2015/1490/0 was due to be heard by the planning committee at Breckland on Monday as well as the variation of conditions in respect of application reference 3PL/2018/0024 VAR.

6.3 To receive and consider results of planning applications. None.

6.4 To consider planning applications yet to be decided None

6.5 To receive a report of the meeting with Breckland Council The Chairman stated that the meeting at Breckland he had attended with Cllr Martin and the NP4Yaxham Chairman, had been very positive and as a follow up, a letter of points raised had been received from Breckland Council. Breckland agreed to re-convene for a further meeting in January. This was also supported by Cllr Claussen.

6.6 There was nothing additional to report on the Neighbourhood Plan.

7. Village Consultation. Cllr Martin said meetings had taken place with Highways with regard to the siting of the bus shelters and it was now proposed that there should be two bus shelter rather than three due to lack of suitable sites. In addition, Highways had agreed the location of the three pairs of village gates, and that a new SAM sign could be located on the existing poles.

8. Finance

8.1 Payments Made. Cllr Martin, as acting Responsible Finance Officer (RFO), reported that the grant of £1,500 had been paid to the YVAA for emergency tree works as agreed – Cheque No. 101126

8.2 To consider and approve payments

Payments AGREED:

	To Pay	Detail	£ Total	VAT	Ex VAT	Cheque No
i.	Pat Baldwin	October Salary & Expenses	£ 90.00	£ 0.00	£ 90.00	101127
ii.	EOE	WW1 Printing – 23/10	£ 109.00	£ 18.17	£ 90.83	101128
		WW1 Printing – 31/10	£ 30.90	£ 5.15	£ 25.75	
		<u>WW1 Printing – 7/11</u>	<u>£ 20.00</u>	£ 3.33	£ 16.67	
		Total	£ 159.90			
iii.	Norfolk ALC	Chairman Training	£ 264.00	£ 44.00	£ 220.00	101129
iv.	Katy Marczewski	WW1 Event expenses	£ 73.24	£ 0.00	£ 73.24	101130
v.	Peter Lowings	Wreath	£ 20.00	£ 0.00	£ 20.00	101131
vi.	Gary Lake	Grass Cutting 2 nd payment	£ 522.00	£ 0.00	£ 522.00	101132

8.3 To note any receipts.

Annual rent was received from Mr C Harrison in respect of land at Paper Street in the sum of £150.00

8.4 To consider the Clint Green bus shelter, insurance claim and possible replacement.

The acting RFO advised that he was still awaiting a response from the insurance company and all information had been provided to them. The bus shelter was installed in 1974 and the last figure insured was £811.00 in the 2014 Asset Register. There is a £250 excess on the insurance so it may be that the insurance company will pay the difference between the last value in the Asset Register less the excess. Unfortunately the replacement cost is far in excess of this at just over £3,000 for a glass and steel shelter with a timber shelter priced at between £6,000 and £7,000. It was AGREED that no decision could be made on how to proceed until we have more information from the insurer.

8.5 To consider the draft budget and set the precept for 2019/2020

The acting RFO as acting RFO presented the draft budget and proposed that the precept should remain unchanged for 2019/20. It was noted that despite the expenditure incurred, there was a small surplus in the past year. Cllr Dimoglou challenged the inclusion in the earmarks of £3,000 for planning advice. Cllr Martin responded that this was a contingency reserve and did not commit the Council to the expenditure. Any decision to use all or part of the reserve would be for the Council to make at the time. The 2019/18 budget, including the earmarks, was AGREED by 5 votes to 1 with Cllr Dimoglou voting against. It was AGREED that the precept should remain at £11,000, by 5 votes to 1 with Cllr Dimoglou voting against.

8.6 To consider Parish Partnership bids for 2019-2020

The acting RFO proposed, in the light of the community support for the bus shelters, village gateways and new Speed Awareness sign, that the Council renew its Parish Partnership bid for 2019/20. If successful in the bid then the total cost would be £13,479.48+VAT, with £6,739.74 coming from the County Council. Cllr Dimoglou opposed the bid.

It was AGREED that the Parish Partnership bid be made, by 5 votes to 1 with Cllr Dimoglou voting against.

8.7 To consider the re-appointment of the annual auditor for a further year.

Cllr Martin said he had approached Catherine Clark, who had audited the annual accounts last year and she had agreed to do the same this year. It was assumed that the cost would be similar - in the region off £120.00 plus VAT. In the absence of any official RFO this was agreed.

8.8 To consider and approve any cllr/clerk training that may be required.

Training will be considered if needed. Cllrs Lowing and Martin gave a brief resume of their recent training course and some key points they had learnt in relation to running the meetings.

9. Consultations

9.1 Norfolk Boreas Offshore Wind Farm: Statutory consultation 7th Nov - 9th December

As the advised route of the infrastructure goes to the north of Dereham, Yaxham is unaffected it was AGREED there was no need to make a submission.

9.2 Environment Agency consultation on 'demaining' of River Tud 12th November - 23rd December

The situation with the River Tud had been raised with Breckland Cllr Gordon Bambridge and it was his view that as a result of the withdrawal of the Environment Agency from managing the Tud, matters may well be improved under the auspices of the Inland Drainage Board of which he is a member. The Environment Agency tend not to take action with the smaller rivers for long periods of time and it was felt that if people wanted further time to consider the information, the Parish Council could put together a response if required. This would need to be done by 9th December.

9.3 Norfolk County Council Budget Consultation 2019/2020 5th November - 24th December

It was AGREED there was no basis to make a submission.

9.4. Consultation on Norwich Western Link options 26th November - 18 January 2019.

Cllr Martin advised that there were 4 options to be considered and that exhibitions would be held at Hockering Village Hall (6/12), Dereham Memorial Hall (15/12) and Easton /Village Hall (10/12). It was AGREED that Cllrs would provide comments to Cllr Martin who would the make a submission.

10. Highways

10.1 To receive a report on meeting with Highways. District Councillor Ed Connelly had arranged a meeting with Highways (John Cotton) which Cllr Martin attended, to discuss reducing speed limits in Yaxham on the Norwich Road between Clint Green and Yaxham. Sadly there appeared no basis that County will consider this. However, John Cotton suggested that "T" junction signs could be installed either side of Mill Lane. The issue of the narrow pavement on Norwich Road past Pinns Corner to Clint Green was discussed and John Cotton would investigate the costs and the practicality of widening the pavement to the highway. Highways will revert to see if Yaxham want to make a Parish Partnership bid in a year's time in respect of this. Reference was made to double yellow lines - previously discussed to discourage parents parking outside the school. It is already an offence so double yellow lines deemed unnecessary. Highways offered to consider the installation of an 'H' line to show where the parking is permitted. Cllr Lowings suggested the possibility of the addition of a cycle lane if it is feasible to widen the pavement, which was AGREED.

10.2 To note any highway matters requiring attention including Potholes, Traffic signs, Road Name signs

- Potholes already covered earlier.
- Traffic signs – these had been reported to Highways Rangers, but not responded. Cllr Martin to chase.
- Road name signs have been reported to Breckland for cleaning/repair.
- The Council was pleased to note that where speed signs had been obscured by hedges, that these had been trimmed back to ensure clear visibility of signs.

11. Correspondence *(previously circulated by email)*

11.1 Norfolk Association of Local Councils - Newsletter and AGM 22nd November.

Apologies sent for non-attendance.

11.2 Community Action Norfolk - Newsletters

11.3 Breckland Council meeting notices and minutes

11.4 Notice of temporary road closure on Shipdham Road in the Parish of Whinburgh and Westfield due to BT installation (STRO2109) 19-23rd November

11.5 CPRE Norfolk Voice Newsletter November 2018

11.6 Police Newsletter incl. Dereham SNAP 28th November, 7pm Breckland Offices

Cllr Lowings volunteered to attend.

12. Meeting dates

The following meeting dates for 2019 were AGREED

24 th January	28 th February	28 th March	25 th April	23 rd May
27 th June	25 th July	26 th September	31 st October	28 th November

13. To note items for the next meeting agenda

Grass cutting contract tender.

14. To note the date of the next Parish Council meeting as Thursday 24th January 2019 at 7.30pm. It was also AGREED to hold a Staffing Committee Meeting at 6.30pm on the same evening to consider any applications for Clerk/RFO role and if none then the basis of re-advertising the role.

Noted and agreed.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.