

Strumpshaw Parish Council

Minutes

Parish Council Meeting held at 7:30pm. on Tuesday 21 November 2023 at Strumpshaw Community Hall, Mill Road, Strumpshaw, NR13 4FS.

Present: Michael Green (Chair), Will Faulkner, Martin Kentish, Tina McAulay, and Martin (Olly) Page.

In attendance: Tanya Rowlandson (Clerk), District Councillors Jan Davis and Eleanor Laming, Sarah Cartwright (CHC Chairman), PC Steve Godden & PC Jackie Chambers (Acle Safer Neighbourhood Team) and ten members of the public.

1.	Apologies for absence Paul Kitley (approved) and County Councillor Andrew Proctor (noted).
2.	Declarations of interest in any items on the agenda None.
3.	Minutes of the previous meeting It was resolved to approve the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 19 September 2023. The minutes were signed by the Chair, MG.
4.	Matters arising Notify the contracts team at Broadland District Council once the dog poo bin on Barn Hill has been moved to the entrance at Stone Pit.
5.	Suspend standing order for receipt of reports from County and District Councillors, followed by the public open forum (15 minutes total) Copies of the County and District Councillors reports are attached with these minutes. Public Participation: Following his personal canvass of residents on the issue of speeding along Norwich Road, LW addressed the meeting with his concerns about speeding and requested the support of the parish council in requesting Norfolk County Council Highways consider the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 20 mph speed limit through the village. 2. Speed cameras manned by the police so that offenders could be penalised. 3. Speed bumps to slow down traffic. 4. Pedestrian footpaths through the length of the village and all the way into Brundall. <p>He has already been in contact with Norfolk County Council Highways seeking a 20 MPH speed limit and/or other traffic calming measures.</p> <p>The Chair thanked LW for his presentation and advised the public there would be a further opportunity to ask questions after the SAM2 update (item 6).</p>
6.	SAM2 and speeding update by Martin Kentish and to review SAM2 effectiveness and consider further options. The presentation on this item (attached to these minutes) and further feedback from members of the public indicate that many residents share concerns about speeding, the challenges being to generate consensus on how best to resolve the issue within existing legal/policy frameworks and available resources. A joint community speed watch group was also discussed once again, however there appeared to be little incentive by members of the public present at the meeting to support this.

	<p>It was resolved that the parish council would examine the criteria and potential funding sources for a range of permanent traffic calming measures, such as speed bumps, chicanes or 20 MPH speed limits, and then carry out a survey to solicit residents' views.</p> <p>PC Steve Godden and PC Jackie Chambers suggested making the 30 MPH more obvious as drivers entered the village. They advised that Freethorpe did this with their 30 MPH signs for drivers coming into the village from Reedham and it had a significant impact.</p>
7.	<p>Community Hall Committee operational update presented by Sarah Cartwright The full report is filed with these minutes. The increase in hall hire charges was noted and it was resolved to accept the proposed budget 2024/25 as recommended by the CHC.</p>
8.	<p>Buckenham Ancient Woodland Trust update by Michael Green</p> <p>The website is up and running https://www.buckenhamancientwoodland.org, as is the Just Giving page for donations at https://justgiving.com/page/bawt-1698694105127/</p> <p>The trust was unsuccessful in the grant applications for funding from a private family trust and the Greater Norwich Growth Board's Investment & Infrastructure Fund.</p> <p>An application has been submitted to the Community Ownership Fund (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities); a decision should be made by December 2023.</p>
9.	<p>Correspondence received and update by the clerk</p> <p><i>9.1. Norfolk Climate Change Partnership, Net Zero Communities - Fast Followers project</i> It was noted that the project is supported by our District Councillors Jan Davis and Eleanor Laming and agreed that the council would also be interested in supporting this project, with the clerk to invite Jonathan Ward, Net Zero Innovation & Delivery Manager to our next meeting.</p> <p><i>9.2. Parish Partnership bid for a footway on Norwich Road</i> It was resolved to submit a bid for the 2024/25 Parish Partnership Scheme for the missing footpath link on Norwich Road. It was noted that the deadline for submissions is 8 December, MG to assist the clerk with the final draft.</p> <p><i>9.3. Neighbourhood Plan Review</i> It was resolved to accept Rachel Leggett & Associates proposal to assist reviewing the Neighbourhood Plan and to instruct the clerk to prepare and submit the grant applications to Locality for a basic grant of £10,000 and additional technical support grant of £8,000; and to enquire about the Neighbourhood Plan Review grant from Broadland District Council £3,000 or £6,000 if major changes to the plan are needed.</p> <p><i>9.4. Polling district and places review by Broadland District Council</i> It was resolved to respond advising that the community centre a modern and accessible building with ample parking and is conveniently located within the parish, and that the council and CHC are both content with the community hall being the designated polling station for future elections in the parish.</p>
10.	<p>Approve grant payments</p> <p>10.1. PCC £750.00 towards maintenance of churchyards at Strumpshaw, Buckenham and Hassingham.</p> <p>10.2. BADCOG £350.00 towards maintenance of Buckenham Wood and Stone Pit.</p>

	It was resolved to approve and make the grant payments to the PCC for £750.00 and BADCOG for £350.00.
11.	Appointment of Internal Auditor for 2023/24 accounts It was resolved to re-appoint Sonya Blythe as the Internal Auditor for 2023/25, noting the increase in the audit fee from £90.00 to £120.00.
12.	Servicing of the allotment water tank pump It was resolved to accept the quotation from Panks (£190.80 + VAT), using the allotment reserves to cover the costs. MK recommended annual servicing of the pump and offered to meet the engineer once the site visit has been arranged.
13.	Consider and approve the budget for 2024/25 Copies of the proposed budget and precept requirements for 2024/25 are attached with these minutes. It was resolved to increase the precept to £12,850. This equates to an increase of £1,199 or 10.29% from this year. With a projected tax base of 285 Band D houses, this equates to £45.08 per Band D house (previously £41.17) and a 10.74% increase. It was furthermore resolved to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase the allotment rental by £1.00 to £15.00 per annum from 1 April 2024 2. Increase the PCC grant donation to £775.00 3. Decrease the BADCOG grant donation to £250.00 (in line with neighbouring parish donations) 4. Make provision for whole council training on a bi-annual basis at £175.00 pa 5. Make provision for contributing to the Parish News Magazine at £155.00 pa 6. Amend the Reserves Policy to increase the general reserve fund by £500.00 pa (Internal Auditor recommended strengthening our general reserves in their Internal Audit Report Financial Year 2022/23 (dated 7 April 2023)).
14.	Finance reports and agree payments The finance reports listing payments awaiting authorisation and income received, bank reconciliations and reserves balances were circulated to all councillors - copies are at the end of these minutes. It was resolved to accept the finance reports and approve the payments and income received.
15.	Consider a response to the notice of consultation on the Greater Norwich Local Plan Proposed Main Modifications (consultation concludes at midday on Wednesday 6 December 2023) It was resolved not to submit a response to the consultation and suggested that members of the Neighbourhood Plan Review Steering Group may wish to familiarise themselves with the emerging GNLN policies.
16.	Date of the next meeting: <i>*incorrect date on agenda - next meeting date is Tuesday 16 January 2024</i>
	Post meeting update: Receipt of Councillor Stuart Blyth's resignation from the parish council. Broadland District Council informed 22 November, notice of casual vacancy expiry date 13 December 2023.
Approved by Chair: _____ Date: _____	