Strumpshaw Parish Council Minutes

Parish Council Meeting held at 7:30pm. on Tuesday 19 March 2024 at Strumpshaw Community Hall, Mill Road, Strumpshaw, NR13 4FS.

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

In attendance: Tanya Rowlandson (Clerk), District Councillor Eleanor Laming, Sarah Cartwright (CHC Chairman), Alasdair Fraser (Buckenham Wood Tree Warden) and five members of the public.

1.	Apologies for absence County Councillor Andrew Proctor and District Councillor Jan Davis (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 meetings held on 19 January 2024. The minutes were signed by the Chair, MG.
4.	Matters arising Planning application ref 2023/3508. Following submission of the Parish Council's further comments on the informal path that has been established by walkers and school children inside the proposed parking area, which was not shown on the amended plans, a member of the PCC contacted MG to advise that the PCC were happy for the informal access path to continue but they did not wish to formalise the arrangement. As the Parish Council does not currently meet Norfolk County Council Highways requirements for a speed bump, it was suggested that the Council explore the feasibility of raising its own funds to install its own bump(s) (MK estimated £3,000/£4,000).
5.	Suspend standing orders for receipt of reports from County and District Councillors, followed by the public open forum (15 minutes total) Cllr Laming read out highlights from the District Councillor report. The Chair read out highlights of the County Councillor report. Copies of the full reports are attached with these minutes. Public Open Forum Pat Howes, Chair of 1st Lingwood and Strumpshaw Air Scout Group trustees advised Council that they have been given notice to leave their present site by February 2034 and are therefore looking for land to relocate to. They currently have around 90 young people aged 6 plus attending beavers, cubs and scouts. Scouts from the group recently helped with a major litter pick at Buckenham Wood. It was mentioned that Buckenham Village Hall was looking to raise money to improve its facilities.

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	A concerned MOP raised the issue of speeding along Long Lane and requested that the SAM2 be deployed on Long Lane. Part of the speed problem is thought to be a lack of 30mph repeater signs between Strumpshaw and Brundall. Given the 2-year diversion of traffic along the A47, resulting in a huge increase in traffic along Long Lane (and Norwich Road), there is a case for insisting that speed cameras should be deployed permanently on Long Lane until such time as the diversion ends.
6.	 6.1. SAM2 and speeding update (MK) Statistics seem to be consistent month on month, with the number of motorists speeding above 35 mph. The average speed recorded remains at 32mph. NCC have confirmed they are happy for the SAM2 to be trialed in the different 30 mph locations outside of Norwich Road. Once these have been agreed, the memorandum of understanding with Norfolk County Council will need updating with these additional locations. 6.2. It was agreed to consider County Councillor Andrew Proctor's offer to fund the purchase of an additional SAM2 with item number 11. 6.3. The Clerk recommended that Council has a policy and risk assessment in place for the SAM2 which would cover councillors and volunteers. A draft document has been circulated for review comments, with the aim that this will be adopted at the next meeting in May. This will recommend purchasing two hi viz vests and start a log of the locations where the SAM2 has been deployed. It was resolved that further consideration be given to the issue of the SAM2 battery charging at the Community Hall. The batteries are the size of a shoebox and take approximately three hours to charge (there are two batteries for the one camera).
7.	Community Hall Committee operational update (SC) A copy is attached to these minutes.
8.	8.1. Buckenham Wood (SPC) (AF) The risk assessment was carried out by AF on 21 February 2024 (a copy is attached with these minutes). It was noted that the risk assessment was updated 2 years ago, and with the recent installation of the path and steps there is no change to the risk due to the natural environment being a woodland.
	Tree inspections are normally carried out every three years, therefore the next tree inspection will be due in 2026. The Chair thanked AF.
	8.2. It was resolved to commence the twice weekly emptying of the litter bin at Buckenham Wood (Wood Lane entrance) from 1 April up to 30 September on a trial basis.
9.	Buckenham Ancient Woodland Trust (BAWT) update (MG)
	Litter picking 21 & 28 January 2024, over 40 volunteers from our neighbouring villages, including the 1 st Lingwood and Strumpshaw Air Scout Group and Rotary Club of Yare Valley, cleared over 50 bags of rubbish, a ton of scrap metal and over 100 tyres from the central part of the wood. They were

assisted by the landowner and his brother. Thanks to the assistance of Pages Garage, the tyres have been disposed of under license and will be used to generate electricity. The old metal drums and sheets of metal, car engines etc will be recycled separately.

Environmental officers from Broadland District Council inspected a larger area of waste and advised to leave it undisturbed and cover with at least one foot of freshly raised gravel, sand and clay. The plan is to use material extracted on site to avoid introducing foreign matter and invasive weeds onto the site.

The Trust has now successfully secured a £25,000 grant through Broadland District Council and South Norfolk Council's Pride in Place Community Grant scheme and match funding through \$106. The good news was launched by the Trust at Yare Folk's barn dance held at Lingwood Village Hall on 16 March 2024 to raise money for the Trust.

MG requested that the Council transfers its informal valuation (given by Durrants) to the Trust. All councillors present consented to transferring the valuation, subject to the Clerk checking there is no breach of confidentiality issues with Durrants.

10. Neighbourhood Plan Review Steering Group update (WF)

Council's decision to obtain grant funding through Locality and Broadland District Council and utilise the support of a consultant (Rachel Leggett & Associates) has been much appreciated by the Steering Group. There was a project inception meeting to meet the team in December 2023 and the terms of reference were drafted.

A workshop was held on 17 January with members of the Steering Group and some interested members of the public who had been involved in developing the current plan. A draft vision was created, and current policies were reviewed to establish the scope of review, including additional evidence and technical reports that may be required e.g. Character Appraisal, Design Code, Housing Needs Assessment.

There has been work on an updated data profile as part of developing an evidence base, this includes up to date statistics, maps and planning policy context. This will form a critical part of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Early March, some members of the Steering Group, along with our consultant, met with colleagues from AECOM (commissioned by Locality to deliver technical support) to proceed with the design code work and for a Housing Needs Assessment to be undertaken.

Next steps:

Consultation 1. A drop-in event for community consultation to test draft policy ideas and options is being held on 23 March, 10am to 3pm at the Community Hall, with an online survey open until 5 April. Flyers have been distributed with Parish News and posters on display within the village.

The Steering Group will then draft the new Neighbourhood Plan for further consultation with our community.

Council approved the Clerk's request for mileage expenses to be covered to

	attend Steering Group meetings and any community consultations events.
11.	24/25 Parish Partnership Scheme bid update On 11 March 2024 the Council received the very welcome news that its bid application for the 100-metre footway on Norwich Road was successful. The footway has been a high priority for the Council since 2008.
	Estimated cost of the footway is £24,000, of which Norfolk County Council will pay half and the Parish Council must fund the other half (£12,000). County Councillor Andrew Proctor had previously given his agreement to contribute £5,000 from his 2024/25 member highways division fund.
	The Parish Council had also recently received a further generous offer from Councillor Proctor to fund the purchase of an additional Speed Awareness Message Sign (SAM2) for the parish to try and address the ongoing speeding issue within the parish. A recent quote of £3,319 exc VAT was obtained for the same model of SAM2 currently deployed along various highways posts on Norwich Road.
	The Council unanimously resolved to allocate the SAM2 funding to the footway (upon consent from Cllr Proctor). This now leaves the parish council to raise the final £3,700. The Clerk will go back to Broadland District Council regarding a grant from their green infrastructure fund (at the initial discussion £7,000 was sought). However, Council may need to consider fund raising events at the Community Hall or requesting contributions from businesses and residents within the parish.
	No work (site visit, scheme design and then the scheduling of the works) for the footway can be booked until the Parish Council has submitted payment for the £3,700 contribution. The Highways Engineer estimates it will take 10 working days to install the footway.
12.	It was resolved to apply for the free portrait of His Majesty the King.
13.	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, with the reports being signed at the end of the meeting.
14.	Planning application 2024/0486 Change of use from garage/studios to holiday rental (retrospective) Barn Hill, Barn Hill, Strumpshaw, NR13 4NS. Council had no objections to the application and were happy to support the approval of the application. However, it was noted that no separate washbasin was depicted in the plan/drawing of the shower room, which also opens directly onto the kitchen.
15.	Correspondence received 15.1. Email from1st Lingwood and Strumpshaw Air Scout Group, looking for new site. 15.2. Email from MOP regarding the missing footway on Norwich Road and the difficulties faced by wheelchair users. 15.3. Email regarding speeding along Long Lane and a request to move the SAM2 to Long Lane.

	15.4. Lingwood and Burlingham Neighbourhood Plan - notice of decision under Regulation 18 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 In accordance with Regulation 18 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, Broadland District Council has approved that the proposed Lingwood & Burlingham Neighbourhood Plan should proceed to a local referendum, subject to the agreed modifications specified within the Council's Decision Statement. These follow the recommendations of the independent examiner. Referendum date 2 May 2024.
16.	Annual allotment inspection It was agreed that the inspection would be carried out on Saturday 23 March.
17.	Council resolved not to submit a response to the Forestry Commission's consultation on forest management carried out by The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and/or sites within their Group Scheme and/or the FSC Standard being used.
18.	Date of next meeting Tuesday 21 May 2024, Annual Parish Meeting at 7:30pm followed by Annual Council Meeting at 8pm.
	*Post meeting update Resignation of Martin Kentish, Notice of Casual Vacancy now being advertised until 15 April 2024.
Approved by	
Chair:	Date: