

# Mulbarton Parish Council

## Clerk's Report

### April 2024

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#### Items not on the agenda (information only)

The number plaques for the allotments are in progress, with The Meadows already complete. If your plot gets an incorrect number, please let the clerk know!

Our Parish Warden has been very busy cleaning graffiti off many items around the village. This means he cannot keep up with the Spring jobs we have for him. The police have been informed about the incidents and if you have any information, please contact them or the clerk.

The cost of moving the gates at The Meadows has been agreed and the council is awaiting confirmation of a date for the work to be carried out.

There has been no further progress with the hiring options of the MUGA (multi-use games area).

Information to support a speed reduction on the 40mph northern section of Norwich Road is being collected.

An application to register The World's End Public House as an Asset of Community Value has been submitted. South Norfolk Council are considering this and will advise the Parish Council in May if this has been successful.

A request for additional "Duck" warning signs has been sent to Highways.

The Scouts have removed part of the hedge and installed a gate as agreed at April's meeting. Thank you to the Scouts for keeping us informed.

Cadnet Gas have confirmed that there is no requirement for the SAM2 post on Norwich Road to display any notice containing information about the nearby gas pipeline.

The specification for disabled access to the Village Hall site is being discussed with the Common Steering Group and the Parish Warden

Did you know your Parish Councillors are all volunteers? Between them they have a lot of knowledge and experience that they bring to the Council. They carry out actions, discuss and agree on behalf of Mulbarton residents and we are looking for more volunteers who would like to become councillors. We are allowed a maximum of 11 councillors but currently only have 6. If you have an interest in what happens in Mulbarton and you can spare a few hours a month, contact the clerk to find out more about joining us.



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## Items on the agenda

### Item 8 To appoint members

The Councillors will decide which member/representatives to appoint to the various groups they form part of. Some of these groups are solely made up of councillors while others involve other organisations within the parish. Many of these appointments are made annually and form a vital part of the council's role.

### Item 9. Finance

The annual accounts have been reviewed by the Internal Auditor. The Internal Auditor is an independent person who was appointed by the council last August. The accounts need to be agreed by the council before being submitted to the external auditor, PKF Littlejohn. Once the council have approved the accounts, these will be published on the website, as unaudited. On completion of the external audit, the final accounts will be published on the website. If you would like any more information, please contact the clerk

### Item 12.1 Allotment working group

The Parish Warden is unable to clear the waste at Long Lane allotments and the area has become overgrown. A contractor has been appointed to clear the waste before any removal can be arranged.

The manure at Oakley Park South allotment car park has now been cleared by the plot holders.

All invoices have been sent and those who have not paid have been sent reminders.

There are 3 unleased plots, 2 at Long Lane and 1 at The Swamp. If you are interested in taking on one of these plots, contact the clerk.

### Item 12.2 Open Spaces and Play Areas working group

#### The Meadows

The zipline has been repaired and is back in use. Thank you for your patience.



Information on play equipment has been shared with the public, see our website and Facebook page. We've had some responses already but keep them coming in. The deadline is 18 June.

No progress has been made with the benches, notice boards and gates at The Meadows due to the amount of time the Parish Warden has spent cleaning graffiti.

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#### Item 13: Common Steering Group

The Common Steering Group meet on 24 April. The group agreed the council should focus on moving dog bin/benches, installing a memorial bench and the disabled access to the village hall. The next meeting is scheduled for 23 October.

#### Item 14: Litter pick on Saturday 20 April

Many thanks to all who took part in the litter pick. Look out for our next date.

#### Item 16: Community Project

The council, in collaboration with South Norfolk Council, were successful in achieving funding through the Pride in Place Community Grant. This grant, along with a contribution from the Parish Council, is being used to fund a feasibility study to help us understand how best to use the village hall and parks site. The consultant is in the process of collecting the data and speaking to the groups who use the site. The study is due to be completed in August, but we hope to be able to give you an update at the Annual Parish Meeting on 17 June, at Hannover Gardens.

#### Item 17: SAM2 data

SAM 2 data is now available on our Facebook page as well as our website.

#### Item 18: Annual Parish Meeting

Due to a lack of available space at the village hall, we have moved the Annual Parish Meeting, on 17 June to Hannover Gardens. The meeting will start at 7pm. If you wish to be included on the agenda and have not confirmed, please can you contact the clerk by 31 May.

#### Item 21: Plans of Oakley Park South and Long Lane allotments

The plans signed by the council, to enable the transfer of land, where not drawn to scale. Solicitors are requesting the council sign replacement plans.

#### Item 22: Grass cutting of verges at Minnow Way

Last year the council received complaints about the lack of grass cutting of Minnow Way. The Parish Council do have a delegated grass cutting agreement with Norfolk County Council but there has been no correspondence about adding this to the regime.

#### Item 24: Martyn's Law

Martyn's Law, also known as The Terrorism (Protection of premises) draft bill, is expected to improve the safety and security of public venues and keep the British public safe from terrorism. A consultation aimed at standard tier premises (premises with a capacity of 100-799 individuals) closed on 18 March. No further information has been issued on the results of the consultation.

#### Item 25: Uncultivated plots at The Meadows allotments

Following an inspection of the allotments, the clerk contacted 3 tenants about the condition of their plots. It is a requirement that the plots are cultivated and in some cases this is not happening.