

Mulbarton Parish Council

Clerk's Report

December 2022



Items not on the agenda (information only)

It had been noted that a bus driver is continuing to use the bus stop on Cuckoofield Lane, at 7am, for the stopping point for their breaks, causing dangerous situations for other road users. First Bus have been contacted again.

Highways have agreed to repair the road, by the bus stop opposite the Co-op, where the flooding was previously reported.

The clerk met with a specialist on 4 January to discuss the disposal of the shipping container in Treetops Nursery. A quote is due soon.

Brown (tourist) signs are managed by Highways England. The Village Hall and member of the public have asked having these to signpost people to the Village Hall/Mulbarton Wanderers CIC. Details have now been sent to the Village Hall about how to apply for this.

Roger Dyndal resigned from the parish council in December, with immediate effect. Roger worked tirelessly with the Village Hall and repaired/replaced many damaged council items. We wish Roger all the best with his future plans.

Items on the agenda

Item 4: To approve the co-option of new councillor(s) onto the council.

The council currently have 4 vacancies, 2 to be co-opted and 2 via the by-election process. Two applications have been received for co-option, from Dennis Wells and Suzanne Aylmer. The council will consider and vote on both applications.

Item 7.2: Planning

2022/2066 Mulbarton Telephone Exchange Norwich Road, Creation of a secure storage compound to rear of telephone exchange, with two 6m containers sited within compound. The deadline for this application was 1 January 2023.

Item 8: Allotments

The deeds for Oakley Park South and Long Lane have been signed and are with the solicitor who is waiting for a response from Hopkins Homes solicitors.

Water leaks have occurred at Oakley Park South, Long Lane and The Swamp allotments. Some plot holders are advising the water is normally turned off in October, to prevent burst pipes, while another claims it is not normal practise and that they pay for the water so should have access to it all year round.

Item 10: The Common

A meeting was held with Jamie Henry (South Norfolk District Council), Louis Kaszczak and Lorraine Trueman (clerk) with the aim to gain a better understanding on the management of The Common. There is currently no formal arrangement between the owners, South Norfolk District Council and the Parish Council on how the land is managed. This will be discussed further at the next Common Steering Committee.

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Currently South Norfolk District Council fund the upkeep of the trees and ponds while the Parish Council fund the play area, grass/hedge cutting, bins, seating and signage. It was suggested the car parks should be jointly funded.

A request is expected for a memorial bench to be placed on the Common. Louis Kaszczak has asked Nigel Legg for more details before the council can consider the request.

The two disabled signs at the doctors/school have now been replaced, thanks to Roger Dyndal.

A request to improve the safety for road users and pedestrians around the school during the icy weather was received. The roads and paths were reportedly dangerous, and this area falls outside the scope of Norfolk County Council. The school have been contacted and they are willing to organise some parent volunteers to spread grit around. The Parish Council are being asked to consider the purchase of an additional grit bin and the owners of the common will be asked for permission to install the bin on Common Land.



One of our councillors founds 2 more smashed bins on The Common on New Years Day. This has been reported to the police and if you have any information, please pass it on. Many thanks to Mark Kerr for cleaning up the mess. More bins are being ordered but they are currently on a 4-week lead time.

Item 11: Open spaces and play areas

A request was sent to South Norfolk District Council to remove large bin outside parish office and to empty 3 bins on Orchard Park on a weekly basis.

The tree works at The Meadows/Nightingale Close, agreed on at the last meeting, are due to take place on 27 January.

South Norfolk District Council have given permission for the tree planting, suggested by MALGA at the September meeting, to go ahead.

The notice board by The Meadows was also subject to graffiti in December. Many thanks to the resident who cleaned this for us.

The play area inspector has been in contact regarding the 2023 inspections. He has been advised the Parish Council will only require him to inspect The Meadows and The Common.