

MULBARTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held remotely at

7.30pm on Monday 4th January 2021

Councillors present via remote videoing platform:-

Adam Banham Gerald Peachey Beverley Leek Steve Sewell
Richard Tucker Derek Aldous Emma Reeve

Also in attendance were three District Councillors and four members of the public.

1.0 District and County Councillors' Report

Following an explanation that the meeting was being held remotely as permitted under The Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings) (England) Regulations 2020 which came into force on 4th April 2020 and allows local authorities to conduct meetings remotely Cllr Leek welcomed those present to the meeting.

District Cllr Legg stated that he wished to add to his report, which had already been received by MPC, his concerns about the flooding that had occurred over Christmas, much of which could be attributed to run off from fields and whilst acknowledging that the Parish Council hadn't much authority on this, he felt some local knowledge could assist in bringing pressure on landowners, Highways and SNC to take action.

District Cllr Clifford-Jackson, stated that she wished to add to her report, which had already been received by MPC, her support to Cllr Legg's comments on flooding and that there appeared to be no joined up thinking between agencies regarding this matter and she would raise this at SNC's Cabinet meeting being held next week. Cllr Clifford-Jackson informed the meeting that there was a national shortage of Environmental Officers at present and therefore there may be a delay in receiving any response to requests to SNC.

District Cllr Gerry Francis reported that flooding risks need looking at in conjunction with farmers, planning and highways and unfortunately many environmental issues have been overtaken by other priorities, such as Covid and there were not enough resources available.

1.1 Public Session

No members of the public wished to speak at this time.

2.0 To close the meeting to public participation

Cllr Leek closed the meeting to public participation and formally started the Parish Council meeting.

3.0 To receive and consider apologies for absence

All Councillors were in attendance.

4.0 To receive declaration of interest on items on the agenda

Cllr Banham declared an interest in any matters relating to planning (item 13) and the GNLP (item 12)

5.0 To confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th December 2020

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 7th December 2020 were unanimously agreed as a true record of the meeting after being proposed by Cllr Sewell and seconded by Cllr Banham. As this is a virtual meeting arrangements would be made for the Chairman to sign the minutes at a later date.

6.0 To receive financial report and approve invoices for payments as per schedule for December

A proposed schedule of payments and the latest financial summary were reviewed. Following proposal by Cllr Leek and seconding by Cllr Reeve all payments were duly passed. A copy of the payments is attached to these minutes.

6.1 To approve the budget for 2021/22

Following discussions during which a number of larger projects for the future were mentioned it was concluded that MPC's finances are in good shape at present. Following proposal by Cllr Peachey and seconding by Cllr Leek the budget for 2021/22 was unanimously approved.

6.2 To approve the precept for 2021/22

Following discussions Cllr Leek proposed that the precept for 2021/22 be set at £50338.00, which is equivalent to no change on the 2020/21 band D rate of £37.65. This was seconded by Cllr Banham and unanimously agreed.

7.0 Working group report on completing items on the outstanding works list

Following discussions it was agreed that the monthly outstanding works working group would continue to meet and focus on moving smaller projects to conclusion. It was agreed that a separate working group is now needed to progress plans for the car park.

7.1 To review the quote for the Jubilee Gardens maintenance for 2021

Following discussions Cllr Tucker proposed that the contract for the Jubilee Gardens maintenance be extended for a further year, this was seconded by Cllr Reeve and unanimously agreed.

7.2 To discuss the provision of an enclosed designated dog friendly area for the village

Following review and discussion of the briefing paper and possible options available and bearing in mind that a national lockdown has been announced to start tomorrow, it was unanimously agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting.

8.0 Update on discussions with Ian Holdsworth Chartered Surveyors and their request for Cadent Gas to install a gas governor on MPC's land

Cllr Leek reported that Ian Holdsworth Chartered Surveyors had replied to MPC's email, sent after the December meeting, advising that they would be in contact again in the New Year. Following no objections this item was deferred to the next meeting.

9.0 To discuss correspondence from Dalcour Maclaren and renewal of EE & Three mast agreement and appointment of Land Agent representative

Following discussions Cllr Peachey proposed that Strutt & Parker should be appointed as MPC's land agent representative for negotiations of the renewal of the mast agreement, this was seconded by Cllr Leek and unanimously agreed.

Cllr Leek then proposed that Cllrs Banham & Sewell be given delegated authority to liaise with the land agent and Dalcour Maclaren in respect of the mast agreement renewal. This was seconded by Cllr Reeve and unanimously agreed.

10.0 Update on wind farm proposals

Cllr Aldous gave a report on the latest developments including Dogger Bank, Norfolk Vanguard and Boreas, Hornsea Three, the Dudgeon and Sheringham Shoal Extensions, and other projects entering the planning system in Suffolk. The report also covered the government's urgent review of Offshore Transmission, the National Grid consultation, and the new White Paper on Energy. A response had been sent to government on these issues. There was concern that the combined effects in the local area of Hornsea Three with Dudgeon and Sheringham Shoal had not been considered by any of the planning authorities.

A late submission had gone in to government in December re-stating objections to the Hornsea Three project, which had been recommended for refusal by the Planning Inspectorate. This included combined effects with Dudgeon and Sheringham Shoal. A list of written questions had been sent to Equinor as part of the Community Consultation for Dudgeon and Sheringham Shoal, but no answers had come back to any of the questions raised.

The government approved the Hornsea Three project on 31st December 2020, but this could still be challenged by The Wildlife Trusts. There was a six week period until mid-February when they could bring a challenge. The Judicial Review of the Norfolk Vanguard project was due to take place on 19th January, and the Planning Inspectorate's report on the Norfolk Boreas project would go to government at about the same time.

11.0 Bloy's Grove Solar Farm

Cllr Leek reminded the meeting that MPC are hosting a Q&A session with EDF Renewables on this matter on Tuesday 5th January and following this MPC would consider its response to the consultation closing on 11th January 2021.

12.0 GNLP SNC village cluster document

Cllr Leek reported that SNC's GNLP Village Cluster document has not yet been published and following no objections deferred the item to the next meeting.

13.0 To consider planning applications received

- 2020/2398 : 1B Ryefield Road, NR14 8FD – single storey rear extension linking existing garage to main dwelling, including internal and external alterations . Following discussions Cllrs Peachey & Sewell stated that they would have another look at the property and the proposals and report back to all Councillors; it was noted that neighbouring properties have a right to submit their own comments if necessary.

14.0 Correspondence requiring consideration

- Update on concerns raised at the last meeting about buses parking up for driver's breaks at the bus stop on Cuckoofield Lane (north side). First Bus have replied: *We sent this to the relevant depot to be looked into and they have advised that they will pass this message on to all drivers to assure this does not continue to happen, they apologise sincerely.*
- Email from PC Andy Hudson, South Norfolk Community Engagement Officer –Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Norfolk has launched his Budget Consultation for 2021/22. Cllr Leek reported that the link for the survey would be added to the website.

15. Liaison officer reports

Cllr Leek reported that there were only three allotments left at the Oakley Park South site. Councillors agreed that all other points had already been raised.

16.0 To receive any items for inclusion on the next agenda.

- GNLP SNC village cluster document
- To discuss the provision of an enclosed designated dog friendly area in the village

17.0 To adjourn the meeting for the 2nd public session

District Cllr Clifford-Jackson reported that the GNLP was due to be debated at SNC Cabinet next week; the debate can be viewed on YouTube.

District Cllr Clifford-Jackson and a member of the public thanked Cllr Aldous for his wind farm reports.

A member of the public raised concerns that the land at the Long Lane allotment site was going to be hard to work, similar to that on the neighbouring Rich's Trust site.

A member of the public raised concerns about the depth of the pond on Oakley Park and whether there should be warning signs and life belts or equivalent displayed. It was agreed that this concern should be direct to Hopkins Homes.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.43pm.

The next meeting will take place on Monday 1st February 2021 at 7.30pm.

Payments for December 2020

Cheque Number	Recipient	Details	Net total	Vat	Amount £'s
102690	9 – 5 Supplies	Envelopes & office consumables	31.76	6.34	38.10
102691	A Phillips	Expenses	31.21	3.13	34.34
102692	A Phillips	Salary	752.74		752.74
102693	HMRC	PAYE	247.12		247.12
		Total for month:	1062.83	9.47	1072.30