

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HORNINGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL HELD AS A VIRTUAL MEETING
VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2020 AT 7.30PM

Present: Councillor A Hill (Chair)
Councillor T Hawke
Councillor P Chapman

1 Apologies for Absence.

District Councillor Carter, Councillor Drew and Councillor Baker all sent their apologies due to technology problems; this was accepted.

2 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest.

There were no DPI's

3 Minutes of Previous Meeting.

Councillor Chapman proposed and Councillor Hawke seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15th September 2020 having been circulated be approved.

4 Public Participation.

4.1 County and District Councillor Reports.

Flu:

Flu causes the death of around 15,000 people in the UK each year. The most vulnerable group are those people over 65, the same group that are at most risk from Covid 19.

There has been an increase in the take up of the flu vaccine this year, but the message must be to all those who are at most risk i.e. those with underlying respiratory conditions plus those over 65 to get a flu jab.

Budget:

There is still considerable uncertainty around what government funding will be available for financial year 21/22. Additionally, the government has not stated whether the allowed percentage increase in the general precept will remain at 2% or be amended. There is also uncertainty as to whether a rise is permissible in the adult social care precept. Despite this uncertainty NCC are obliged to consult on its budget proposals for 21/22 making suppositions as to governments intentions. The consultation runs until the 14th December, details can be found on the NCC website. The Council will set its council tax at its February 2021 meeting.

Grass Cutting:

As part of the budget consultation (above) it is proposed to reduce grass verge cutting on “C” and “U” roads from 2 cuts per year to one. Also, it is proposed to reduce urban cuts from 5 to 4 per year.

Boundary Review:

The second boundary commission consultation on proposed changes to the Councils division boundaries closes on the 23rd November. A change from the initial consultation is that Brisley is added to the new Division “Launditch”. Due to a delay in the process due to Covid any changes will not take place until the 2025 Norfolk Council elections.

County Farms:

The County Council is committed to maintaining the County Farm Estate in excess of 16,000 acres. The tenanted farms which vary in size provide a thriving and progressive estate which supports individual businesses and enables economic growth into the county’s agricultural sector and indirectly into numerous related businesses. Any capital receipt from the sale of redundant buildings and land are reinvested in the estate. The County Farm estate was recently increased through the purchase of 163 acres. Grants are available for business that are unable to trade or are not able to work from home or self-employed can apply for a Grant.

District Councillor Carter reported. Infection rates are rising among Norfolk’s working population and there are concerns this could pass on to the over-60s, The overall rate for the seven days from 23 October in Norfolk is rising, at 89.2 per 100,000, compared to 59.9 last week. The highest rates are in Breckland (171) – as we know, largely due to the outbreak at Cranswick in Watton, Great Yarmouth (125) and Norwich (120). The number of people now in Norfolk’s hospitals has risen to 89, with two in critical care. This compares to 49 last week (with four in intensive care). Some people are getting tired of following the rules, but we must do so, more than ever. If we don’t, things will escalate quickly in Norfolk and that inevitably leads to more illness and death.

Outbreaks at Cranswick Foods and other sites: Testing at the butchery section at Cranswick Foods is nearly complete, with 175 positives and 185 negatives. Attention is now moving to testing in the other parts of the factory.

The Public Health Team is also investigating: Care provider settings: 37 open outbreaks, two new this week. Business or workplace settings: 11 outbreaks. Education settings: 10 outbreaks.

A £200,000 fund to ease Christmas hardship has been announced by the county council. The council is providing £200,000 to the Norfolk Community Foundation, to support families and vulnerable people acing hardship this Christmas. The money is coming from the county council's £1.015 million Government grant to support people in Norfolk. Around half has been spent so far to help people with food, fuel, exceptional household Items and other welfare support.

Spotting symptoms: A high temperature, a new continuous cough, loss of sense of smell and taste.

To find out how to stay safe, what to do if you have symptoms and the support available should you need to isolate, visit <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/care-support-and-health/health-and-wellbeing/adults-health/coronavirus> or <https://www.breckland.gov.uk/covid-19-guidance>

RSPA award: Breckland Council's ongoing commitment to protecting animal welfare has seen the organisation pick up an award from the RSPCA, the 5th award in as many years. The animal charity issued the council with its latest award at the RSPCA 2020 Pawprint Awards, where Breckland scooped Gold Award status in the Stray Dog category. It recognises the council's exceptional care and provision when dealing with stray dogs, including the work of the council's dog warden, kennels, re-homing, veterinary care and the other staff who help to manage and administer the service.

4.2 Public Comments. No public comments received

5. Matters to report

5.1 Website

The Clerk reported that the accessibility statement is now a requirement for all parishes websites and the current Horningtoft website is not compliant with the accessibility standards that are required. The Clerk is able to start a new website up with the help from Norfolk Parish Training and Support. It will be £23.33 to join as a member to NPTS and the website setup will be discounted by 20% to £80.00. All Councillors agreed with the new website. Councillor Chapman proposed and Councillor Hawke seconded the resolution that the New website can be implemented.

5.2 Parish Partnership Scheme

The Clerk reported that the Parish Partnerships Scheme forms will need to be completed by December to apply for 50% funding towards a purchase. All Councillors agreed that this will be re-considered next year.

5.3 Defib update

Councillor Chapman has kindly offered to do the monthly required checks. These checks are then logged on the Community Heartbeat website. The Clerk is also able to carry out these checks and report them. The Clerk also confirmed that the defib unit is now registered with the Ambulance service. All Councillors agreed that the defib unit location needs to be placed in the Parish Magazine.

5.4 Precept

The Clerk circulated the projected budgets for 2021/22 and all Councillors agreed that the Precept will need to be increased. This will be added to the Agenda for January's meeting to discuss how much to raise the precept.

6. Highways

6.1 To receive reports on highways matters raised at the previous meeting.

Councillor Hawke reported that the road sign on B1146 is covered with overgrown hedges. The Clerk will report this.

The Clerk has reported a pothole on Brisley Road/Church Street junction.

6.2 Update on Highway Matters.

The Drains and Gullies on the Fakenham Rd are blocked, these were reported in September on the Fakenham Road, the clerk will chase this up.

7. Planning. No outstanding planning application

The Clerk reported that the Appeal for Ivy Farm has been dismissed.

8. Finance

8.1 Balances and cheques for authorisation as circulated. Councillor Hill proposed and Councillor Hawke seconded the resolution on the authorisation of the cheques and balances.

8.2 Budgets to be circulated. Councillor Hill proposed and Councillor Hawke seconded the resolution on the budgets that were circulated.

9. Matters for the next meeting (not for discussion). Precept

10. To confirm that the next meeting of Horningtoft Parish Council Wednesday 13th January 2021

Meeting Closed 8.39pm

FINANCE: 4th July-2nd October 2020

Balances:-

Business Premium Account.

Balance at 03.07.20	£2,415.82
Interest	£0.33
Balance at 31.05.2020	<u>£2,416.15</u>

Community Account.

Balance at 03.07.20	£926.89
Breckland Precept	£925.00
Less cheques present: 456,467.458,460,461,462	£664.77
	£1,187.12

Cheque number	Cheque payable to	Reason for Payment	Cheque amount
463	B.J. Leigh	Final Invoice	£82.62
464	CGM Group	Invoice 233394, 233252, 232616	£49.68
465	CGM Group	Invoice 234630	£23.76

