

HONINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Council meeting on Wednesday 8th December 2021, 7.00pm at Honingham Village Hall

Cllrs present:

David Bishop – Chair (DB), Sam Steggles (SS), Michael Eales (ME), Tony Roberts (TR), Richard Kirkham (RK), Graham Cullender (GC)

Cllrs absent:

Linda Human (LH) Cllr Peter Bulman (PB)

Other:

Jordana Wheeler (Clerk), Cllr Greg Peck (GP), 2 members of the public were present.

1. To receive apologies for absence
 - 1.1. Apologies were received and accepted from LH. All other councillors were present.
2. To elect a Vice-Chair for the remainder of 2021-22
 - 2.1. SS proposed TR, RK seconded. The Council **RESOLVED** to elect TR as Vice-Chair for the remainder of 2021-22.
3. To receive any Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda and consider any requests for dispensation
 - 3.1. There were no declarations of interest.
4. To approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 10th November 2021
 - 4.1. The minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2021 were received and read by Councillors prior to the meeting. The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes.
5. To co-opt a Councillor to the casual vacancy
 - 5.1. The Council **RESOLVED** to co-opt Graham Cullender (GC) as Parish Councillor. GC will be in role for the remainder of the term until 2023.
6. Opportunity for Public Participation
 - 6.1. Nothing to report.
7. To report on progress of matters arising from previous meetings – Information only
 - 7.1. The water at the Bowls Club is due to be disconnected on 22nd December.
 - 7.2. Changing the bank signatories is in progress. Paperwork has been completed and will now be sent to the bank. It is hoped to be completed by mid-January.
 - 7.3. The remaining golfing equipment from the Bowls Club has been sold.
 - 7.4. The newly published Parish Pump has been distributed to residents. Councillors were pleased with the revised newsletter. Minutes will be included in future versions.

Draft minutes until approved at the Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 9th February 2022
Chairman Signature: _____ Date: _____

8. Finance

8.1. To review and approve the bank reconciliation for Nov 2021

8.1.1. There were no payments to approve. The Council reviewed the bank reconciliation, no questions were raised.

8.2. To approve the final budget and precept for 2022-23

8.2.1. The village maintenance budget has been increased to £1000. The draft tax base has reduced by 1. Overall, this would lead to a band D property seeing a 5% increase in the precept. The proposed precept is £9330.

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the budget for 2022-23.

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the precept of £9330 for 2022-23.

9. To consider a response to the proposal by Latimer for a new settlement at Honingham Thorpe

9.1. It was noted both GP and PB oppose the settlement, citing it being too big and in the wrong location. There are 2 other sites in Norfolk also being considered.

9.2. TR was opposed to the settlement, however if it were to go ahead it would be important for the village to try and get as much out of the development as possible. Whilst plans are in development it is important to see how the Council can influence changes so that impact on the village is reduced. GC noted that once planning permission is given developers often go back on their proposals citing them no longer being viable. TR is keen to keep an open dialogue with Latimer throughout the process.

ACTION – Email Latimer regarding the Councils opposition to the settlement but to keep dialogue open.

10. To consider liaising with local Councils in response to proposals for a new settlement

10.1. The Council felt it was important to have a united front in relation to the proposals for a new settlement at Honingham Thorpe. The Council agreed TR would liaise with Colton and Marlingford and Barford. DB is available to support TR.

11. To consider a response to the following planning application;

11.1. Application 20212033 – Two storey side & rear extensions. Single storey rear extension. New front porch. New dormer to front elevation. New roof lantern to existing flat roof rear extension. Cladding to existing rear extension. 22 Mill Lane, Honingham

11.1.1. The application is altered plans from a previous planning application. TR noted it would support residents to stay in the village. The Council **RESOLVED** they had no objections to application 20212033.

12. To receive an update from the Food Hub Liaison meeting

12.1. RK noted there was nothing further to report.

12.2. RK gave a further update from the recent Norwich Western Link (NWL) Local Liaison group meeting. The closure of Honingham Lane north of the Merry Hill crossroads was proposed by National Highways for 6 months only between the construction of the A47 and the NWL. The Norwich Western Link project team are now proposing this closure is made permanent. Traffic mitigation to areas north of the NWL were discussed, none of the mitigations discussed would impact Honingham.

13. To consider options for improvements at the Bowls Club and play area

13.1. DB, RK, ME and TR met on site. Consensus was that it would be a shame to fence the space off permanently, leaving the site to go wild and overgrown. It was suggested the current play area is returned to grass and the play area relocated to the bowling green, with a new fence around the bowling green. The drive alongside the bowling green could be turned into additional parking for the village hall. DB suggested waiting until finances for the project were clarified, a possible donation and additional CIL is expected in the spring.

13.2. TR suggested considering purchasing a ride on mower to be used for grass cutting instead of using a contractor, to reduce ongoing maintenance costs.

ACTION – TR to liaise with the village hall regarding a contribution for the proposed new parking area.

ACTION – ME to investigate costs for fencing around the bowling green.

14. To consider whether to have a Council representative at the next A47 DCO hearings

14.1. The Council agreed RK would attend the hearings in early January.

ACTION – Clerk to register RK to attend DCO hearings.

15. Correspondance

15.1. Norfolk County Council Budget 2022-23 Consultation – Comments can be submitted via the NCC website. The proposal is to increase Council Tax by 1.99% and the adult social care element by 1%. The Council needs to find £10million of savings and wish to avoid cutting services. Services will be under pressure for the next 2-3 years.

15.2. Broadland Community Tree Planting Grants – Information is available on the Broadland District Council website. GP noted he has 1500 trees available to distribute for planting.

16. To confirm details of the next meeting

16.1. The next Parish Council meeting will take place at Honingham village hall on Wednesday 9th February 2022, 7.00pm. The press and public are welcome to attend. Please note there is no meeting scheduled for January 2022.

The public meeting closed at 7.50pm.