

HONINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting on
Wednesday 14th February 2024,
7:00pm at Honingham Village Hall

Present:

Ryan Harvey (Chair)	RHa	Stacey Bertram (Vice-Chair)	SB	Rebecca Holden	RHo
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In Attendance:

Fiona Johnston – Clerk	FJ	Cllr Peter Bulman	PB	Cllr Greg Peck	GP
Jerome Mayhew MP	JM	David Allfrey	DA	Gavin Broad	GB
		Norfolk County Council		Norfolk County Council	
				Members of the public	17

Apologies:

Cllr Graham Plant		
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No.	Detail	Action
1.	To receive apologies for absence	
1.1	Apologies were received from Cllr Graham Plant, Norfolk County Council.	
2.	To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda and requests for dispensation	
2.1	There were no declarations of interest.	
3.	To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated 10th January 2024	
3.1	The minutes of the meeting held on 10 th January 2024 were considered and approved. The minutes were signed by the Chair.	
4.	To co-opt a Councillor to the casual vacancy	
4.1	The clerk reported there had been expressions of interest from 2 parishioners. Both were withdrawn in advance of the meeting.	
4.2	The Chair expressed his disappointment and again encouraged members of the public to consider serving on the council to avoid meetings being cancelled and a district council deciding how our precept should be spent.	
5.	Opportunity for Public participation.	
5.1	David Allfrey, Interim Director, Highways, Transport & Waste addressed the meeting. He explained his responsibility and updated residents about the delivery of the Norwich Western Link and presented rough timescales for the project. He explained he is working closely with Highways England who are responsible for delivering the dualling of the A47 between Easton and North Tuddenham. He touched upon the current status of the A47 works; the outcome of an appeal is expected soon, and he encouraged the Council to invite Highways England to attend a meeting once the outcome of this is known.	
5.2	Mr Allfrey has also been in correspondence and attended meetings with residents from Taverham Road, Honingham regarding concerns raised about the suitability of the road for HGV's, the speed limit, and strategies to prevent rat-running which	

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	<p>have all come about as a result of A47/NWL connected works.</p> <p>Prior to this meeting, residents of Taverham Road and the Council have learned of proposals to address these concerns. Mr Allfrey, Mr Plant, Mr Mayhew, and Mr Broad were all thanked for their input into trying to resolve the concerns of residents.</p>	
5.3	Mr Allfrey invited questions / comments from those in attendance. It was clear some of the concerns related to the delivery of the A47 improvements e.g. Traffic using Honingham as a through route when A47 is closed, and Mr Allfrey again invited the Council to address these with Highways England.	
5.4	<p>There was concern amongst those present about what strategies, if any, had been considered for the interim period between completion of the A47 and commencement of the Norwich Western Link and how Honingham was likely to be affected. Councillors and residents were looking for an undertaking from Highways given the interim period could potentially last for 3 years.</p> <p>Mr Mayhew added his concerns, and expressed the potential for problems if the NWL works did not materialise. He urged Mr Allfrey to consider the need for a plan B, however, he did state his unequivocal support for the need of the NWL.</p>	
6.	Clerks' report / matters arising – information only	
6.1	The council has been in dispute regarding payment of an invoice which was presented in a higher amount than the quote received for the agreed works. Following advice, the clerk has arranged payment in the sum of the amount on the quote received and approved.	
6.2	The clerk has ordered replacement swing seats for the play area as the existing ones are showing signs of wear and tear and are rotting. This was a risk which was raised in the last play area inspection.	
6.3	The clerk and Councillor Bulman have objected to an application which proposes a roadway from the improved A47 junction to the Food Enterprise Park. Application 2023/3739	
7.	To receive reports from District and County Councillors	
7.1	Councillor Peck advised the proposed budget for 2025 (Norfolk County Council) had been scrutinised and published today for review before the full council on 20 th February. He confirmed the council had produced a balanced budget. This included a proposal to increase Council tax by 4.99%	
7.2	<p>Councillor Bulman confirmed he had objected to a proposition to increase the levy on Band D properties and will continue to oppose any increase in the Council tax.</p> <p>Councillor Bulman updated those present of his representation within his district.</p>	
8.	Finance - To review the bank reconciliation for the period ending 29th January and approve payments.	
8.1	Councillors reviewed the bank reconciliation for the period ending 29 th January 2024. There were no concerns.	
8.1.1	Councillors RESOLVED to approve payment of the clerks' salary & expenses for January 2024 in the sum of £406.12	
9.	To receive an update re progress of the development of the Bowling Green / Play Area	
9.1	<p>Councillors noted the following applications had been made for grants and the progress of those:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broadland District Council – Pride in Place award. £300 awarded (match funded) to create a wildflower garden. Quotes are being sought for 	

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	<p>consideration at a future meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members Grant – Cllr Bulman. £1000 awarded towards the installation of outdoor gym equipment. Please refer to agenda item 9.2. Highways England. An application has been made for funding to replace the rotten fencing around the play area and to provide seating for the redevelopment of the Bowling Green / Play Area. The outcome of the application is expected at the beginning of April. 	
9.2	<p>The council considered quotes obtained from 3 suppliers to install outdoor gym equipment, as part of redevelopment of the play area, and suggested by residents in response to a survey last year. The specifications for the quote were identical.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NGF Play - £4507.05 + vat. 2. Sunshine Gym - £4099 + vat 3. Fresh Air Fitness - £3984 + vat <p>Councillors considered price, the robustness of the equipment, lead times for installation etc.</p> <p>The council RESOLVED to award the contract to Fresh Air Fitness.</p> <p>Action for the clerk to contact Fresh Air Fitness and arrange installation.</p>	FJ
10.	To receive and discuss items from Parish Councillors	
10.1	A meeting of the Town & Parish Councils took place on 6 th February 2024; however, the council were unable to send a representative on this occasion. The Vice Chair nonetheless gave a summary of items discussed.	
10.2	<p>The Chair and 2 parishioners represented the council at a meeting of the A47/NWL Local Liaison Group on 7th February 2024; please refer to agenda item 5 for details of the current position.</p> <p>It was noted, however, there is concern amongst residents that the village will be used as a through route for those wishing to travel south. The Chair confirmed he would continue to raise this as a concern at subsequent meetings.</p>	
11.	To receive an update on correspondence received and to discuss / agree any required responses	
11.1	Confirmation from Broadland DC of the award of a £300 Pride in Place grant. This will be used to fund a wildflower garden.	
11.2	The Hornsea 3 Community Fund has been launched. Further discussions are required to agree whether funding should be applied for and the nature of the application.	
11.3	Correspondence received enquiring if councils would like a free portrait of King Charles. It was agreed the portrait could be hung in the Village Hall and that the clerk should respond accordingly.	
11.4	Sam2Speed Cameras – It had been noted the speed cameras were not working properly. Enquiries have been made with reference to the cost of an assessment (£45 + vat); the clerk has notified the other councils in the group (who share the camera) of this and await their responses.	
12.	To consider the date for the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Parish Council meeting.	
12.1	It was agreed to hold the meeting in May; however, it was left to the clerk to agree a specific date with the Village Hall Management Committee suitable for all parties.	
13.	To confirm the details of the next meeting.	
13.1	Due to the unavailability of a councillor the meeting in March has been cancelled.	

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13.2	The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 17 th April 2024 at 6:30pm – please note revised date and time.	
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The meeting closed at 20:15

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