

Snettisham Parish Council

Minutes of Snettisham Parish Council Meeting held at 6pm on Tuesday **13 August 2024** at the Memorial Hall, Snettisham.

Present: Cllr J Smith (Chair)

Councillors: K Penty, J Penty, R Garwood, J Bailey, D Bocking, M Harpley, G Deverick, H Whyman-Naveh, L Standeven.

Clerk: Roberta Mason

Also present: 4 members of the public and Cllr Stuart Dark.

63 Apologies and consideration of acceptance for absence

Cllr R MacKenzie sent apologies for family reasons, which were accepted by all.

64 Members' declarations of interest

Linda Standeven declared her interest in relation to item point 7.2 on the agenda in relation to reserves.

65 Norfolk County Councillor Stuart Dark BCKLWN District Councillor Stuart Dark

County

Cllr Dark spoke about "The County Deal" and confirmed that the County Council are engaging with the new government over the agreement.

Cllr Dark spoke about the "minimum income guarantee" and the budget of the County Council, and the reductions in spending that had to found. Cllr Dark indicated that the minimum income guarantee would be reduced in line with what other County Councils are doing.

Cllr Dark spoke about the recycling centres. He said, no centres would be closed, but some of the centres would reduce their opening hours by one day a week, but all would stay open.

Cllr Dark spoke about the improvements in the condition of Lynn Road now that the quarry have a wheel wash operational.

Cllr Dark said that he was also chasing the additional culverts and drains agreed for Common Rd, following the recent flooding.

Cllr Dark made a plea to the Councillors to work together with him on local issues, rather than asking the Norfolk County Council officers to visit the village.

Borough

Cllr Dark spoke about the recent drop-in sessions arranged by the Environment Agency about the management of the shingle at the beach. He talked about the Environment Agency's decision, that there would be no dredging this year and that Snettisham did not meet their threshold criteria for protection. Cllr Dark said that the Environment Agency do not consider arable land and the houses at the beach meet

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their criteria for protection/ funding. Cllr Dark suggested that we ask someone from the Environment Agency to come and talk to counsellors to explain their decisions, with a view to holding further meetings in public. Cllr Dark suggested we may need to “roll up our sleeves” if the decisions are purely based on the costs. Cllr J Smith suggested that we should all agree to meet with the Environment Agency contact. All were in favour.

Cllr Dark spoke about the parish partnership fund and said that we need to start planning together to submit a Parish bid.

Cllr Dark talked about the old British Legion standard being laid at the church.

Cllr Dark spoke about how the Borough council and the County Council have written a joint letter to the Government asking it to urgently review the plan for the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. The Government have paused the previous plans whilst they undertake a review.

- 66 Public Participation - Any member of the public attending the meeting may speak and address the Council, on any item of parish business not already on the agenda. Maximum 3 minutes per speaker and 15 minutes in total for all speakers.**

There were no public comments or questions.

67 Minutes

The minutes from the meeting held on 9 July 2024 were duly approved and accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair Cllr J Smith

68 Finance

68.1 To receive bank reconciliation for the end of July 2024 and note bank balances

Bank reconciliation reports for 31 July 2024 were circulated. All bank accounts reconciled with the accounts.

The current account balance as at 31.7.2024: £512.00
The premium account balance as at 31.7.2024: £306,900.91

68.2 To consider and approve the circulated payments and receipts list, plus any additional payments circulated by the Clerk prior to the meeting

The payments list, having been circulated, all payments were agreed by all, and the payments list was signed by the Chair Cllr J Smith.

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PAYMENTS LIST 13 August 2024					
DIRECT DEBITS			Net	VAT	Gross
3 Mobile Phone (monthly)	DD	£	6.00	£	7.20
ECS Computers (monthly)	DD	£	96.65	£	115.98
BCKLWN (Trade waste) (10th of Annual Bill)	DD	£	94.77	£	94.77
SSE Street Light Energy (unmtered)	DD	£	29.78	£	31.97
PAYMENTS (to be approved)	Payment Type				
Salaries, NI, PAYE & Pensions	bacs	£	2,015.90	£	2,015.90
EE New Mobile phone SIM only contract	bacs	£	7.63	£	9.16
Jaydee Living 44 x new waste bins	bacs	£	635.00	£	762.00
ECS inv 11.7.2024 Email upgrade/ migration	bacs	£	371.65	£	445.98
Office Cleaner	bacs	£	41.25	£	41.25
PG&M Ltd (Gardening)	bacs	£	562.50	£	675.00
Cozens uk Ltd (Quarterly Street light Maintenance)	bacs	£	135.00	£	162.00
SSE Street Light Energy (office)	bacs	£	282.66	£	296.79
Lidl bin liners & bin cleaner	bacs	£	7.27	£	7.27
Ashill Fire Protection Ltd- Fire Extinguisher checks	bacs	£	53.00	£	63.60
Heronwood (Gardening)	bacs	£	371.34	£	371.34
£	-	£	-	£	-
		£	4,710.40	£	389.11
		£		£	5,100.21

68.3. To consider a match funding for Church Rd Play Area

It was agreed by all Councillors that the Council would agree to match fund the CIL money that had been granted by the Borough Council (£24,500). Cllr Deverick proposer, Cllr K Penty seconded.

68.4 To consider quotes and proposals for Church Road Play Area upgrade

There was a discussion regarding some new proposals that had been put forward by a local Dersingham play equipment company, for the church road play area. There were some concerns that work should not start until the decision had been received from another fund application, expected in September. There were also some concerns that children with accessibility needs and the under 5's should be able to use the equipment. It was agreed a budget of £50,000 plus vat, would be allocated to the play area (including the £24,500 CIL money) and that the council would continue to work with the children at the school and the parents, to agree what equipment was a priority for the children. Work had already been done with the children (this month) and was ongoing. It was agreed the Council would work with the local company to come up with an agreeable design and that the project should proceed as quickly as possible. All agreed with this proposal. Proposer a Cllr Deverick, Cllr Bocking seconded.

68.5 To consider Tree maintenance quote for Church Rd Play area

All agreed that the quote from TBH tree care be accepted. Cllr K Penty proposer, Cllr G Deverick seconded.

68.6 To consider Reserves and Ear Marked Reserves

Councillors discussed earmarked reserves in the accounts and the following new figures were agreed for the ear marked reserves figures:

Market Place -£5,000; Office-£12,000; Play Area upgrade £35,813.30; legal fees and Elections -£2,500; The Common- £1,000; bus stops- £250; Noticeboards-£500; Street Lighting Upgrades- £4,000; Pavilion Project pledge -£50,000. Tree maintenance - £6000.

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The existing following ear marked funds to be closed and transferred to general Reserves:

Memorial lighting- £1000; TROD -£3,000; Covid 19- £2,500

Ear marked reserves for village signs to be revisited after further discussions on village signage.

68.7 To consider quotes for repair of Sam 2 traffic sign

There was a discussion about the quote and the comparable cost of obtaining new traffic sign (circa £4,100). It was agreed to defer the matter until further enquiries had been undertaken by the Clerk as to the type of signs used in Sedgeford and whether volunteers could be obtained to operate the SAM2 traffic sign.

68.8 To agree budget for gifts to be sent to Turkish guests for Gallipoli memorial service

All in agreement to set a budget of £200 for gifts to be sent to the two Town Mayors in Turkey (with whom the Council has made a connection), to celebrate the Gallipoli remembrance memorial. Cllr k Penty Proposer. Cllr J Penty, seconded. The Clerk to organise appropriate gifts within the budget including framed photographs of the village.

Cllrs J & K Penty left the meeting at this point due to a long journey ahead of them this evening.

69. Clerk's report on progress and correspondence received

Much of the progress this month related to items placed on the agenda this month for further discussion.

The Clerk read out correspondence from various members of the public: -

- A Freedom of Information request about the Pavilion fund raising, had been received. The Clerk read out the FOI request (without naming the resident) and the Clerk's response.
- A member of the public had raised a concern about the powers used by the Council to pledge to the Pavilion project. The email was read out (without naming the resident). A query concerning s137 of the Local Government Act 1972 had been reviewed, as well as the previous minutes. The Clerk confirmed the minutes did not indicate the power used, but that there is no requirement as such to minute the power used. The Clerk confirmed that s19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 was one such power that the Parish Council could use, to pledge to such recreational facilities.
- A member of the public had raised an issue about a prior agreement for tree and shrub maintenance at the lodge walk area. None of the councillors were aware of a prior agreement and the Clerk was actioned to investigate further.
- An email was read out from Edward Stanton, regarding an update on the Pavilion fund raising. The information was gratefully received by Councillors.

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- Two enquiries had been received about overnight parking at the common. The Clerk had confirmed that no overnight parking was permissible.
- A letter from the owner of the Watermill was read out, (without naming the resident) enquiring whether the Council may be interested in holding discussions about the ownership of the Watermill. The Clerk had responded requesting a little more information, but had not yet received any further information.

The Clerk gave an update on information needed for the proposed Farmers market. Cllr H Whyman- Naveh indicated she would be able to proceed with dates for November and December for the first monthly markets. Cllr H Whyman-Naveh would lead the project with the arrangements, and request help from others if required.

70. To consider gateway and other village signage further

Images and quotes had been circulated amongst Councillors. There was a short debate about whether the village needed additional signage. Not all Councillors liked the look of these signs, or felt they were necessary. Others felt that the image of the village would be enhanced by the gateway signs. The debate stagnated somewhat, so it was agreed to defer the discussion to the next meeting.

71. To discuss maintenance needed at the Common and Gaywood Valley Conservation Group costs.

All agreed that the quote from the Gaywood Valley Conservation Group was reasonable and agreed to proceed with at least one a session with the group at the common. Cllr J Smith proposer, Cllr G Deverick seconded.

72. To discuss ducks in the village and the prevention of wildlife crime

A letter was read out by the Clerk concerning an incident in the centre of the village where a driver of a black BMW had appeared to deliberately drive over several ducks and young ducklings. It was agreed by all that this was horrible and unacceptable. There was a brief discussion around the ducks and the difference in attitudes of many of the villagers towards the ducks. It was agreed by all that whilst it did appear to be a wildlife crime, it was very difficult to police and monitor such behaviour and it was really a police matter. It was felt that most villagers were reasonably careful with the ducks, and drivers who deliberately targeted the ducks were in a minority. It was felt that there was very little the Parish Council could do to stop this kind of behaviour other than report matters to the police. No further action was agreed by all.

73. To discuss potential pond project

There was some discussion regarding Councillors views on the project. Not all agreed to the project. There were concerns about the costs of the project; the health and safety risks associated with the pond; and the potential risk of flooding. Cllr D Bocking said that he wanted to withdraw the project. All agreed the project should be abandoned.

74. Planning - To receive and consider planning applications and decisions received from the planning authority - Borough Council of Kings Lynn & west Norfolk.

The list of applications and decisions received from the Borough Council having been circulated the following recommendations to planning were discussed and agreed.

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24/01349/F- Support the application

24/01324/LDP- Support the application

24/00156/TREECA- Support the application

23/01243/F

Councillors objected to this appeal, on the basis the proposal is seeking to squeeze an additional dwelling onto the land, making outdoor amenity spaces very small. More fundamentally the proposal goes against Snettisham's Neighbourhood plan.

Clerk to notify planning.

- 75. Public participation - To allow for questions from members of the Public, on items discussed on the agenda at this meeting – maximum 10 minutes in total.**

No Further public comments

76. Dates of Next Meetings

It was agreed that there would be no meeting in October 2024. The Clerk is on 2 weeks annual leave and will need to catch up and start preparing budgets for next year.

Next Full Council – Tuesday 10 September 2024, 6pm, Memorial Hall was noted by all.

Meeting closed at 8.10pm