

## **NORDELPH PARISH COUNCIL**

**Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> August @ 7.00 pm @ Nordelph Village Hall**

### **Committee Members**

Cllr. M Harwood, Cllr. J Jones, Cllr. D Gott, Cllr. R Balls, Cllr. R Bailey,  
Cllr. B Bushnell, Cllr. M Slow, Cllr. R Stannard, Cllr. G Cosson

### **Those Attending**

Cllr. M Harwood, Cllr. R Bailey, Cllr. B Bushnell, Cllr. M Slow, Cllr. Stannard,  
Cllr. Balls, Cllr. Cosson, Cllr. Gott, Borough Cllr. Pope

Members of the Public – Mr. David Venn & Mr. Carl Armiger

### **Apologies**

PCSO Tracy Millburn, Cllr. J Jones, Borough Cllr. Spikings, County Cllr. Humphrey

#### **1. Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting.

#### **2. Apologies**

There were apologies as listed above.

#### **3. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr. Gott advised that she is currently considering installing a wind turbine and wished to declare this for discussions regarding Item 15, Planning on the agenda.

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#### **4. Public Forum**

Mr. Armiger was present to report his concerns regarding the current dangerous location for the school bus stop along Silt Road. Up to 20 children twice a day use the stop and he considers the traffic to be going far too quickly making it extremely unsafe for the children. Clerk to investigate with Highways the possibility of new signage for this location. Mr. Armiger to attend the September SNAP meeting in Downham Market to further his endeavours to improve safety at this location. Cllr. Gott suggested that the bus stop could be relocated to the top of Coronation Avenue if a pull-in area could be created.

#### **5. To confirm & sign the minutes from the last meeting**

The Minutes of the last meeting, which had been circulated, were confirmed and signed as a true record by the Chairman, proposed by Cllr. Stannard & seconded by Cllr. Slow.

#### **6. Matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting**

Cllr. Bailey would like to amend, for accuracy, the Highways footnote after Item 20 regarding his disappointment with the road works to the A1122 to read, 'from the bridge by the car wash to Downham Market'.

#### **7. Police Matters**

An email received from PCSO Millburn was read out to remind everyone about fuel & scrap thefts & the theft of lead & copper lightning conductors from churches & schools in our area. All suspicious activity to be reported on 101 or 999. The seasonal increase in the theft of caravans from driveways has also now arisen.

## **8. Report from David Venn on Emergency Plan Training**

Thanks to be recorded to David for attending this free session provided by BCKLWN & updating our plan as necessary. Clerk to circulate a copy to all councillors for their consideration & approval at the September meeting. It was agreed to review the Emergency Plan annually, in September.

## **9. Proposed cycle path, Nordelph to Downham Market**

Cllr. Gott reported that she had met with a representative from Sustran & they had both cycled the proposed route from the train station in Downham Market to Salters Lode, to the outskirts of Nordelph & then potentially on to Outwell & Upwell. Sustran are producing a feasibility study for the project which, initially, they believe to be a great idea in order to improve links from rural areas to local towns and vice versa. On going.

## **10. Provision of a culvert for Footpath 7**

Nothing further to report this month.

## **11. Cemetery**

It was agreed to replace the 130ft thorn hedge at the cemetery which runs from north to south, either side of the gates, & replace it with a privet hedge as it is full of ivy. Thanks to Cllr. Slow for offering to supply the shrubs for this. The 420ft hedge at the back of the cemetery, bordering the playing field, is overgrown too – 50% thorn, 25% ivy & 25% elder. It was agreed to cut this down to ground level, treat/spray & replace with a chain link fence. Clerk/Cllr. Harwood to obtain quotes for a chain link fence.

Cllr. Bailey proposed that all Councillors should pay a visit to the churchyard to assess the 3 identified unsafe headstones in question (Robert Braybrook, Lydia Bailey & Mary Clingo). Cllr. Slow seconded this proposal. It was agreed that Council should meet at the cemetery at 7.00pm on 17<sup>th</sup> September to look at the graves in question.

## **12. Highways Issues**

The general poor condition of the A1122, even after the major repairs to it last year, particularly from the bridge near the car wash all the way to Downham Market, has been reported to Highways again as has the condition of Silt Road near to Tunnel Farm. On going.

The Highways Rangers are due in the parish w/c 20<sup>th</sup> August. Their attention has been drawn to,

- The sunken drains on the Outwell Road, on the lhs when travelling from Downham Market into Nordelph, from the sign on the main road all the way to the bridge.
- Pothole on Silt Road near the entrance to Hill Farm.
- The footpath from White House Farm to Barroway Drove needs weeding.
- The hedge on the corner of the A1122 near to Woottons Farm needs trimming back to improve visibility.

## **13. Planning**

The wind turbine at Seamh Cottage, Birchfield Road, Nordelph has been removed due to its height in relation to its boundary. Part 40 of the General Permitted Development Order 1995 allows for the erection of wind turbines within certain limits. In this case, the turbine

was nearer to the curtilage boundary than the sum of its height plus 10% so it has had to be removed.

#### 14. Finance

To Pass Accounts Due,

• Clerk's overtime	£66.00
• Clerk's expenses	£25.23
• Melvin Slow	£12.50
• Holly Landscapes	£158.40

Clerk reported Mazars' comments following receipt of our Annual Return that 'our reserves were quite high in comparison to our expenditure and if we did not have any future projects for expenditure perhaps we should consider reducing the precept next year'. Their comments were noted but council were reminded that a new chain link fence for the cemetery/playing field needs to be purchased at some point & there are going to be costs incurred with the reinstatement of the new culvert along FP7.

The bank statements were available for viewing.

#### 15. Correspondence

A letter from BCKLWN regarding changes to refuse collections, Hayley Kurt to be invited to 5<sup>th</sup> December meeting. An email from Nigel Ford regarding the restoration of milestones @ a cost of £60 was noted but declined. An email from Littleport Parish Council advising of next meeting date on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, Cllr. Harwood to attend. An email from County Cllr. Humphrey enquiring about Nordelph's reasons for no longer wishing to attend the Joint Parish Council Meetings chaired by him – Clerk to reply that a more informal, casual meeting with local parish councils discussing local issues affecting everyone suited Nordelph more.

#### 16. Village Hall Report

Cllr. Gott provided a detailed update on the Village Hall Committee's recent activities including the proposed refurbishment of the room upstairs for use by a new Youth Club. On behalf of the VH Committee she asked for the PC's permission to change the use of this room for the purposes of hosting a youth club which will involve replacing the window, installing heating/lighting and a toilet etc. She also requested a small donation from the PC towards the running costs of the youth club which is aimed at youngsters of the village as well as Three Holes and Barroway Drove. The Parish Council were supportive of the idea in principle and would like to be kept informed of the proposed alterations to the building and are happy to set up a working group to support the VHC with this project.

Cllr. Harwood reminded Cllr. Gott to encourage the VH Committee to address the possibility of installing gates at the front of the village hall to increase security for the hall & to deter the drug related activities at the back of the hall, particularly now if more youth are going to be encouraged to use the hall.

#### 17. Allotments

Clerk to contact Joliffe Estate Agents in Peterborough to determine if the land has actually been sold yet or not.

#### 18. Code of Conduct Policy

The new BCKLWN's Members' Code of Conduct adopted at the last meeting requires all councillors to complete their register of pecuniary interests once more. These were handed out to all councillors to be completed & returned at September's meeting. The Clerk will countersign & then send a copy to Nicola Leader. These will be published on the Borough's website & also on Nordelph PC's website.

**19. Agenda items for the next meeting**

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There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.59pm.

The next meeting will be on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2012 @ 7.00 pm.

Signed..... Date .....