

Minutes of Scarning Parish Council Meeting held online on 16 November 2020

Present: C Farnham (Chair), T Abel, F Bradford, S Bunn, C Druce, C Hewson, I Semmons, N Parsons, M Steward. In attendance: N Hartley (Parish Clerk) Cllr P Hewett (Breckland Council) Cllr W Richmond (Norfolk County Council).

1 Public Participation

Cllr Richmond was asked about replacement of the 30mph sign at Podmore Lane and whether the ditch can be cleared on Dereham Road near New Inn Lane whether there is flooding after rain. He will advise.

2 Report from District and County Councillors

Cllr Hewett (Breckland Council) reported that Breckland Council is sending weekly reports regarding coronavirus. He noted that the Council is offering support for businesses.

Cllr Richmond reported that the position as a new school crossing patrol officer has been advertised and is proceeding.

3 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Turner (Breckland Council).

4 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Bunn declared a personal interest in planning application 3PL/2020/1199/O, as the applicant is his sister in law.

5 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign as soon as practicable the minutes of the meeting held on 19 October 2020 as a true and accurate record.

6 Matters Arising

Cllr Farnham noted that the pizza caravan had been very successful, but there had been some incidences of disgruntled customers who had been unable to place an order. He is trying to attract other food outlets to the village.

7 Planning

7.1 Application considered

Land adjacent to Pendle Barn, The Broadway Fen Road 3PL/2020/1199/O
Outline planning permission for an affordable self-build family dwelling

It was noted that the proposed property is outside the Settlement Boundary, but that there had formerly been a pair of cottages on the site. There were no objections to the application. Cllr Druce abstained as he had not been able to read the application in advance of the meeting.

8 Finance

8.1 The following payments were made in accordance with the Budget:-

Chq 102207 Age UK Norfolk, charitable donation, £100 (Section 137)
102208 Big C, charitable donation, £100 (Section 137)
102209 Dereham Cancer Care, charitable donation, £100 (Section 137)
102210 East Anglian Air Ambulance, charitable donation, £100 (Section 137)
102211 East Anglian Children's Hospice, charitable donation, £100 (Section 137)
102212 Norfolk Accident Rescue, charitable donation, £100 (Section 137)
102213 Priscilla Bacon Lodge, charitable donation, £100 (Section 137)
102214 Revitalise, charitable donation, £100 (Section 137)
102215 Cheque not used
102216 Dereham Meeting Point, charitable donation, £150 (Section 137)
102217 Norfolk Citizens Advice, charitable donation, £150 (Section 142)
102218 N Hartley, reimbursement of expenses, £236.62
102219 Glasdon UK Ltd, purchase litter bin for Water Meadows, £191.26
102220 Viking, photocopier/printer ink, £66.19
102221 A Glister, purchase and installation of Christmas tree, £170
102222 A Newton, cutting and clearance of Water Meadows, £996
102223 J Service, cut, rake and clear Lucy's Meadow, £580
102224 N Hartley, reimbursement of Zoom subscription (Oct & Nov) £28.78
102225 S Goldsworthy, flowers for flower beds, £20.70
102226 TOP Garden Services, cutting verges & Water Meadows, £534
102227 TOP Garden Services, cutting Scarning churchyard, £180 (Section 137)

The Council noted the payment to A Newton (102222) and that Mr Newton has agreed to carry out the cutting near the Ted Ellis play area in the spring.

8.2 The meeting received a report of Actual to Budgeted expenditure

9 Clerk's Report

The clerk noted that the bus shelter at Dereham Road/Chestnut Road has been installed and the repairs made to the shelter on the opposite side of the road. The Ted Ellis play area surfacing should be laid in the week beginning November 30. The school noticeboard has been delivered, but without all the relevant parts. The solar

light at Black Horse Close bus shelter is to be installed shortly. The bench and litter bin to be installed near the Blackthorn Drive play area are on order.

10 Scarning Beacon

Cllr Farnham noted that the Beacon is now only available online and there are currently 110 email subscribers. It was noted that it is not feasible to supply a large number of paper copies.

11 Scarning Water Meadows

Following the last Parish Council meeting, Breckland's Asset Management team sent an email allowing the Parish Council to put a bench on the Water meadows. However, they say that the Parish Council can take no further action on the play areas or the main meadows until a deadline of October 2021 has been met to complete all works on the Meadows. This will prevent the Parish Council from putting any new play equipment on either play area and for example another bench/picnic table or similar.

In response, the Parish Council has asked Breckland Council to point to the relevant clause in the lease which allows them to prevent the Parish Council from installing new equipment. If they are relying on Clause 4.9 which refers to the two play areas 'not to make any alterations, additions or improvements without the landlord's prior consent,' the Parish Council has drawn attention to the add-on to this clause, which is that written consent from the landlord is 'not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed.' The Parish Council has asked them to explain specifically on what grounds of reasonableness they are seeking to withhold permission for any additions in the play areas, both of which have been maintained in terms of grass cutting and the play equipment itself throughout the tenancy. The Parish Council has also asked them to point to the relevant clause in the lease which allows them to impose a deadline.

Cllr Hewett (Breckland Council) noted that Breckland Council is attempting to work out a uniform plan embracing all the landowners at the Water Meadows. It was acknowledged that the Water Meadows is a valuable piece of land which needs to be protected and properly managed. Cllr Hewett was asked to facilitate the Parish Council's plans with regard to the play area in terms of the addition of new equipment and other items.

12 Outdoor table tennis table at Scarning Water Meadows (Blackthorn Drive play area)

The Parish Council proposed installing an outdoor table tennis table on the Blackthorn Drive play area. It was **RESOLVED** to purchase and install a table, subject to approval from Breckland Council. Cllr Hewson abstained. The clerk will ascertain the length of a manufacturer's and /or supplier's guarantee and delivery dates.

13 Outdoor table tennis table on Scarning Playing Field (Shipdham Lane)

The Parish Council proposed installing an outdoor table tennis table on the Shipdham Lane playing field. Cllr Hewson said the Playing Field Committee would prefer to carry out repairs to the existing play equipment and not to introduce new equipment at this time. He will provide quotes for the work to be carried out.

14 Parish Partnership Bid

It was proposed to apply for school crossing signs as a Parish Partnership bid. It was **RESOLVED** to apply for a single sign on Dereham Road heading westbound in advance of the crossing point and the Draytonhall Lane junction. Cllr Richmond will use his Members Budget of £3,000 toward the cost. The cost to the Parish Council will be approx £1,200.

15 Parish Website

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint a subcommittee to investigate updating the parish website. The subcommittee will comprise Cllrs Farnham, Parsons and Druce.

16 Tree at Dereham Road

The Council had received a request from a resident to fell a tree that overhangs her garden. It was **RESOLVED** that there is no need to fell the tree, as the Council's tree survey had highlighted no defects or issues with the tree.

17 Scarning Beacon (Dereham Road)

The Council considered a proposal to inspect the Beacon and plans to move the Beacon in 2022 as part of the Queen's Jubilee. Cllr Farnham suggested holding events over the course of the Jubilee celebrations. It was **RESOLVED** to move the Beacon to a more prominent position in the lay-by, subject to approval from Norfolk County Council.

18 Bin at New Inn Lane Lay-by

It was proposed to move the bin from the New Inn lay-by onto the grass next to the footpath so that it can be used by both pedestrians and dog walkers. Breckland has given its permission to move the bin. It was **RESOLVED** to move the bin.

19 Parish Archives

It was proposed to digitise parish documents. The clerk was asked to check with the Norfolk Record Office if it will allow its documents to be digitised.

20 Draft Budget 2021/22

The Council considered a draft Budget for 2021/22 prepared by the Budget Sub Committee. It was **RESOLVED** to return to the Budget at the December meeting.

21 Items for inclusion in the next agenda

Parking outside Scarning School.

Scarning Playing Field Committee request regarding play equipment.

22 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be online on 7 December 2021.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.45pm.